

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT
PARK COMMISSION MEETING**

April 7, 2011

Members Present: Robert Moore Bonna Perrin Mildred Taraszka Marion Hill
Thomas Matteson Matthew Lechel Robert Barnard Gary Kortz

Members Absent: Kent McCauley Pat Crowley

Staff Present: David Rachowicz Mandy Eldred

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was held at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center in Room “C” and was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman, Thomas Matteson.
2. **Roll Call** – Roll was taken and a quorum was established. David Rachowicz reported on members not in attendance. **Motion:** Moore moved to excuse those members. Kortz supported. Motion carried.
3. **Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2011 Meeting – Motion:** Moore moved to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2011 meeting. Perrin supported. Motion carried. There are no minutes for the March meeting because a quorum was not established.
4. **Citizen’s Time** – No citizen comments.
5. **Communications** – Rachowicz stated he received three (3) communications;
 - A letter from Enbridge regarding Kalamazoo River Oil Spill.
 - An email from Peter Dams giving notice he will be moving out of the Scotts Mill House by the end of May.
 - Thank you letter from Garage Sale Art Fair.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Expo Center Phase II Project** – Rachowicz highlighted the project progress and offered a brief tour following the meeting. Matteson discussed the color and finish selection process and requested volunteers to serve on a committee to make the selections. Matteson, Kortz, Perrin, and Barnard volunteered to sit on the committee.
7. **New Business**
 - a. **Park Activity Report** - Members reviewed the report.
 - b. **Special Event Requests** – The Special Event Requests were reviewed with discussion. **Motion:** Moore moved to approve the following six (6) event requests as recommended by staff. Perrin supported. Motion carried.
 - DSA Easter Egg Hunt, April 16th at Prairie View County Park.
 - Humane Society Dog Walk-A Thon, May 7th at Prairie View County Park.
 - Sea Horse Challenge Triathlon, May 29th at Cold Brook County Park.
 - Kalamazoo Soccer Showcase Invitational, June 18, 19, 25, & 26 at River Oaks County Park.

- Girls Best Friend Triathlon & Duathlon, August 27th at Prairie View County Park.
- Cyclocross Race, October 2nd at Markin Glen County Park.

The Great Lakes Lacrosse Invitational request was not approved pending alternatives for field layout that will minimize the turf damage to the soccer fields.

- c. **Expo Center Electric Pricing** – Mandy Eldred presented the proposed Expo Center Tiered Rate Policy and new pricing for expo event space under construction. **Motion:** Moore moved to approve the Expo Center Tiered Rate Policy and the pricing for new Expo Center event space. Barnard supported. Motion carried.
 - d. **Power Club Event Contract** – Members reviewed the proposed contract and amended item 4. To “beginning July 19” and item 12 to “annual Power Club,” report. **Motion:** Perrin moved to approve the contract Power Club Contract as amended. Moore supported. Motion carried.
 - e. **Accommodation Report** – Rachowicz presented the accommodation report. Discussion ensued.
 - f. **Expo Center Construction Budget** – Rachowicz presented the Expo Center Construction Budget Report. Moore requested addition of percent complete for the overall project. Discussion ensued.
 - g. **Enbridge Agreement**- Members reviewed the proposed agreement. **Motion:** Kortz moved to approve the agreement and request the County Board to deposit the payment into the Park Improvement Fund for a future project at River Oaks Park. Barnard supported. Motion carried.
 - h. **2011 County Fair Contract**- Members reviewed the proposed contract. **Motion:** Kortz moved to approve the 2011 County Fair Contract. Barnard supported. Motion carried.
 - i. **2011 Thunderbirds Contract**- Members reviewed the proposed contract and amended item 1.G. by changing “limit” to “forbid”, and item 1.L. by changing “allowing” to “and will allow.” 4. **Motion:** Barnard moved to approve the 2011 Thunderbirds contract as amended. Perrin supported. Motion carried.
 - j. **Charleston Township Fire Department Request**- Rachowicz reported that Charleston Township Fire Department has requested permission to install an emergency alert siren at the Cold Brook County Park boat ramp restrooms. There will be no cost to the County but they will utilize a small amount of power to operate a charger for the batteries. This is also beneficial to the park because campers and park visitors will be notified of weather emergencies. **Motion:** Perrin moved to approve the request from Charleston Township to install a siren. Kortz supported. Motion carried.
8. **Director’s Report**
 - a. **Budget Report** – Members reviewed the report. Discussion ensued.
 - b. **March Update** – The requests from Texas Township and Comstock Township for grant letters of support were discussed and the Commission agreed to send the letters.
 9. **Sales Report** – Members received and reviewed the sales report. Discussion ensued.
 10. **Members’ Time** – Taraszka reported on VHS fish virus. She will be discussing with the Gourdneck Lake Association. Matteson reminded Commission of the Garlic Mustard Pull scheduled on the trail on April 23rd at 9:00am. Matteson reported we will again hold Park Commission meetings at Park locations this summer.
 11. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.