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Tawas City, Michigan 48764-0778

**Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes**

**March 20, 2023**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting Room, Tawas City, MI**

**Roll Call** – Blaser, Hayward, McArdle, Smith, Loeffler, Leslie, Strauer, Brewer,

**Absent-** McDonell,

**Guests:** Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, County Controller/Finance Director; Kathleen Murphy, Board of Commissioners Secretary/Housing Director; Ken Foster, Groomer; Joel Foster, Groomer; John McBain, AuSable Valley Trail Riders Association Representative

**Approval of Agenda:** Brewer motions to approve the agenda and McArdle seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Brewer motions to approve the minutes dated February 21, 2023, and McArdle seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Matters and Concerns:** None.

**Committee Reports**

**A. Biking/Hiking Trail Committee –**

There is going to be a bike path near the Groomer Barn in Oscoda. The Parks and Recreation Commission would like to place a parking lot to accommodate those wishing to use the bike path. McArdle suggests that the current parking lot can be expanded. However, that will block the groomers from effectively moving the tractor in and out of the barn. Other locations for the parking lot were discussed with no definitive area confirmed. Strauer discussed the pros and cons of various construction materials, including asphalt and concrete. The Parks and Recreation Commissioners like the idea of concrete but will like to wait to confirm the material when an engineer is hired to create a bid specification sheet for the project. McArdle would also like to create a shaded structure for individuals using the bike path.

**B. Snowmobile/ORV –**

**1) Groomer Workshop: March 2-4**

Blaser, Ken Foster, and Joel Foster did not attend the workshop.

**2) All Ordered Equipment is in and Installed**

The grapple, rear blade, and diamond mower were delivered about three weeks ago. K. Foster and J. Foster installed the equipment on the appropriate tractors.

Blaser would like to hire two more independent contractors to work in K. Foster's and J. Foster's places if they are unavailable to work.

**C. Park Development –**

**1) Update on AuSable Pocket Park**

No updates at this time.

**2) VanEtten Creek Update**

No updates at this time.

**Unfinished Business –**

**Master Plan**

The Iosco County Board of Commissioners have adopted the Master Plan. Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski was contacted by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding not including a picture of a sign informing the public that the DNR funded a project. Carruthers-Soboleski is working with the Register of Deeds and the Charter Township of AuSable's assessor in locating said property.

**Map of Trail System**

Carruthers-Soboleski has not heard back from Denise Kline regarding how the mapping of the trail system is going. She has emailed Kline regarding this matter. McArdle would like a QR Code as well as the maps.

**Touch-a-Truck, 6-10-23 Oscoda**

Blaser will fill out the Touch-a-Truck Event form and discuss with K. Foster and J. Foster regarding the equipment that they would like to showcase. This event does not cost the Parks and

Recreation Commission anything. Kathleen Murphy will send the completed form to the Oscoda Touch-a-Truck Planning Commission member.

### **New Business**

#### **Letter of Support for the Iosco County Fair Grant**

This letter of support has already been completed by the Iosco County Board of Commissioners.

#### **Snowmobile Costs So Far**

Murphy discussed the Snowmobile Grant costs that have been incurred so far. The Grant Grooming, Brushing, and Signing amount left is an estimated \$1,565.17. The Liability Insurance cost over the grant amount of \$1,500.00 by \$642.63. The Groomer Utility Payment amount left is \$99.08. Murphy will ask for an increase in both Liability Insurance and Groomer Utility Payment on the next grant application opening on July 15, 2023.

#### **Huron Coastal Preserve Letter of Support**

The Huron Coastal Preserve would like a letter of support for trail development and an observation platform for viewing Lake Huron. Hayward motions to offer Huron Coastal Preserve a letter of support and McArdle seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Matters and Concerns** – None.

**Any other Business-** Bills and per diems paid. Hayward motions to pay the bills and per diems for the month of March and Leslie seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

As the board will not meet until May, Strauer motions to pay the bills for the month of April and Loeffler seconds. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:** 3:57 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The Groomer Barn in Oscoda on May 15, 2023, at 3pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Murphy  
Iosco County Board Secretary/Housing Director