

Antrim Creek Natural Area Commission

*Don Miles
Blaze Budd*

Jarris Rubingh, Chairman

*Carl Veenstra
Lauri Gear*

Minutes April 21, 2021

Members Present: Carl Veenstra, Don Miles, Jarris Rubingh, Blaze Budd

Members absent: Lauri Gear

Others present: Steve Lauserquist, Jeremy Scott, James Hunter, James Dake, Jake Blessing

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Jeremy Scott

2. Public Comment

None

3. Organization

Carl Veenstra nominated Jarris Rubingh for the Chairman position.

Motion by Don Miles, seconded by Blaze Budd to close nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot for Jarris Rubingh for Chair of the Antrim Creek Natural Area Commission.

Motion – Passes

Jarris Rubingh chaired the rest of the meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Don, seconded by Carl, to approve the minutes of September 23, 2020 as presented.

Motion – Passes

5. Introduction of Parks Director

James Hunter introduced himself to the commission as the new Parks Director for Antrim County.

6. Grass River Natural Area 2021 Educational Programming Proposal

The commission generally expressed a desire to publicize better and see a written review after the season.

Motion by Don Miles, seconded by Blaze Budd, to approve the funding of three Grass River Natural Area Educational Programs with a written review for a total cost of \$450.

Motion - Passes

7. Antrim Conservation District Trail Management Agreement

Motion by Jarris Rubingh, seconded by Don Miles, to recommend the Board of Commissioners create an Antrim Creek Natural Area Park Attendant position with

existing budgeted funding from GL#234000-756-802.

Motion Passes 4 Yes, 0 No,

8. Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy

Updated Signage

Steve Lauderquist with the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy gave an overview of signs, letting the commission know that there would be a lot of back and forth that will take a few months.

Conservation Easement

Signage was discussed along with boulders to create a passive guide.

9. Discussion: Potential Capital Improvement Projects

Mr. Hunter suggested installation of pit toilets, the possibility of improved parking, and placing trash cans in the parking lots of the natural area. He also brought up new potential contact information for the owner of the schoolhouse property.

10. ACNA Brochure

General discussion ensued. The commission agreed that promotion was not a priority. No action was taken.

11. Various Matters

Motion by Jarris Rubingh, second by Don Miles to Amend the budget by not more than \$4,000 for the purpose of having parks director James Hunter and Commission member Carl Veenstra increase and improve parking for the Antrim Creek Natural Area.

Motion Passes

Motion by Don Miles second by Jarris Rubingh to have the Parks Director install trash cans at both entrances with appropriate budget amendment and to look into budgeting for pit toilets next year.

Motion Passes

Meetings set for July 21 and September 22

12. Public Comment

None.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2021

Meeting adjourned at 8:30