



Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes May 22, 2020

The May 22, 2020 meeting Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 3:14 p.m. electronically in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 2020-75 (COVID-19) by chairman Tom Ferguson.

ROLL CALL

Present: John Moehring, Sue Flora, Jim McArdle, Frank Brewer and Tom Ferguson

Absent: Fred Strauer, Bob Moore, Bob Leslie, Gary Blaser and Jane Hayward

Guests: Aaron Weed, Supervisor, Oscoda Township; Dave Schaeffer, Oscoda Township Superintendent and Fred Lewis, Supervisor Plainfield Township.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved and supported to accept the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved and supported to accept the minutes of March 16, 2020 Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission distributed. **Motion Carried**

PUBLIC MATTERS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Lewis asked the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission to provide him with a copy of the 2020 budget outlining the income and expenses along with a copy of the 2019 budget with income and expenses. Mr. Lewis also asked for a copy of the one page application for a local parks funding grant.

Mr. Weed commented that the Parks Millage had money to support the Iosco Exploration Trail and asked that the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission take a more active part in the project.

Mr. Schaeffer stated that he was pleased to hear the County plans to invest approximately \$60,000 into benches and picnic tables into the park in Oscoda Township. He also asked for a copy of the one page Grant Application along with the budget information concerning the County Parks & Recreation Commission. Any information I could share with the members of my Township Board would be very useful in answering their questions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SNOWMOBILE/ORV TRAILS

Mr. Ferguson reported that due to the Corona Virus pandemic all work on ORV and snowmobile trails has been suspended effective March 31, 2020. It is anticipated that the state will begin releasing areas for work to resume on the trails. In the meantime we are looking at ways to keep things moving with repairs to the equipment and working some on the trails.

BIKE/HIKING TRAILS

Mr. Ferguson stated that he has been working with Spicer Group on several change orders and other work on the Bike Trail. Work is continuing and members of the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission should begin to see progress being made on the trail itself.

PARK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Brian Pelton is working on the signs at the various Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission locations across the county.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

LIBERTY ROAD TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The project has been placed on hold until the state releases funding and approval for work to take place again.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Footesite storage barn is starting to take shape, The sidewalls are up and the roof trusses and decking is in place. Concrete work is

underway with Fred Strauer and his crew working on the floor and approach aprons. Mr. Ferguson talked with Fred earlier this week and along with Ken Foster they were able to work out the final details for the concrete work. The connecting "breezeway" between the existing building and the new one is also being completed.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission is waiting for a report back from Rob Eggers and the Spicer Group. One of the applications will include the purchase of the US Gypsum Property on US-23 as well as improvements to the Van Ettan Creek Dam Park and the Handicapped Park in AuSable Township. The next grant deadline for these projects is April 1, 2021. The Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission should be ready for submission of these grants at that time.

EXPANSION OF IOSCO COUNTY ORV TRAILS

Mike Beck from the US Forest Service has not reported back regarding any expansion of the trails since the COVID-19 issue has slowed down the process of getting this project approved.

NEW BUSINESS

REOPENING ORV TRAILS/MAINTENANCE

The Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission is waiting for permission from the DNR to begin preparing the trails for the season. With the Memorial Day Weekend upon us it appears that the state will not authorize payment for any work done on the trails. It is anticipated that around June 21 work will restart on the trails for grooming.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None at this time.

Any Other Matters

PAYMENT OF BILLS AND PER DIEMS

It was moved and supported to approve the Bills as presented. Roll Call: Ayes 5 Nays: 0 **Motion CARRIED**

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission will take place on Monday, June 15, 2020. The meeting will begin at 3 p.m. at the Commissioners Room in the Iosco County Building unless the social distancing rules keeps the county building closed. If that is the case the meeting will again be held via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Tom Ferguson