

Antrim Creek Natural Area Commission

Dave Heeres, Chairman

Don Miles

Blaze Budd

Carl Veenstra

Lauri Gear

June 18, 2019

****SPECIAL MEETING****

Minutes

Members present: Dave Heeres, Don Miles, Carl Veenstra, Blaze Budd

Members absent: Lauri Gear

Staff present: Travis Youatt, Eileen Wallick

Others present: Tim Schacht, Wendy Warren

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Dave Heeres

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Trail Maintenance Employee

The ACNA Board is considering contracting with the Antrim Conservation District (ACD) to provide a temporary employee to complete ground maintenance work at the ACNA. This service will be approximately 10 weeks long and 4 hours per week. The budgeted amount for this, paid to the ACD from the ACNA will be \$800.00. The provided contractual employee will be equipped with small tools, e.g. chain-saw, pruners, and loppers, etc.

Wendy Warren, District Manager, discussed the details of the interim worker. Ms. Warren indicated ACD is seeking additional hours for their trail maintenance worker. Currently, he is scheduled to work at Glacial Hills two (2) days a week. She said ACD is comfortable contracting with the County, as they have contracted with County on various projects.

David Heeres asked about a job description and who would supervise the trail worker. It was the consensus that Ms. Warren would be the ultimate supervisor but would need one point of contact from the ACNA or Antrim County. Ms. Warren, Carl Veenstra, and Eileen Wallick, Parks Manager, will work together on a priority list for the new trail maintenance employee. Discussion ensued about who would supervise this new employee. Don Miles spoke on the roles of "who does what."

Motion by Carl Veenstra, seconded by Blaze Budd, to recommend the Board of Commissioners amend the contract between Antrim County and the Antrim Conservation District for trail maintenance work at Antrim Creek Natural Area; to authorize the Board Chair to execute the amendment; and to authorize the Finance Director to make the appropriate budget amendment.

Motion Carries

4. Friends of Antrim Creek Natural Area

Tim Schacht said he has been working on bylaws and officers for the Friends of Antrim Creek Natural Area. He indicated he had a bank account created and 501c3 was granted. Tim would like to see the park improved and help with various projects.

5. Various Matters

Ms. Wallick Eileen showed pictures of a project that her staff completed at the ACNA. She updated the Commission about the “no parking” signs being installed. The commission members requested more gravel be added to the road. Eileen will order more gravel and to be spread by volunteers.

Carl Veenstra said he continues to do work on the trail. He asked if it were possible for a volunteer to be reimbursed for the use of privately owned equipment. Mr. Veenstra indicated he has also been working on a list of job duties, should a permanent employee be hired to work exclusively at the natural area.

6. Public Comment

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17