

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT  
PARK COMMISSION MEETING**

**January 2, 2020**

**Members Present:** Toni Thompson, Debra Scott, Marion Hill, Sandy Bliesener,  
Thomas Matteson, Roger Tuinier, Robert Moore, Cory King, Thomas Brennan(alt)

**Members Absent:** Larry Stehouwer, Pat Crowley

**Discover Kalamazoo Liaison:** Greg Ayers

**Staff Present:** David Rachowicz, Lisa Conley, Lisa Henthorn

**Citizens:** Larry LaBond, K'Aces Disc Golf

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was held at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center 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:** Moore made a motion to excuse members not present. Seconded by Thompson. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. **Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2019 Meeting** – Members reviewed the minutes. **Motion:** Bliesener moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Scott. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. **Citizen's Time** – Larry LaBond from K'Aces Disc Golf spoke in regards to the closing time of Cold Brook County Park. He stated that the closing times of the Park hinders the players ability to finish a round of golf for those who start a round in the later time frame of 3:00pm -6:00pm. Mr. LaBond would like members to consider a later closing time to accommodate the disc golfers.
5. **Communications** – None
6. **Old Business**

**Hill entered meeting @ 3:15 p.m.**

- a. **Cold Brook County Park Master Plan-Motion to Recommend to BOC**- Rachowicz informed members that the Cold Brook County Park Master Plan that was presented at the December meeting is now complete after a minor adjustment was made to a directional sign. Citizen Larry LaBond of K'aces Disc Golf requested that the replacement of baskets be added to the plan. Discussion ensued. **Motion:** Thompson moved to recommend to the BOC as submitted with an amendment of adding replacement baskets as part of the Master Plan. Seconded by Scott. Motion carried by voice vote. Bliesener abstained from voting.
- b. **KRV Trail Update**-Rachowicz reported that the Galesburg addition is in the final MDOT review process. We can expect an obligation of funds and a letting date in a couple of weeks with plans of starting construction in early spring.

**7. New Business**

**Matteson entered meeting @ 3:20 p.m.**

## 2020 Park Commission Election of Officers-

**Chairperson: Motion:** Bliesener moved to re-elect **Matteson** as Chairperson. Seconded by Tuinier. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Vice Chairperson: Motion:** Hill moved to re-elect **Moore** as Vice Chair. Seconded by Bliesener. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Secretary: Motion:** Matteson moved to elect **Hill** as Secretary. Seconded by Bliesener. Motion carried by voice vote.

- a. **Park Activity Report** – Members reviewed the report.
- b. **Kalamazoo County Park Rules Revisions-Motion to Recommend to BOC**-Members reviewed the revisions included in their meeting packet. Discussion ensued. Ayers recommended that items D and/or E on page 5 be renamed or combined. **Motion:** Bliesener moved to approve the changes as submitted for recommendation to BOC with a change to item D on page 5 from Reservations to Campsite Availability. Seconded by Hill. Motion carried by voice vote.
- c. **2020 Park Special Event Requests – Motion to Approve**-Members reviewed the special events included in their meeting packet. **Motion:** Moore moved to accept all events as submitted. Seconded by Hill. Motion carried by voice vote. Approved events:

• Cracked Plastic Disc Golf	Cold Brook County Park	February 8-9, 2020
• Walk to End Homelessness	KRVT	March 28, 2020
• Dog Walk/K9 Festival	Prairie View County Park	May 9, 2020
• Monarch March 5K	KRVT	June 13, 2020
• Kal Ultimate Frisbee	River Oaks County Park	August 8, 2020
• Fall Bike Celebration	Scotts Mill County Park	September 20, 2020
• K'Acad Disc Golf	Cold Brook County Park	September 26, 2020

- d. **2019 Trust & Agency Account Reconciliation- Presented at Meeting**-Members reviewed the handout presented at the meeting. Rachowicz explained to members how the account is used. The report showed no activity and no balance for 2019. **Motion:** Thompson moved to accept the report as submitted for 2019. Seconded by Bliesener. Motion carried by voice vote.
- e. **MDNR Lease Extension March 28, 2020-March 31, 2025 for the Kal Haven Trail 10<sup>th</sup> Street to 23<sup>rd</sup> Street-Motion to Recommend to BOC**- Members reviewed a copy of the agreement received in their meeting packet. Rachowicz explained that this is the 1<sup>st</sup> of two possible 5-year extensions between the County and Michigan Department of Natural Resources to allow Kalamazoo County to maintain the Kalamazoo County portion of the Kal Haven Trail. Kalamazoo County maintains the Trail from 10<sup>th</sup> Street heading west for 8 miles to 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. **Motion:** Matteson moved to recommend to BOC pending satisfactory review by Kalamazoo County Legal Counsel. Seconded by Thompson. Motion carried by voice vote.
- f. **Kalamazoo County Fair Update – Marion Hill** – No report.
- g. **Park Foundation Update-Toni Thompson**- No report due to no meeting held in December.

## 8. Director's Report

- a. **2019 & 2020 Budget Reports**-Members reviewed the report included in their meeting packet.

**b. December Update** – Rachowicz gave an update on a court proceeding which was held earlier in December regarding the Prairie View Cottage. He also reminded members that all communication regarding the Prairie View cottage should be directed to the County’s legal counsel.

**9. Sales Report** - Members received a copy of the report in their meeting packet.

**10. Members’ Time** – None

**11. Adjournment**- The meeting was adjourned 4:10 p.m.

**Minutes approved at the February 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting**