

**CASS COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
T.K. Lawless Park
Cassopolis, MI, MI 49031
January 14, 2021**

9:00 p.m. – CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Recording Secretary Dohm

INVOCATION – Director Wyman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Harman

ROLL CALL – Recording Secretary Dohm

Director Wyman – P

Thomas Atkinson – p

Annie File - P

Hailey Harman - P

David Kring – P

Fritz Kucklick – P

Lyndon Parrish -P

Robert Parrish - P

Jamie Stafne - P

Jeff VanBell - P

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President – Fritz Kucklick

Vice President – Robert Parrish

Secretary – Hailey Harman

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner R. Parrish

Second: Commissioner Atkinson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Motion: Commissioner Atkinson

Second: Commissioner Stafne

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Director Wyman

1. Director’s report was presented.

BUDGET – Director Wyman

1. Was presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Master Plan
 - a. Based on our input, Sandy from O’Boyle is meeting with Directory Wyman today in regards to the Schug. By out next meeting there should be a sketch and cost plan available for us to see.
 - b. Going to have a public outreach in the spring in the park to be able to incorporate that into the Master Plan.
2. 5-Year Rec Plan
 - a. Resolution will be required at next Thursday County Board of Commissioners for public comment and to accept the rec plan:

**CASS COUNTY
2021-2026
COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, and GREENWAY PLAN**

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Cass County Parks and Recreation Commission was formed by the Cass County Board of Commissioners under Public Act 261 of 1965,

and:

WHEREAS, the Cass County Parks and Recreation Commission has the authority to study and ascertain the need for county parks and recreation facilities and whether this need is being met, and to prepare and adopt a coordinated plan of areas and facilities to meet this need, and;

WHEREAS, with the assistance of the various stakeholders and the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, the Cass County Parks and Recreation Commission has developed a recreation plan which identifies the need for recreation areas, open spaces and greenways in Cass County and sets forth a program to develop and maintain these areas of focus within the county park system in order to meet these needs, and;

WHEREAS, the citizens of Cass County and those beyond the borders of Cass County have had the opportunity to have input into the plan through community surveys, public hearings, and a public comment period,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cass County Parks and Recreation Commission adopts the Cass County 2021-2026 Recreation Plan and recommends that the Plan be forwarded to the Cass County Board of Commissioners, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for their approval.

Date: January 14, 2021

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1

Fritz Kucklick, President
Cass County Parks and Recreation Commission

MOTION MADE BY: Commissioner R. Parrish to go ahead with the resolution

SECOND: Commissioner Atkinson

APPROVED: Voting as indicated above

3. Discover Winter Nights
 - a. Moving forward as weather and pandemic permits
 - b. Commissioner Harman wants to be involved with the craft portion of the event
 - c. Commissioner Harman also mentioned about the 4-H Community Service Challenge between Cass and Berrien Counties and inquired whether she could involve the parks.
 - i. Most definitely
4. Millage
 - a. Ongoing discussion. Historically a millage has been attempted 3 times, but didn't pass.
 - b. Parks have become very important in this pandemic time... maybe it would pass this time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Dodd Park Boat Launch
 - a. Long term project with support from the Drain Commissioner
 - b. Director Wyman continuing meetings
 - c. They are now catching Steelhead at Dodd Park, so these issues are becoming more important
2. Camping
 - a. Director Wyman reported that we have been having some issues with how the campgrounds have been left.
 - b. Board suggested having a deposit system for shelter rentals and cabin rentals.
 - i. Suggested amount of \$50 deposit for shelter – some board members felt that amount too low.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Dark Sky Update – Commissioner R. Parrish
 - a. Michigan Dark Sky Trail
 - b. Yoga person contacted Commissioner R. Parrish regarding yoga under the stars.

Adjournment

Motion: Commissioner R. Parrish

Second: Commissioner Atkinson

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Dohm
Recording Secretary

Next regular meeting February 11, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. A link will be sent to you prior to the meeting. Please call 445-4456 if you cannot attend.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96594783586>

Meeting ID: 965 9478 3586

Passcode: 228749

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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