

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT  
PARK COMMISSION MEETING**

**January 6, 2011**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Pat Crowley Thomas Matteson	Robert Moore Matthew Lechel	Kent McCauley Robert Barnard	Gary Kortz
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Mildred Taraszka	Marion Hill	Bonna Perrin	
<b>Staff Present:</b>	David Rachowicz	Karen Ward		
<b>Guest:</b>	Nichole Cekola – Owen Group			

**1. Call to Order** – The meeting was held at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center in Room “C” and was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chairman, Thomas Matteson.

**2. Roll Call** – Roll was taken and a quorum was established. Commission Secretary, Karen Ward reported on members not in attendance. **Motion:** Moore moved to excuse those. McCauley supported. Motion carried.

**Election of 2011 Officers – Motion:** Moore moved to continue with the current officers. Barnard supported. Motion carried.

**3. Approval of Minutes – December 2, 2010 Meeting – Motion:** Crowley moved to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2010 meeting, as corrected. Moore supported. Motion carried.

**4. Citizen’s Time** – Nichole Cekola of the Owen Group, introduced herself and stated she was there to meet members and observe a Park Commission Meeting.

**5. Communications** – Rachowicz stated he received a communication from Kalamazoo Township stating our Special Exception Use Permit did not make their December agenda and was on the January 2011 agenda.

**6. Old Business**

**a. KRV Trail Update** – Rachowicz stated an additional agenda item regarding the trail is added under 7. New Business, f. Sheriff Protection Agreement. This item will be address at that time.

**b. Expo Center Phase II Project** –Bids were reviewed by the committee yesterday, with Interviews held this morning with two contractors; Rockford Construction and Cornerstone Construction for review of bids each submitted. The committee is recommending Cornerstone Construction. Members were provided a copy of the Bid Tabulation along with a memo to the Board of Commissioners outlining the project. Rachowicz highlighted the memo. Discussion ensued regarding cost saving changes, reserved contingency funds and alternate options. **Motion:** Barnard moved to proceed with the base bid items and with the consideration of the alternates outlined in the memo to the County Board. Moore supported. Motion carried.

**c. Prairie View Boat Ramp** – This item will be presented at the February meeting.

## 7. New Business

Members agreed to move onto items requiring action be taken.

**b. Special Event Requests** – The Special Event Requests were reviewed with discussion. **Motion:** Moore moved to approve the first four (4) events with the fifth event to be postponed at this time for further discussion with staff and the promoter. McCauley supported. Motion carried.

- Ice Fishing Tournament at Prairie View County Park, D & R Sports on January 15, 2011.
- HRI (Housing Resources Inc.), Kathy Smyser, March 26, 2011, KRV Trail event.
- Kingdom Crusader Cup, River Oaks Park, April 29 – May 1.
- Kingdom Cup Soccer Tourney, River Oaks Park, September 2 – 4, the event.
  
- The Captain's Triathlon and 5 K, Dan Kalleward, July 2, 2011, Prairie View Park. This event is being further discussed with staff and promoter.

**c. Bike Expo Pricing** – Rachowicz highlighted the request explaining that we are hosting the event. Discussion ensued. **Motion:** Barnard moved to approve the fees as proposed by. Kortz supported. Motion carried.

**d. DeYoung Naming Request** – Discussion ensued regarding the request and possible future requests. **Motion:** Kortz moved to approve a plaque recognizing the individual and to determine at a later date where it will be placed. Barnard supported. Motion carried.

**f. Sheriff Protection Agreement** – Members reviewed a proposed agreement for the Sheriff's Department to provide patrols on the KRV Trail during peak usage hours. At the last stakeholders meeting and through community surveys, citizens expressed the need to improve safety on the trail as a top priority. Discussion ensued regarding the type of patrol, bike, foot, ATV etc. along with the time schedule of the patrol. **Motion:** Moore moved to approve the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail Sheriff Protection Agreement recommending the patrol be done on foot and/or with bicycles most times limiting the use of motorized vehicles. Kortz supported. Motion carried.

**e. Expo Center Electric Upgrades** – Rachowicz reported that a local engineering firm is evaluating and will provide cost to upgrade the electrical service in the west year and campground area at the Expo Center. This information will be shared with members upon receipt.

**a. Park Activity Report** – Members reviewed the report with discussion.

## 8. Director's Report

**a. Budget Report** – Members reviewed the report with Rachowicz acknowledging the increase in revenue at Markin Glen Park is up \$20,000 and at Prairie View Park it's up \$30,000 from last year.

**b. December Update** – Items were covered within the meeting.

**9. Sales Report** – Members reviewed the sales report that was handed out with discussion.

**10. Members' Time** – Crowley expressed appreciation for the structure of the Park Commission meetings.

**11. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.