



Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes October 19, 2020

The October 19, 2020 meeting Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 3 p.m. at the Footesite Barn by chairman Tom Ferguson.

ROLL CALL

Present: John Moehring, Sue Flora, Jim McArdle, Frank Brewer, Bob Leslie, Gary Blaser and Tom Ferguson

Absent: Fred Strauer

Guests: John McBain, AuSable Valley Trail Riders and Ken Foster.

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 September 14, 2020 Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission distributed. Motion Carried

PUBLIC MATTERS AND CONCERNS

Mr. McBain told the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission that the AuSable Valley Trail Riders held their last meeting of the season at the Barn. During the winter the club will meet at Desi's. Their club also planned a Wood Party to replenish firewood at the warming shed. The group will work on this project this coming Saturday.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SNOWMOBILE/ORV TRAILS

Mr. Ferguson reported that he had received \$79,331.20 for the coming snowmobile season. He also reported that \$9530.00 was awarded from the ORV program from the DNR. Both grants did not include any funds for special maintenance. Mr. Blaser reported on his meeting with the SAW group. He discussed a number of issues facing the trail system and the funding of same. Mr. Foster reported that the trail system in Iosco County is getting better. There are issues with holes and ruts on Trail 649 and 4436 each on 649 for at least a half of a mile. Mr. Foster will get more specific information to Mr. Ferguson so that a special maintenance grant request can be made. Mr. Blaser also reported that the US government has provided over \$700 billion in funding for the Great American Trails Act. More information is forthcoming on this program.

BIKE/HIKING TRAILS

Mr. Ferguson thanked Mr. Blaser and Mr. Moehring for doing the inspection with representatives of the Spicer Group along the Iosco Exploration Trail. The inspection was part of the final stages of work on the trail. Work is expected to be completed very soon. The project came in a little under budget.

PARK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Discussion was held concerning getting park benches, picnic tables, waste containers, grills and other equipment in place in the two parks, Van Etnan Creak Dam and the Handicapped Park. Additional work and grant applications need to be done over the winter months.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

LIBERTY ROAD TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Work on the Liberty Road project cannot take place until the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission receives a quote from the Iosco County Road Commission. Mr. Ferguson has called Bruce Bolen at the Road Commission looking for a "quote" on the cost for completing the project. He said that he hopes to have the quote sometime this coming week. Once that number is in hand it will be submitted to the MDNR for their approval. Once that is completed work can begin on the culverts, grading and improvements to the Liberty Road area in and around the trailhead.

TAWAS CITY PARKLAND

Following discussion it was decided that the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission would pass on working with the Iosco County Economic Development Commission on the Tawas City Parkland property. It was felt that the EDC could better use the property for commercial and residential development rather than try and create a park in the middle of this type of commercial and residential development

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Nothing to report at this time

U.S. GYPSUM PROPERTY GRANT - ROB EGGERS

More information will be forthcoming over the next couple of months

NEW BUSINESS

PRESEASON SNOWMOBILE TRAIL MEETINGS

Mr. Blaser attended the pre-season Snowmobile Trail meetings held by the MDNR. His comments were heard during the Snowmobile/ORV Trail item on the agenda

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None

ANY OTHER MATTERS

PAYMENT OF BILLS AND PER DIEMS

It was moved and supported to approve the Bills as presented. Roll Call: Ayes 8 Nays: 0 Motion CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission will take place on Monday, November 16, 2020 at the County Building in the Commissioners Room. The meeting will begin at 3 p.m. unless the social distancing rules keeps the county building closed. If that is the case the meeting will be held via Zoom or hold the meeting at the Footesite Barn.

meeting cancelled

Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Tom Ferguson