

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

January 27, 2009

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski, Mike Meriwether, Al Pecar and Russ Blasdell

Members Absent: Mike Crawford, Mark Stone and Linda Gallagher

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Gene Dawson

I. Call to Order

Joe Meyers called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Election of Officers Meeting dates and times

Joe Meyers opened the floor for nominations for Chair.

Jerry Dobrzelewski nominated Don Schuiteman for Chair.

Don Schuiteman Nominated Stan Moore for Chair.

Motion by Don Schuiteman supported by Jerry to close nominations. Motion carried

The results of the vote were as follows:

- **Stan Moore – 3**
- **Don Schuiteman – 3**

No one was appointed to chair because of a lack of a majority.

Don Schuiteman nominated Mike Meriwether for chair

Motion by Don Schuiteman supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mike Meriwether as chair. Motion carried – unanimous.

Joe Meyers opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

Don Schuiteman nominated Stan Moore for vice chair.

Jerry Dobrzelewski nominated Don Schuiteman Vice Chair.

Jerry Dobrzelewski nominated Linda Gallagher for Vice Chair

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski supported by Don Schuiteman to close nominations. Motion carried – unanimous.

The results of the vote were as follows:

- **Stan Moore – 4**
- **Linda Gallagher – 1**
- **Don Schuiteman – 1**

Motion by Russ Blasdell, supported by Don Schuiteman to have the meeting date and times on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Motion carried - unanimous.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, Supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the minutes of December 2, 2008 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

V. Parks Forum Update

Discussion ensued over the direction of parks and recreation in the County for the future.

Discussion ensued over the forum and the format of it.

Discussion ensued over snowmobiles and connections to Bellaire.

The Committee asked the Coordinator/Planners office to create a questioner for the townships and villages in the county to see what they would like to do in the future in reference to Parks and Recreation.

Jerry Dobrzelewski spoke on a kayak race on the chain of lakes and indicated that the community leaders would like to see it used as a route but not a race.

VI. Petoskey Stone Festival

Linda Gallagher spoke on the changes in staffing for the Petoskey Stone Festival to the Antrim Conservation District. The Committee indicated that they would not have an issue with the new situation.

VII. Various Matters

Discussion ensued over the newly created Parks and Land Committee.

VIII. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, February 24, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.
in the Board of Commissioners Room.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

March 24, 2009

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski, Mike Meriwether,
Russ Blasdell, Mike Crawford, and Linda Gallagher
Members Absent: Al Pecar and Mark Stone
Staff Present: Pete Garwood, Kacey Prichard and Eileen Wallick
Others: Lindsay Banwell

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Mike Meriwether introduced Lindsay Banwell from the Antrim Conservation District. Ms. Banwell might be interested in being on the committee at some point in time.

Don Schuiteman raised the question in regards to Mark Stone being on the committee and if action should be taken if a member misses three or more meetings? Mr. Schuiteman stated he has nothing against Mr. Stone, but if someone else would like to be on the board we should ask him.

Mike Crawford informed the committee that the rule about missing three meetings would apply if this was a commission as opposed to an advisory committee.

Pete Garwood stated that Mark Stone, being the drain commissioner, was originally on the board by statute when it was considered a Parks and Recreation Commission as opposed to an Advisory Committee.

Mike Meriwether indicated he would call Mr. Stone regarding his future plans as a member of the committee.

IV. Minutes

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, Supported by Don Schuiteman, to approve the minutes of January 27, 2009 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

V. Parks and Recreation Forum Update

Mike Meriwether passed out the forum flier and the results from the survey that were sent to the townships and villages regarding the forum.

Linda Gallagher informed the committee she will be doing an article in the Antrim Review regarding the Parks and Recreation Forum on April 6 @ 6:00 pm at Camp Hayo-went-a.

Mr. Garwood and Mr. Moore agreed that there wasn't a screen at the facility and that, in the past, a large sheet was hung as a projector screen.

Don Schuiteman raised the question of having the forum flier placed in the Antrim Review as an insert and that it might get to more of the community that way.

The question was asked about how much coverage of the Antrim Review was in Elk Rapids.

Linda Gallagher stated that everyone in Elk Rapids was receiving a free copy of the Antrim Review until the end of April.

Kacey Prichard left the meeting momentarily to contact the Antrim Review on a cost for inserting the fliers. Antrim Review said it would cost \$260.00 for the flier to be inserted into 4600 papers for the April 2 publication.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Mike Meriwether to take the forum flier to the Antrim Review to be placed in the April 2, 2009 publication at a price of \$260.00. (Linda Gallagher abstained from vote due to her employment at the Antrim Reviewed.) Motion Carried – Unanimous.

The committee reviewed the survey results and discussed possibilities for the forum agenda.

Discussion took place over phragmites and it was decided that the issue is being handled by the townships and is not a topic for the forum.

Discussion took place how the public feels about the federal government taking over the wetlands. It was agreed that the forum was not the place to bring up that question as it isn't specifically related to the update of the Parks and Recreation Plan.

Topics for the forum such as: explanation of parks and recreation plan, trails, and public beach access arose. Pete Garwood brought up the fact that many surrounding counties had good trail systems throughout their county and that Antrim County seemed to lack in the non-motorized trail system area.

The committee decided that the following agenda would be finalized at an ad-hoc meeting on March 31st at 1:00 pm. Agenda items: Purpose of Parks and Recreation Plan, Structure of Parks and how they are run, Funding for local projects, and finish with a final survey. Mike Meriwether, Linda Gallagher, Stan Moore and Joe Meyers, along with any other members that want to attend, will meet to finalize the survey questions and agenda. Mr. Garwood suggested it might be helpful to look over previous forum questions.

It was recommended that Mr. Garwood contact MAC and then Grand Traverse County regarding a speaker for the forum on funding mechanisms for parks and recreation projects. Mr. Garwood was also asked that Joe Meyers or himself speak at the forum on the Parks and Recreation Plan. Mr. Garwood agreed to both requests.

The idea of having large bulleting board where the public could list topics of interest for their community at the forum was discussed. The question of placing the final survey for the public that is distributed at the forum on the website was raised. Ms. Prichard said she thought it would be possible, but would discuss it further with Valerie Craft, IT Director.

The next forum will be held in August as a follow up to the April Forum.

VI. Petoskey Stone Festival

Linda Gallagher spoke on the festival and stated that she was very happy the Conservation District got involved and that Christy Roman was a mover and a shaker.

Ms. Gallagher informed the committee of the variety of advertising that has been done thus far and that the PSF committee is being very conscientious on their spending. They believe sponsorship will be down this year due to the economy.

Discussion over volunteers being needed took place.

The topic of the uniqueness of the PSF was discussed. Linda Gallagher stated that this is one of the few festivals that are completely free unless you choose to buy something from a vendor.

The next PSF meeting will be on April 2, 2009 @ 3:00pm.

VII. Various Matters

None.

VIII. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, April 28, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.
in the Board of Commissioners Room.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

April 28, 2009

Minutes

Members Present: Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski, Mike Meriwether, Russ Blasdel, Mike Crawford, Al Pecar

Members Absent: Linda Gallagher and Stan Moore

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Lindsay Banwell, Christy Roman and Gene Dawson

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. Public Comment

3. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the minutes of March 24, 2009 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Parks and Recreation Forum Update

Gene Dawson spoke about the forum at Camp Hayo-went-a; in addition, to a boat launch at Antrim Creek Natural Area.

Joe Meyers distributed the results of the forum.

Don Schuiteman inquired if the advertisement in the Antrim Review was successful.

Mike Crawford spoke on potentially having an advertisement on TV 2.

5. Petoskey Stone Festival

Mike Meriwether informed the Committee that Bernie Blackmore questioned why the County was supporting the Petoskey Stone Festival.

Mr. Schuiteman spoke on the history of the Petoskey Stone Festival and believes it is a County function.

Discussion ensued over the festival and how it benefits the county.

Eileen Wallick spoke on the finances of the past and current Petoskey Stone Festival.

Mr. Meriwether indicated that he would go to the Parks and Lands Committee and let them know that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board consensus is that the Petoskey Stone Festival should be a County function.

6. Boat Launch at Antrim Creek Natural Area

Mike Meriwether distributed a letter from a county resident Bill Dean (attached). Mike also passed out a memo (attached) he wrote on behalf of the advisory board for them to review.

The Board reviewed the letter.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Mike Crawford to recommend the Parks and Lands Committee review the language defining the boat launch area and its usage within the Antrim Creek Natural Area's Master Plan (Page 9 and 13). Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Don Schuiteman to recommend boat launches on Lake Michigan is addressed in the County Parks and Recreation Plan. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to recommend the Parks and Lands Committee define the measurements of the Boat Launch at the Antrim Creek Natural Area. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, supported by Al Pecar to recommend the Parks and Lands Committee not restrict Boat Access to carrying boats to the water (portaging). Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to recommend the Parks and Lands Committee keep in mind the Boat Launch, when improving the Antrim Creek Natural Area, as to not encroach upon the launch. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to recommend to the Parks and Lands Committee work towards improving the North Entrance and the parking facilities. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Russ Blasdel, to recommend the Parks and Lands Committee review the Antrim Creek Natural Area Ordinance to add a Boat Launch to the Permitted Uses. Motion carried – unanimous.

Eileen Wallick discussed the potential of letting bicycles on the trails as a permitted use.

7. Various Matters

Mike Crawford informed the Board that Mark Stone had resigned from the Board.

Eileen Wallick spoke on the Petoskey Stone Festival.

Mike Meriwether spoke on a new Boat Launch on Torch lake.

8. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, May 26, 2009 at 1:00
p.m. in the Board of
Commissioners Room.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

June 23, 2009

Minutes

Members Present: Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski, Russ Blasdell, Mike Crawford, Al Pecar, and Linda Gallagher

Members Absent: Mike Meriwether and Stan Moore

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Dean Branson

1. Call to Order

Due to the Chair and Vice Chair not being present for the meeting, the committee appointed Don Schuiteman as chair for the meeting.

Don Schuiteman called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Minutes

Motion by Russ Blasdell, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the minutes of April 28, 2009 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Elk Rapids Non-motorized Trail

Dean Branson introduced himself and informed the committee of the Elk Rapids proposed trail from the Village of Elk Rapids to Bates Road in Acme Township; that he and the Elk Rapids Rotary have been working towards. He also informed the Committee how the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) process works.

Mr. Branson indicated that during the process, MDOT would require a letter of support from Antrim County. He also informed the Committee that MDOT has a requirement that an Act 51 unit of government needs to take responsibility for the maintenance of these trails, they would like to know if they have the county's support.

Discussion ensued over the maintenance of the trail.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Russ Blasdell, to recommend the Administration Committee look at if the County could be the ACT 51 unit of government and have an agreement for maintenance of the rotary trail. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Parks and Recreation Forum

Discussion ensued over the results of the last forum and what the participants indicated that they would like to see discussed further.

Discussion ensued over ORV/Motorized trails.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to recommend the Parks and Lands Committee approve the subjects covered in the forum. Motion carried – unanimous.

6. Petoskey Stone Festival

Discussion ensued over the funds for the festival and the lack of some sponsors paying.

Discussion ensued over the success of this year's festival.

7. Various Matters

Mike Crawford spoke on the Wetzel Lake Day Park.

Discussion ensued over moving the meeting to one of our County parks for the next meeting. The committee agreed that we should have the next meeting at Wetzel Lake and have the back up plan to be Mancelona Township Hall, if weather becomes an issue.

Discussion ensued over the budget for 2010.

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, supported by Mike Crawford the recommend the Parks and Lands Committee approve the 2010 budget as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

8. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Thursday, July 28, 2009 at 1:00
p.m. at the Wetzel Lake Day
Park.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

July 28, 2009

Minutes

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

Members Absent: Mike Crawford

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Roger Anger, Christy Roman, and Ron Oyer

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Jerry Dobrzelewski spoke on how Wetzel Lake is being utilized a lot this summer.

Roger Anger spoke on how there are some problems with parking at Wetzel Lake on some days and wonders if the County could address the problem. He also spoke on how it would be nice to have some rules that he could enforce when issues arise.

Discussion ensued over the sizes of the boat motors allowed on the lake. Further discussion ensued over the different rules that we could have at the park.

3. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the minutes of June 23, 2009 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Parks and Recreation Forum

Discussion ensued regarding the last forum and how to set up the scheduled August 31, 2009 forum. After discussion, the Committee decided that there will be a Turning Point portion during the forum to get the public's opinion on the issues from the last forum, as well as a presentation from the Townships and Villages that have Parks and Recreation Plans on their 5-year plans.

Discussion ensued over our Parks and Recreation Plan.

Regarding the August 31, 2009 forum, the Committee decided that the five (5) issues that we would address would be: motorized trails; non-motorized trails; camping facilities; public access; boat launches.

5. Various Matters

Linda Gallagher spoke on how she would like to give Christy Roman of the Antrim Conservation District control of the Petoskey Stone Festival website.

Al Pecar spoke on how he would like to see a trail going from Wetzel Lake to Five Lakes.

6. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 25, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

August 25, 2009

Minutes

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

Members Absent: Al Pecar

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Mark Randolph

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

2. Public Comment

3. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the minutes of July 25, 2009 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Parks and Recreation Forum

Stan passed out the questions for the forum that the sub-committee came up with and they went through everyone to make sure that no one had any objections.

The Committee discussed the set up and agenda of the forum.

5. Various Matters

Linda Gallagher spoke on the Petoskey Stone Festival.

6. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

September 29, 2009

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Meriwether, Don Schuiteman, Jerry Dobrzelewski, Russ Blasdell, Stan Moore, and Linda Gallagher

Members Absent: Al Pecar and Mike Crawford

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Mark Randolph and Quintus Monska

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Mike Meriwether introduced Quintus Monska to the Committee.

3. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the minutes of August 25, 2009 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Parks and Recreation Forum

Joe Meyers passed out the results from the Parks and Recreation Forum. The Committee reviewed the results from the survey and discussed them. (get the costs on sending out a notice in the county through the tax bill). Discussion ensued over the differences and similarities of the Forum. Discussion ensued over Barnes Park as a boat launch.

Mike Meriwether indicated that according to information gathered at the Forum, Barnes Park seems to not be a viable location for a boat launch. He would still like to investigate a boat launch. Mike Meriwether and Russ Blasdell spoke on how they would like to see a boat launch at Antrim Creek Natural Area (ACNA).

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to recommend the Board of Commissioners no longer pursue a boat launch at Barnes Park. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, supported by Don Schuiteman, to recommend the Board of Commissioners look into the North End of ACNA to establish a boat launch facility. Motion carried – unanimous.

Mark Randolph spoke on how the Forum results sided with Fish Structures, Boat Launch on Lake Michigan, Bike Trails, Cross Country Ski Trails, and Swimming Beaches.

Discussion ensued over having a county cross country ski trail.

Stan Moore spoke about having ACNA, Grass River Natural Area (GRNA), Barnes Park and others get things ready for a Parks and Recreation plan and he indicated that Antrim County needs a written 5 year plan.

5. Various Matters

Petoskey Stone Festival: Linda Gallagher spoke about how the Grand Traverse Rock & Mineral Club had their show this year and that she talked to vendors for this upcoming year.

Discussion ensued over the County funding the Petoskey Stone Festival. Don Schuiteman talked about how the Petoskey Stone Festival is a County Function.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski to recommend the County Fund the Petoskey Stone Festival at total of \$500 for 2010. Motion carried – unanimous. Linda Gallagher - Abstained.

6. Member Comment

Mark Randolph spoke on how he would like to become a member of the Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 27, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

December 1, 2009

Minutes

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

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the minutes of September 29, 2009 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Petoskey Stone Festival

Christy Roman from the Antrim Conservation District joined the meeting. Christy Roman and Linda Gallagher spoke about the Petoskey Stone Festival. Christy Roman informed the Board about the Michigan Festivals and Events Association Conference she attended on a scholarship and how the Festival could use social media (Facebook, etc.) to promote the Festival. Linda Gallagher talked about some different things the Festival could do for its five year anniversary.

Discussion ensued over how to make the Festival better.

Further discussion ensued over potentially getting the Native Americans involved. Mike Crawford spoke about possibly involving Grand Traverse County in order to make contact with the tribes.

5. Parks and Recreation Plan

The Board discussed the Parks and Recreation Plan for the 2010 update.

Mike Crawford spoke about how the Public Access Sites section of the Plan needs to be updated and also about the focus on a boat launch in Lake Michigan. Mike Crawford also indicated that he would like to reorganize the administrative structure of the Parks and Recreation in the County to allow for the creation of a Parks Director.

Mike Meriwether indicated that he would like to see the population and climate data updated because the data is outdated. Mike Meriwether also indicated that he would like to see language to help in the creation of a Parks Director.

Linda Gallagher indicated that she would like to see the Petoskey Stone Festival added into the Plan.

Christy Roman spoke about encouraging the Road Commission to make wider shoulders on the road, and that it needs to be added into the Parks and Recreation Plan.

Don Schuiteman indicated that the Board needs to rewrite the Recreation Plan portion for all of the “named parks”.

5. Various Matters

The Committee indicated that they would like to have two meetings in January to work on the Parks and Recreation Plan. The meetings will be held on January 12 and 26, 2010.

6. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 1:49p.m.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 12, 2010