

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT
PARK COMMISSION MEETING**

March 3, 2016

Members Present: Toni Thompson, Thomas Matteson, Pat Crowley, Matthew Lechel
Marion Hill, Robert Moore, Ken Oscarson,
Members Absent: Virgie Ammerman Mildred Taraszka Kevin Wordelman
Discover Kalamazoo Liaison: Greg Ayers - Absent
Staff Present: David Rachowicz Lisa Conley
Citizens: None

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was held at Prairie View County Park and was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Chairperson, Thomas Matteson.
2. **Roll Call** – Roll was taken and a quorum was established. **Motion:** Moore moved to excuse members not present. Seconded by Hill. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. **Approval of Minutes – March 1, 2016 Meeting** – Members reviewed the minutes. **Motion:** Moore moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Hill. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. **Citizen’s Time** – None
5. **Communications** – None
6. **Old Business** - None

Crowley entered meeting at 3:15 p.m.

7. **New Business**
 - a. **Park Activity Report** – Members reviewed the report.
 - b. **Park Foundation Update-Pat Crowley-** Crowley reported that the Foundation has moved their offices to the Expo Center. Also reported that the Foundation will be hiring a consultant to help with fund raising.
 - c. **Kalamazoo County Fair Update- Marion Hill-** No report.
 - d. **KRV Trail Update-**Rachowicz reported that the City of Kalamazoo proposed a new trail route for the downtown connection connecting the Trail from Westnedge to Harrison Street. Members reviewed a map of the proposed route.
 - e. **MDNR Grant Projects-**Rachowicz presented a summary of the MNRTF Application and the Markin Glen County Park Improvement Project. There were no public comments. The proposed project is identified as a high priority in the 2016-2020 Kalamazoo County Park & Recreation Master Plan. The preliminary project budget is \$320,000 and we will seek \$192,000 in grant funding from MDNR Natural Resources Trust Fund recreation grant program. The project will include playground equipment at two locations within the park, restrooms, accessible walkways and parking area improvements. The County will need to provide the match of \$128,000 and funds from the Markin Glen Endowment Fund will be used for this purpose. **Motion:** Moore moved to approve the Markin Glen Improvement Project and the MDNR Trust Fund Grant Application as submitted. Seconded by Hill. Motion carried by voice vote.

- f. **River Oaks Splash Pad Group Use Policy-** Members reviewed the proposed splash pad policies for group use that were included in their meeting packet. **Motion:** Moore moved to approve the policy as submitted. Seconded by Thompson. Motion carried by voice vote.
- g. **Special Event Requests-** Members reviewed the special event requests included in their packet. **Motion:** Hill moved to approve all events as submitted. Seconded by Oscarson. Motion carried by voice vote.
- **Bell's to Bell's – KRV Trail –May 21, 2016**
 - **Super Y Tournament - River Oaks County Park –July 15-17, 2016**
 - **Unity Service & Recovery Retreat – Cold Brook County Park –August 19-21, 2016**
- h. **Scotts Olde Tyme Power and Equipment Association Agreement-**Members reviewed the agreement included in their packet. Discussion ensued. **Motion:** Moore moved to approve agreement as submitted. Seconded by Thompson. Motion carried by voice vote.
- i. **Parks Foundation Office Lease-** Members reviewed the lease agreement included in their packet. **Motion:** Hill moved to approve the lease agreement as submitted with typographical errors corrected. Seconded by Oscarson. Motion carried by voice vote.
- j. **River Oaks Thunderbirds RC Club Contract-** Members reviewed the contract included in their meeting packet. Discussion ensued. **Motion:** Thompson moved to approve the contract as submitted. Seconded by Lechel. Motion carried by voice vote.
- k. **Expo Center Alcohol Request- Home Expo-** Members reviewed the Alcohol Application for the Expo Center that was included in their meeting packet. Discussion ensued. **Motion:** Lechel moved to approve the application for HBA of Western Michigan as submitted. Seconded by Moore. Motion carried by voice vote.

8. Director's Report

- a. **Budget Report** - Members reviewed the report.
- b. **February Update** –Rachowicz thanked members for attending the meeting to vote on the resolution to adopt the 2016-2020 Kalamazoo County Parks Master Plan.

9. Sales Report

- Members received a handout.

10. **Member's Time** – Members received a handout regarding the Comstock Township Parks Department Merrill Park Improvement Project. Rachowicz discussed and supported the submission of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application for Merrill Park Improvement Project. **Motion:** Oscarson made a motion to adopt the resolution of support for the submission of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application for Merrill Park Improvement Project by Comstock Township Parks. Seconded by Lechel. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. Adjournment-

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.