

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Commission

January 19, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Don Schuiteman, Jerry Dobrzelewski, Russ Blasdel,
Mark Stone, Linda Gallagher and Mike Crawford
Members Absent: Al Pecar and Mike Meriwether
Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick
Others: None.

I. Call to Order

Joe Meyers called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

II. Election of Officers

Mr. Meyers opened the floor for nominations for Chairman

Linda Gallagher nominated Stan Moore for Chairman.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerome Dobrzelewski to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Stan Moore as chairman. Motion carried – unanimous.

Mr. Meyers opened the floor for nominations for Vice-chairman.

Mike Crawford nominated Don Schuiteman as Vice-chairman.

Motion by Jerome Dobrzelewski, supported by Mike Crawford to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Don Schuiteman as Vice-chairman. Motion carried – unanimous.

Chairman Moore ran the rest of the meeting from this point.

III. Public Comment

Mr. Moore welcomed Mr. Schuiteman to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

IV. Approval of the December 22, 2005 Minutes

Motion by Jerome Dobrzelewski, supported by Linda Gallagher to approve the December 22, 2005 minutes as amended. Motion carried – unanimous

Mr. Schuiteman abstained from voting because he was not on the Commission when the meeting took place.

V. Website Update

Valerie Craft, Secretary for the Coordinator/Planners office, joined the meeting. Ms. Craft presented a web page created to be a more user-friendly method to search the Parks and Recreation database.

Ms. Craft gave a presentation on changes to the database.

Ms. Gallagher indicated that she liked what she saw but noted that it looked like a lot of work.

Discussion ensued about having private recreational sites on the website.

Mr. Stone noted that having private recreation sites on the website would let the County do some “goodwill” for businesses in the county.

It was noted that we should contact the local Chambers of Commerce and newspapers to inform them.

The Commission noted that they wanted to make sure that it be displayed that people are allowed to be added upon request and as pertaining to Recreation.

Motion by Mark Stone, supported by Linda Gallagher to recommend to the Parks Committee to allow private recreation businesses in the Parks and Recreation Database. Motion carried – unanimous.

Mr. Moore indicated that there are a lot of access sites throughout the County that do not have any descriptive features included in the database. Mr. Moore gave some ideas about potential features that access sites could have listed to describe the general access site. The potential features are; unimproved, road-end access and scenic overlook. Mr. Moore noted that some of the sites have more features than these but this would help us until we revisit these sites.

Discussion ensued over the definition of a road-end access.

Mr. Moore further noted that there are a few areas of the database that possibly need to be changed. Mr. Moore explained that the categories of boat launches and campsites should be changed. Mr. Moore explained that there is one category for boat launches and we should break that up to “improved” and “unimproved”. Mr. Moore further noted that another issue was that campsites are labeled rustic and electrified. This should be combined to just camp grounds. The Commission agreed with those changes.

The Commission thanked Ms. Craft for the hard work that she has put into the website.

VI. Elk Rapids Chamber of Commerce Brochure

Mr. Stone spoke with Terry Crandall-Kimble about the center spread in the brochure. Mr. Stone presented a layout of what the map was going to look like. Mr. Stone inquired about what sites the Commission wanted to do.

Discussion ensued about what the potential sites were going to be.

The sites that were chosen were; Barnes Park, Grass River Natural Area, Antrim Creek Natural Area, the Jordan River Valley, the Chain of Lakes, the Village of Elk Rapids water front, Cedar River Natural Area, and Mackinaw State Forest.

VII. Elk Rapids Day Park

Mr. Stone informed the Commission that he spoke with Joe Yuchasz, Elk Rapids President, and noted that they are interested in the property but would like to set up a joint task force on the issue. Eileen Wallick, Barnes Park Manager, indicated that there has already been a

task force and we should look into the work that has already been done. Mr. Stone asked Mr. Meyers what the ownership of the property was. Mr. Meyers noted that there was a transfer of jurisdiction on the property back in the late 1960's. Mr. Meyers informed the Commission that he has consulted Legal Counsel on this issue and was informed that the County has full rights of the property and so we own it. Mr. Meyers further noted that the property must be for public use or it will be reverted back to the state.

VIII. Boat Launch on Lake Michigan/Wetzel Lake Presentation

Mr. Meyers informed the Commission that the County just got their new aerials. Mr. Meyers presented the two potential sites with the new aerials.

Mr. Meyers also presented the aerials for Wetzel Lake and informed the Commission that the County has submitted a tribal grant that should be decided within the next week. Mr. Meyers noted that the main part of the project is to create a trail around the lake. Mr. Meyers showed that water levels have significantly depleted within the past 7 years (as compared from the 1998 and the 2005 aerials). Ms. Gallagher stated that the lake level could be back in the next two years. Mr. Meyers acknowledged Ms. Gallagher's point but showed the Commission that on one of the future plans there is a loop trail that goes on one side of the lake.

Ms. Gallagher inquired about ownership of the property and why would the county be investing in property that they did not have any control over.

Mr. Meyers informed Ms. Gallagher that the staff at the DNR is very confident with the lease but it has to go through the process. Mr. Meyers indicated that he would like the Commission to think about the future of Wetzel Lake.

IX. Dredging Project

Mr. Moore informed the Commission that Janet Person, Executive Director of the Antrim Conservation District, was unable to attend the meeting but informed the Commission that they did not attain a regional dredging permit for various site in the County. Mr. Moore further informed the Commission that they would still like our help identifying sites but informed the Commission that the cost of the permit would be passed on the Township.

X. Petoskey Stone Festival

Ms. Gallagher informed the Commission that she was not able to attend the Traverse City Rock and Mineral Club due to the driving conditions but will be attending the March meeting. Ms. Gallagher further noted that the Petoskey Stone Festival is in high gear.

Mr. Meyers presented the Petoskey Stone Festival website. Ms. Gallagher indicated that not much time has been spent with the content of the website and that she is open to suggestions on ways to improve it.

Ms. Gallagher informed the Commission that she has spoke with the local family for possibly purchasing Petoskey stones for the beach hunt. Ms. Gallagher noted that they informed her that it would cost \$160.00. Ms. Gallagher noted that they would normally cost \$50.00 to \$100.00 for a normal batch of about 200 stones. Ms. Gallagher further noted that the family would be delivering the stones and they would be better quality then any of the batches they could get from a rock store.

The Commission informed Ms. Gallagher to go back with an offer of \$100.00 and see what happens.

Ms. Gallagher inquired about money for the festival. Mr. Meyers informed the Commission that currently it would come out of Barnes Park budget.

XI. Other Matters

Mr. Meyers informed the Commission that their current meeting is the fourth Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Meyers inquired about if they would like to keep their meeting date and time.

The Commission indicated that they would like to have their meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m.

XII Member/Public Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, February 16, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Commission

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None.

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**The next meeting will be
Thursday, February 16, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Commission

February 16, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Don Schuiteman, Jerry Dobrzelewski, Russ Blasdell, Mark Stone, Linda Gallagher and Mike Meriwether
Members Absent: Al Pecar and Mike Crawford
Staff Present: Valerie Craft and Eileen Wallick
Others: None

I. Call to Order

Stan Moore called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Approval of the January 19, 2006 Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the January 19, 2006 minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

IV. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Update

Mark Randolph, Director for Grass River Natural Area, joined the meeting. Mr. Randolph presented the proposed MNRTF grant application to the Parks and Recreation Commission asking for their support. Mr. Randolph informed the Commission that the grant monies will be used for the acquisition of 154.83 acres in Forest Home Township, including 0.9 miles of shoreline on Lake Bellaire, known as the North Shore Hunt Club. Mr. Randolph also discussed the potential of adding three (3) additional property acquisitions to the grant.

Motion by Mark Stone, supported by Linda Gallagher, for the Parks and Recreation Commission to endorse the proposed MNRTF grant application by Grass River Natural for the acquisition of the North Shore Hunt Club and the three (3) additional properties. Motion carried - unanimous.

V. Website Update

Mr. Moore informed the Commission that the Board of Commissioners approved the private recreation sites to be included on the website. Mr. Moore and Valerie Craft indicated that the Parks and Recreation site entrance page is now complete for public sites.

VI. Elk Rapids Day Park

No update.

VII. Boat Launch on Lake Michigan

Mr. Moore asked what direction the Commission should go with the boat launch. Mr. Moore proposed having a couple of public forums to get input regarding a boat launch on Lake Michigan. Linda Gallagher mentioned that people may get the wrong idea with a forum. The consensus was not to have a public forum.

Discussion ensued regarding a boat launch at Barnes Park. Mr. Moore was referred to Robin Schmidt, DEQ in Cadillac, who handles critical dunes areas. Ms. Schmidt confirmed that one site at Barnes Park is not considered critical dunes. Ms. Schmidt has indicated that she will send a letter regarding her conclusion. Some members were in opposition of having a boat launch at Barnes Park.

Mike Meriwether suggested putting some recommendations together for the Parks Committee. Mark Stone suggested that if a group of individuals expressed interest for a boat launch then an independent group, separate from the Parks and Recreation Commission, could push the launch site. Some members think that the County should purchase some property for a boat launch.

The Commission also discussed the possibilities of having Eden Shores as a boat launch.

The Commission agreed to have Mr. Moore write up a finding a fact report for the Parks and Recreation Commission to review at their next meeting and then present to the Parks Committee to present to the Board of Commissioners.

VIII. Elk Rapids Chamber of Commerce Brochure

Mark Stone presented a sample advertisement for the Commission to review. Mr. Stone informed the Commission that a picture of the Mackinaw State Forest and a picture of the Chain of Lakes are needed to finish the advertisement. Ms. Gallagher will email Mr. Stone a picture of the Mackinaw State Forest. Mr. Moore will look through his collection of slides for a picture of the Chain of Lakes.

IX. Petoskey Stone Festival Update

Ms. Gallagher updated the Commission on the upcoming Petoskey Stone Festival scheduled for May 27, 2006.

A copy of a media release (attached), that Ms. Gallagher wrote announcing the Petoskey Stone Festival, was distributed to the Commission for their review. Ms. Gallagher informed the Commission that the release will be mailed to the press on Tuesday.

Ms. Gallagher filled the Commission in on the types of activities she has planned for the Petoskey Stone Festival. Ms. Gallagher noted that she is still waiting to hear from some of the vendors.

Ms. Gallagher stated that she will need some funding for the festival and inquired where the money will come from. Mr. Moore suggested that Ms. Gallagher put together an itemized budget and present it to the Parks Committee at their next meeting for their approval.

X. Various Matters

❖ Barnes Park Trails

Mike Meriwether updated the Commission on the Barnes Park Trails that will be put in this summer. Mr. Meriwether stated that originally, the Parks Committee approved for an afton stone trail to be put in. Mr. Meriwether has had second thoughts about the afton stone trail and would like to put in a boardwalk trail in the wetlands.

**Motion by Mark Stone, seconded by Jerry Dobrzlewski, to recommend to the Parks Committee to change the plans of an afton stone trail to a wetlands boardwalk trail.
Motion carried – unanimous.**

❖ Sevald Property

Mr. Meriwether updated the Commission on the Sevald property. Forest Home Township, the Village of Bellaire and Antrim County did not receive the grant that was applied for to purchase the Sevald Property. Mr. Meriwether would like the County to purchase the 160 acres of land the County is interested in for price of \$354,000 (\$2,200/acre).

Mr. Meriwether would like to propose to the County Lands, Agriculture and Forestry Committee, two possible options the County could use to pay for this property.

1. The County enter into an agreement with Fahl Forest Products - Fahl Forest Products is willing to front the County \$354,000 for the timber rights.
2. Ask the County for \$354,000 and have the County market the timber themselves.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Mark Stone, for the Parks and Recreation Commission to support the proposal Mike Meriwether will present to the County Lands, Agriculture and Forestry Committee. Motion carried – unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, March 16, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Commission

March 16, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Don Schuiteman, Russ Blasdell, Mark Stone, Linda Gallagher, Mike Meriwether and Al Pecar
Members Absent: Mike Crawford and Jerry Dobrzelewski
Staff Present: Joe Meyers, Valerie Craft and Eileen Wallick
Others: None

I. Call to Order

Stan Moore called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

Norman Bretz addressed the Commission on his concerns on the happenings at Barnes Park (attached).

III. Approval of the February 16, 2006 Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Mark Stone, to approve the February 16, 2006 minutes as amended. Motion carried – unanimous.

IV. Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area

Mr. Meyers informed the Commission that Terry Smith, Forest Home Township Supervisor, asked the Commission for a letter of support for the Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area.

Discussion ensued over the project and the inherent need for the project.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Linda Gallagher to send a letter of support for the Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area to the Supervisor of Forest Home Township for submittal with the grant. Motion carried – unanimous.

V. Website Update

Valerie Craft updated the Commission on the recent changes to the Parks and Recreation webpage.

Linda Gallagher indicated that, on the website, there is no indication of where you can hunt. Ms. Gallagher further noted that she would also like to make the website more user friendly. Mark Stone indicated that he would like to have the parks and recreation database have its own domain name. Mr. Stone further indicated that it would be good to have the domain name on our advertisement in the Harbor House magazine.

VI. Elk Rapids Day Park

No update.

VII. Boat Launch on Lake Michigan

Stan Moore gave a presentation on the boat launch on Lake Michigan (attached). Mr. Stone noted that we would need a strong citizen group to back this if we wanted to proceed. Ms. Gallagher noted that it would be a huge battle and it would end up costing a lot of money.

The Commission noted that they would not recommend one site over another site due to the conflicts over each of the sites.

VIII. Petoskey Stone Festival Update

Ms. Gallagher indicated that the radio station would be promoting the festival for one week ahead of the festival as well as all day, the day of the festival.

Ms. Gallagher noted that we have an advertisement in Traverse the Magazine as well as on the calendar of events for the Michigan AAA magazine. Ms. Gallagher further noted that Michigan Outdoors would be coming to videotape the festival.

Ms. Gallagher inquired over giving participants of the festival a reduced camping rate. The Commission felt this should be addressed at the Parks Committee.

IX. Various Matters

None.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, April 20, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Commission

April 20, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Don Schuiteman, Russ Blasdell, Linda Gallagher, Al Pecar, Mark Stone, Mike Crawford and Jerry Dobrzelewski
Members Absent: Stan Moore and Mike Meriwether
Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick
Others: None

I. Call to Order

Don Schuiteman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Approval of the April 20, 2006 Minutes

Motion by Al Pecar, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the April 20, 2006 minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

IV. Website Update

Joe Meyers informed the Commission of the improvements regarding the website.

The Commission inquired about the cost that has been paid to LIAA for all work on the website.

V. Petoskey Stone Festival Update

Ms. Gallagher informed the Commission of events regarding the Petoskey Stone Festival. Ms. Gallagher indicated the issue of the Petoskey Stone Queen.

Motion by Russ Blasdell, supported by Mike Crawford, to award the Petoskey Stone Queen crown to the family of the original recipient. Motion carried – unanimous.

Ms. Gallagher indicated that we could potentially have an essay contest and a stone skipping contest.

Ms. Gallagher indicated that she would like to work with the Bellaire Conservation Club to see if they can set up their fishing pond at Barnes Park.

VI. Various Matters

Jerome Dobrzelewski indicated that he was very disappointed in the DNR due to the time it has taken to acquire the Park at Wetzel Lake.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, May 18, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Commission

May 18, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Don Schuiteman, Russ Blasdell, Linda Gallagher, Al Pecar, Mark Stone, Mike Crawford and Jerry Dobrzelewski
Members Absent: Stan Moore and Mike Meriwether
Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick
Others: None

I. Call to Order

Don Schuiteman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Approval of the April 20, 2006 Minutes

Motion by Al Pecar, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the April 20, 2006 minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

IV. Website Update

Linda Gallagher thanked Al Pecar for the work that he put in to the website for the Petoskey Stone Festival.

V. Petoskey Stone Festival Update

Ms. Gallagher noted that three vendors for the festival have backed out but there are a few more that are interested.

Joe Meyers informed the Commission that Alden State Bank had donated three gift certificates for the essay contest.

Ms. Gallagher noted that she was impressed with the media coverage outside of the region but indicated that the papers in the region have not been very helpful.

Ms. Gallagher indicated that Senator Jason Allen donated a Michigan flag that flew over the state capitol. Ms. Gallagher further noted that Antrim County Transportation would be donating a bus at their expense to help with transportation if needed.

The Commission directed Mr. Meyers to see if our liability insurance would cover other people's property if we needed extra places to park.

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, supported by Mark Stone, to give the Michigan flag to the Dinger family in Betty Dinger's name. Motion carried – unanimous.

VI. Various Matters

The discussion involving Antrim Conservation District will be postponed until next month.

Mark Stone noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission is an advisory Committee and should be renamed to help with the confusion due to the statutorily created Parks and Recreation Commission.

Discussion ensued over what the new name of the Commission should be.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Mark Stone, to recommend the Parks Committee rename the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Motion carried – unanimous.

Discussion ensued over rearing ponds and the benefit they could potentially bring to the County.

Ms. Gallagher thanked Mike Crawford, Eileen Wallick and Val Craft for all of their hard work with the Petoskey Stone Festival.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, June 15, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

June 15, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Don Schuiteman, Jerry Dobrzelewski, Russ Blasdel, Al Pecar and Linda Gallagher
Members Absent: Mike Meriwether, Mike Crawford and Mark Stone
Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick
Others: Christy Roman

I. Call to Order

Stan Moore called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Approval of the May 18, 2006 Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the May 18, 2006 minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

IV. Petoskey Stone Festival

Linda Gallagher informed the Board of the positive feedback she has received from all of the vendors as well as the public. Ms. Gallagher thanked everyone who helped with the festival with a special thank you to Mike Crawford, Eileen Wallick and the entire Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Gallagher noted that there have been rumors that there will not be a Petoskey Stone Festival next year but further noted that those rumors were untrue.

Don Schuiteman indicated that there needed to be walkie-talkies on the beach in case there was an accident. Ms. Gallagher agreed.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to recommend Parks Committee recommend to Finance Committee to find a way to purchase walkie-talkies this season for Barnes Park. Motion carried – unanimous.

Eileen Wallick indicated that the campground had a 71% occupancy rate, up from 66% last year Memorial Day weekend.

V. Parks on the east side of the County.

Christy Roman noted that during an inspection of Wetzel Lake they noticed that some of the signs need to be replaced. Ms. Wallick indicated that they could make the signs at Barnes Park because they have the tools to make them.

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, supported by Don Schuiteman to request the Parks Committee encourage our Legal Counsel to finalize the Wetzel Lake lease with the DNR. Motion carried – unanimous.

VI. Communications

The Board reviewed their budget for the 2007 year.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski to recommend Parks Committee approve the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's 2007 budget. Motion carried – unanimous.

VII. Public Comment

Al Pecar noted that the meetings go to long and get off task.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, July 20, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

September 21, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Linda Gallagher, Mike Meriwether, Al Pecar, Russ Blasdell, Mike Crawford, Jerry Dobrzelewski, Mark Stone

Members Absent: Don Schuiteman

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Christy Roman, Tom Sheneman, Jim Barber, Mark Randolph, Pepper Bromelmeier, Russ LaRowe and Abby Smith

I. Call to Order

Stan Moore called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Approval of the June 15, 2006 Minutes

Motion by Al Pecar, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the June 15, 2006 minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

IV. Antrim County Sign Standard

Mike Crawford spoke on the sign standard the Board of Commissioners adopted for the County Parks and Natural areas.

V. Trails

Tom Sheneman spoke on the Kalkaska trail that is moving to connect Kalkaska to Acme and Alden. Tom informed the Committee of MDOT funding and how it is a five-year period from inception to paving. Tom further noted that Kalkaska's trail movement was a citizen based grassroots movement.

Linda Gallagher spoke on the private landowners and usage of rural trails.

Stan Moore informed Mr. Sheneman of the current trail projects throughout the County.

The Committee discussed the possibility of a subcommittee on trails. The Committee noted that they would like to have their next meeting at the Helena Township Community Center and invite all the interest groups involving trails and recreation to the meeting to get something started.

Motion by Mark Stone, supported by Mike Crawford, to ask the Parks Committee to fund a lunch for the October meeting of the Parks and Recreation with the money from the Parks and Recreation forum budget. Motion carried – unanimous.

VI. Snowmobile Trails

Mark Stone and Jim Barber, with the Jordan Valley Trail Council, spoke on snowmobile trails on the east side of the County. Jim indicated that they were a volunteer organization and informed the Committee what they do.

Discussion ensued over snowmobile trails throughout the County.

VII. Fishing Dock

The Committee discussed a fishing dock at Wetzel Lake and started gathering ideas. Christy Roman noted that there is a fishing pier in Charlevoix County that she is thinking about modeling the Wetzel Lake dock after.

VIII. Various Matters

Mark Stone spoke about the Michigan paddlers' race in Grayling and how we should look into possibly starting something like that in our chain of lakes.

Stan spoke of improvements that Valerie Craft has made to the Parks and Recreation web site; and the emerald ash borer seminar that is happening in Elk Rapids on September 28, 2006 from 6:30 - 8:30.

Mike Crawford spoke on the dredging of Bonnie Brook. Christy noted that the ACD voted down doing the dredging project.

Mike Crawford noted that he would like to see the Halloween Spook Trail in 2007. The Committee decided to appoint a sub-committee of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for this task.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Mark Stone, to create the Halloween Spook Trail sub-committee consisting of Christy Roman as Chair, Mike Crawford, Mark Stone and Don Schuiteman. Motion carried – unanimous.

Linda spoke on the Petoskey Stone Festival and noted that she would like to become a member of the Michigan Festival Association.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, October 19, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.
at the Helena Township Community Center.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

October 19, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Linda Gallagher, Al Pecar, Russ Blasdell, Mike Crawford, Jerry Dobrzelewski, Mark Stone, and Don Schuiteman

Members Absent: Mike Meriwether

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Norton Bretz, Christy Roman, Kevin Giar, Jim Barber, Ann McClelland, Stan Kimmel, Tom Sheneman, Paul Trumble, Stan Bean, Bruce Laidlaw, John Richter, Janet Person, Kent Reynolds, Jim Datsko, and Deb Kresnah

I. Call to Order

Stan Moore called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

Stan Bean spoke on the trail that he is trying to start in Helena, Forest Home, Central Lake, and Torch Lake Townships.

John Richter spoke on the Friends of the Jordan River Valley meeting on October 19, 2006 and encouraged everyone to attend.

III. Approval of the September 21, 2006 Minutes

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, supported by Mike Crawford, to approve the September 21, 2006 minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

IV. Trails Forum

Tom Sheneman spoke on the Kalkaska Area Regional Trails and the MDOT funding process. Tom noted that the trails are for non-motorized vehicles.

Norton Bretz indicated that an Antrim County Trails Map was created a few years before and was wondering if anyone has access to this map.

Kevin Giar inquired about usage fees on trails.

Kent Reynolds, Elk Rapids Rotary, indicated that he is trying to get a trails group going from Elk Rapids to Acme to hook up with the Traverse Area Regional Trails.

Jim Datsko spoke on the positive tourism impacts that a larger regional trail system.

Stan Bean spoke on his plan to widen the shoulder of the road for their proposed bike path from Alden to Eastport.

Norton Bretz indicated that municipalities should inform bike tourists of the best routes for safety throughout the area.

Stan Moore informed the crowd of what the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board could do to help trails throughout the County. Stan indicated that the Board could amend the Parks and Recreation Plan to include a more in-depth look at trails.

Kevin Giar spoke on snowmobile trails throughout the county. Kevin indicated that a counter was put on one of their trails and received 4800 counts in a 24-hour period. Kevin also noted that a law was passed indicating that they had 1 year to hook a trail up from the east side on the county to Bellaire.

Discussion ensued over multi-purpose trails for bikers in the summer and snowmobiles in the winter.

Mark Stone offered to create a map of the trails in Antrim County if the different groups provided the necessary information.

Discussion ensued over creating a sub-committee of all of the trail groups throughout the county.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Mark Stone to create a sub-committee of all the trails special interest groups throughout the county. Motion carried – unanimous.

Mike Crawford indicated that we could get the boy scouts involved to help create trails.

Stan Kimble questioned why the press was not present.

V. Member Comment

Mark Stone indicated that he attended a meeting with the Antrim County Chamber Alliance and discussed the proposed paddle race for next year. Mark indicated that though it is a chamber function the Board could help with the coordination of the festival. Mark further indicated that the Chamber Alliance would be having a meeting on November 8th.

The Committee appointed Mike Crawford, Mark Stone, Stan Moore, and Eileen Wallick to sit on the Trails Sub-Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.
in the Board of Commissioners Room.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

December 4, 2006

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Russ Blasdell, Mike Crawford, and Don Schuiteman, and Mike Meriwether (entered at 1:10)

Members Absent: Linda Gallagher, Al Pecar, Jerry Dobrzelewski, and Mark Stone

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Jodie Balhorn, Roger Anger, and Margaret Chapman

I. Call to Order

Stan Moore called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. due to a lack of a quorum no official action could be taken.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Trails

Joe informed the Committee that he had received three people interested in a trails subcommittee but felt that there would be more interested.

Mike Meriwether entered the meeting at 1:10, since a quorum was present, official action could be taken.

IV. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Mike Crawford to approve the minutes of October 19, 2006 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

V. Petoskey Stone Festival

Peggy Kole informed the Committee on the Petoskey Stone Festival meeting, on January 9, 2006, in the absence of Linda Gallagher.

Stan Moore also informed the Committee of the potential fee structure for the festival.

VI. Park Use Fees

The Committee discussed the fee structure at Barnes Park because of an incident that happened this summer.

Mike Crawford indicated that we need to find another way to set up the fee structure because the goal is to make the park self-sufficient.

The Committee discussed the possibility of setting up a subcommittee to make recommendations on different ways to charge at Barnes Park.

Stan Moore appointed Don Schuiteman, Mike Meriwether, and Eileen Wallick to the subcommittee and appointed Don Schuiteman to chair the meetings.

VII. Various Matters

Joe informed the Committee of the difficulty he was having finishing the Barnes Park Grant and would hopefully have an update by the Parks Committee meeting.

The Committee reviewed the Barnes Park Trail Heap Map. The Committee had Eileen Wallick and Mike Meriwether markup the map for inconsistencies.

VIII. Member Comment

Don inquired if the money from the oil wells on the airport is going to county parks improvements.

Mike Crawford informed the Committee that a piece of property on the north tip of Lake Bellaire, owned by the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy on the west side of the road, is not huntable.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, January 18, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.
in the Board of Commissioners Room.**