

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

January 12, 2010

Minutes

Members Present: Stan Moore, Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski, Mike Meriwether, Mike Crawford and Russ Blasdell.

Members Absent: Linda Gallagher and Al Pecar

Staff Present: Joe Meyers

Others: Dave Peterson and Christy Roman

1. Call to Order

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

2. Election of Officers and Meeting Dates and Times

Joe Meyers opened the floor for nominations for Chair.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Don Schuiteman, to keep the Chair and Vice Chair the same as in 2009. Motion carried – unanimous.

Discussion ensued over having the meetings in the morning or afternoon.

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, supported by Mike Crawford, to hold the meeting on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 9:00 am. Motion carried – unanimous.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrzelewski, to approve the minutes of December 1, 2009 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Review of the Antrim County Parks and Recreation Plan.

Mike Meriwether passed out the Executive Summary that he drafted (attached). Mike Meriwether also discussed moving around some of the data to an appendix.

Discussion ensued over the Parks and Recreation Plan.

Jerry Dobrzelewski recommended Mike Meriwether continue to write the draft of the plan.

Discussion ensued over the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) and other grant opportunities. Discussion ensued over a boat launch.

6. Petoskey Stone Festival

Christy Roman discussed the Petoskey Stone Festival. Discussion ensued over the different things that are happening with the Festival in 2010. Discussion ensued over Shanty Creek.

7. Various Matters

None.

8. Member Comment

Dave Peterson spoke on how there is a lack of signage at the parks and questioned where Cedar River Natural Area (CRNA) is located.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

**The next meeting will be
Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.
in the Board of Commissioners Room.**

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

January 26, 2010

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Meriwether, Linda Gallagher, Mike Crawford, Don Schuiteman, Russ Blasdell, Al Pecar, Jerome Dobrezelewski, Stan Moore

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Joe Meyers

Others:

1. Call to Order

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

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Minutes

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Jerry Dobrezelewski, to approve the minutes of January 12, 2010 as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.

4. Review of the Antrim County Parks and Recreation Plan.

Discussion ensued over the Parks and Recreation Summary. Don would like to see the Boat Launch on Lake Michigan moved up in the document.

Mike Meriwether presented the needs and priorities of Parks and Recreation Advisory:

Needs

- Park, Forestry, and Recreation Department
- Connecting Trails
- Public Access
- Camping
- Day Parks
- Natural Areas
- Funding

Priorities

- Maintain Existing Facilities
- Parks Department Director
- Public Access
- Capital Improvements
- County Wide Trails
- Acquisitions
- Park and Land Classifications
- Land Maintenance
- GRNA Building
- Funding

The Committee discussed the needs and priorities of the County. Discussion ensued over the creation of the Charter Fund (forestry, oil and gas, taxes, revenues, etc.).

Discussion ensued over park and land classifications as well as the other needs and priorities.

Mike Meriwether spoke on the need for having horseback riding trails throughout the County.

5. Petoskey Stone Festival

None.

6. Various Matters

None.

7. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

April 27, 2010

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Meriwether, Mike Crawford, Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski

Members Absent: Al Pecar, Linda Gallagher and Stan Moore

Staff Present: Joe Meyers

Others:

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. **Due to a lack of a quorum, no official action could be taken.**

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Minutes

No action taken.

4. Review of the Antrim County Parks and Recreation Plan.

Discussion ensued over the Parks and Recreation Plan and how it should be structured.

The Committee decided that the placement of the Parks and Recreation Inventory was required in the plan.

Mike Crawford spoke on moving the ACNA Commission to the same status as the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Discussion ensued over the potential for a "Charter Fund". Discussion ensued over the creation of a Parks Director position.

Don Schuiteman indicated that he would like to see more mention in the document about the County's Lake Michigan Shoreline. Discussion ensued over the bulleted Section 3.1. Discussion ensued over the Trails Section.

Discussion ensued over the long term funding of the Parks. Discussion ensued over raising bridges in Antrim County.

5. Petoskey Stone Festival

None.

6. Various Matters

None.

7. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

May 25, 2010

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Meriwether, Mike Crawford, Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski and Stan Moore

Members Absent: Al Pecar and Linda Gallagher

Staff Present: Peggy Kole (for Joe Meyers)

Others:

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. Minutes

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Don Schuiteman to approve the January 26, 2010 minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Don Schuiteman to approve the April 27, 2010 minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

3. Petoskey Stone Festival

Stan Moore gave a brief update on the Petoskey Stone Festival, also stating they have a meeting scheduled for later today.

4. Parks and Recreation Plan

Chairman Mike Meriwether explained that he and Joe Meyers will be reviewing the first three sections of the Parks and Recreation Plan. He also stated that the biggest addition will be incorporating demographics. Maps and park locations will also be added.

Mr. Meriwether stated that the first three sections (Introduction, Administrative Structure, and Recreation in Antrim County) have stayed about the same as the previous Plan.

Mr. Moore pointed out that Section 1.4 needs updating. He also let the Board know that MSU Extension has “turning points” (clickers) if needed.

The members quickly reviewed the first three chapters of the Plan and made the following observations:

- The chart (figure 1) in Section 2 – Antrim Creek Natural Area (ACNA) should report to the Parks and Lands Committee the same as other Antrim County Parks.
- ACNA should have a line item in the operational budget, Section 2.5.
- Questions regarding Section 2.5.1 – ACNA. Recommendation to add “In addition” to the first part of the second sentence to read “In addition, the Endowment Fund has also been established...”
- The Parks Director recommendation will remain as part of the Plan.
- A partnership chart has not been included.

- Section 2.8 is language that is required by the state.

Mr. Meriwether pointed out that there are many small things in the Plan that may be controversial. He indicated that Joe Meyers is trying to write the Plan to reduce some of the controversy. He went on to say that it is not our job to resolve these issues, but to inform the Board of Commissioners.

Discussion regarding Section 4 – Recreation Needs/Issues:

- This section has not been prioritized.
- Section 4.2 (Trails) was deemed important at all of the Parks Forums.
- Section 4.2 – The connecting trail systems connect towns/villages but could there also be trails/pathways on a smaller scale to connect to local businesses, such as the grocery store, pharmacy, Laundromat, etc. that would be safer for the public than crossing a busy highway. There was discussion regarding possible crosswalks and collaborating with local townships/villages. Also mention of 2% of the fuel tax that goes to the Rails to Trails fund. Possible Road Commission support.
- Section 4.3 – Should Public Access to Lake Michigan have a separate section? More discussion including the fact that “public access” does not necessarily mean “boat launch”.
- Should there be a section on Boat Launches?
- Section 4.4 – Remove “...as a need by the Park Manager.” This section will need a chart/table for clarification.
- Section 4.5 – Second sentence – take out the words “...removal and/or...”
- Section 4.6 – Third paragraph – move to “Boat Launches” sub-section, should there be one. Also provide a “needs” chart/table.
- Section 4.8 – Do not capitalize Charter Fund. Mr. Meriwether will be discussing this section as well as Section 2.5, Operational Budget, with the County Clerk soon.
- Section 4.9 – It was felt this area needs more work, specifically putting into classifications such as: wetland ordinance, soil erosion, industrial areas, etc. Also, it was mentioned in the rules from the state that this section is an option, not a requirement. The general feeling is that “natural resource planning” is mentioned throughout the document.
- Last page of handout – General agreement on #1, #3 and #4. No discussion on #2 and #5.

Stan Moore left the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Mike Meriwether gave credit to Joe Meyers and Shannon Meeder for their continuing efforts in writing and proofing the Parks and Recreation Plan.

5. Various Matters

None.

6. Member Comment

Mr. Dobrzelewski asked about the GRNA issue. Mr. Crawford explained some of the problems that have surfaced such as the location of the building, the Trust Fund language, and the reverter clauses. These issues will eventually be resolved. He also indicated that the new GRNA Director is doing a great job and that Warren Studley has been a major source of information.

There was discussion regarding membership on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The general feeling is there needs to be more clarification on the number of members.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

June 22, 2010

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Meriwether, Mike Crawford, Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski, and Stan Moore

Members Absent: Al Pecar and Linda Gallagher

Staff Present: Joe Meyers

Others:

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. No quorum.

2. Minutes

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Don Schuiteman, to approve the January 25, 2010 Minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

3. Parks and Recreation Plan

Delete Grass River Center from the rationale and add boat launch to the community goals. Also make a note on the goals are not in priority. Discussion ensued over the five year priority plan for the parks.

4. Petoskey Stone Festival Update

Linda Gallagher gave an update on the Petoskey Stone Festival. She indicated that she is trying to set up a meeting on the committee. She felt that it went well.

Stan Moore entered the meeting and we had a quorum.

Motion by Jerry Dobrzelewski, supported by Stan Moore to approve the May 25, 2010 Minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Land Acquisition Procedure

Discussion ensued over the land acquisition procedure. The Board asked the Coordinator/Planner Office to review and make recommendations.

6. Member Comment

Stan Moore indicated that our next meeting should be at the Elk Rapids Day Park in August. The Committee decided to move the meeting to the 4th Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m.

Jerry Dobrzelewski spoke on Road Commission funding.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

July 28, 2010

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Meriwether, Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski, Linda Gallagher and Stan Moore

Members Absent: Al Pecar and Mike Crawford

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: Jan Basset, Bob Basset, Diane Richter, and Kathy Peterson

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

2. Minutes

Motion by Jerome Dobrzelewski, supported by Don Schuiteman, to approve the June 22, 2010 Minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

3. Elk Rapids Day Park Discussion

Discussion ensued over the Elk Rapids Day Park. Mike Meriwether indicated that the pavilion and the playground equipment had been removed. Diane Richter informed the Committee that a lot of church groups used the pavilion. It was the Consensus of the Board that the pavilion should be replaced.

Motion by Don Schuiteman, supported by Linda Gallagher, to recommend the Parks and Lands Committee budget to have the Elk Rapids Day Park Pavilion replaced in 2011. Motion carried – unanimous.

Discussion ensued over the Playground equipment and whether to replace it. The Committee decided that they would like to replace it but would like to get the pavilion replaced first.

Discussion ensued over campgrounds.

Mike Meriwether discussed the fence issue and asked the committee if the fence should be removed. After discussion, the Committee decided to ask the Elk Rapids Parks and Recreation Committee for a recommendation on the fence.

4. Petoskey Stone Festival Update

Linda Gallagher gave an update on the Petoskey Stone Festival. She indicated that the PSF would like to have inflatables at the next Petoskey Stone Festival. The Committee indicated that Linda Gallagher should ask the Parks and Lands Committee to give a recommendation.

5. Various Matters

Discussion ensued over the signage for the Elk Rapids Day Park. The Committee asked Jerome Dobrzelewski to have the Road Commission ask MDOT for a sign.

6. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.
Next meeting will be held on August 25, 2010

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

August 25, 2010

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Meriwether, Don Schuiteman, Jerome Dobrzelewski, Linda Gallagher and Stan Moore

Members Absent: Al Pecar and Mike Crawford

Staff Present: Joe Meyers and Eileen Wallick

Others: None

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Minutes

Motion by Jerome Dobrzelewski, supported by Linda Gallagher, to approve the July 28, 2010 Minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

3. Parks and Recreation Plan

Joe Meyers Passed out an updated draft of the Parks, Lands, and Recreation Plan to the Committee. Discussion ensued over the Plan

The Committee asked for the following changes to be made:

- Include a Snowmobile and ORV Trail Map within the plan.
- Insert a statement indicating that hunting is allowed on all county property unless otherwise posted.
- Update the Parks and Recreation Inventory on all Townships.

Joe Meyers requested that the Committee please let the Coordinator/Planner Office know by September 14, 2010 of any changes or suggestions so the changes can be made and a final draft could be presented at the next meeting.

4. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.
Next meeting will be held on September 28, 2010

Antrim County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

September 22, 2010

Minutes

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

1. Call to Order

Mike Meriwether called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Due to a lack of a quorum, no official action could take place.

2. Minutes

Motion by, supported by, to approve the August 25, 2010 Minutes. Motion carried – unanimous.

3. Parks and Recreation Plan

The Committee went through the Parks, Lands, and Recreation plan. Joe Meyers asked for comments to be submitted by September 28, 2010 so the Park and Lands Committee can review it at their October 7, 2010 Meeting.

4. Member Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.
Next meeting will be held on October 27, 2010