

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT
PARK COMMISSION MEETING**

August 4, 2016

Members Present: Toni Thompson, Pat Crowley, Sandy Bliesener, Robert Moore,
Ken Oscarson, Mildred Taraszka

Members Absent: Thomas Matteson, Matthew Lechel, Marion Hill, Kevin Wordelman

Discover Kalamazoo Liaison: Greg Ayers

Staff Present: David Rachowicz Lisa Conley

Citizens: None

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was held at Markin Glen County Park and was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Vice Chairperson, Robert Moore.
2. **Roll Call** – Roll was taken and a quorum was established. **Motion:** Oscarson moved to excuse members not present. Seconded by Bliesener. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. **Approval of Minutes – July 7, 2016 Meeting** – Members reviewed the minutes. **Motion:** Oscarson moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Thompson. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. **Citizen’s Time** – None
5. **Communications** – None
6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Markin House Update-** Rachowicz reported that the Markin House committee and members of the Garden Council will meet on Friday, August 05, 2016 to review the asbestos report and discuss the next steps moving forward.
7. **New Business**
 - a. **Park Activity Report** – Members reviewed the report.
 - b. **Park Foundation Update-Toni Thompson-** Thompson reported that there was not an official meeting last month due to not having a quorum. Also reported that a contract was recently signed with the city to pay for the downtown section of Trail. The Foundation will also be participating in the crowd funding Patronicity campaign to help fund the downtown section with a possible \$50,000 maximum match.
 - c. **Kalamazoo County Fair Update-** Members received passes to visit the Fair that begins next week. Rachowicz asked members to consider joining one of the strategic planning groups that will form following this year’s Fair to help plan out the future direction of the Fair.
 - d. **Special Event Requests-** Members reviewed the special event requests included in their packet. **Motion:** Crowley moved to approve all events as submitted. Seconded by Taraszka. Motion carried by voice vote.
 - **PEDAL Cyclocross Race – Markin Glen County Park – October 2, 2016**
 - **Bar Down Showdown Lacrosse – River Oaks County Park – June 17-18, 2017**

- e. **Kalamazoo County Park Endowment Fund Report**- Members reviewed the report. **Motion:** Taraszka moved to accept the report as submitted. Seconded by Crowley. Motion carried by voice vote.
- f. **National Street Rod Association 30 Years in Kalamazoo Resolution** – Item moved to September meeting.

8. Director's Report

- a. **Budget Report** - Members reviewed the report.
- b. **June Update** –Rachowicz reported a good summer with increases in camping, admissions, soccer and Expo Center events.

9. Sales Report - Members received a handout.

10. Members Time- Moore mentioned that the Markin Glen sign isn't visible when coming in from the south and suggested that the brush be trimmed back.

11. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.