



Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes September 14, 2020

The September 14, 2020 meeting Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 3 :07p.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, Roger Kilbury, Ken Foster and Joel 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 August 17, 2020 Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission distributed. Motion Carried

PUBLIC MATTERS AND CONCERNS

Mr. McBain and the AuSable Valley Trail Riders were thanked for providing the cooking for today's picnic meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SNOWMOBILE/ORV TRAILS

Mr. Ferguson reported that the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission ORV trails are still in bad shape, but not because of anything that is being neglected. The reason for the trail condition is the result of the DNR holding back funding and telling the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission not to do any work until further notice. That work has now been restarted, however, the trail conditions are in seriously bad shape due to neglect during the stand down. Mr. Foster reported that Trail 649 has been completed and the South Branch to M-65 section will take another 3 days to complete. The water hole in the 649 trail needs to be fixed. Mr. Foster will get information to Mr. Ferguson so that authorization can be sought from the DNR for emergency funds to repair the hole.

BIKE/HIKING TRAILS

Mr. Ferguson stated that work is progressing well on the Iosco Exploration Trail (IET). Daily reports are being received from Spicer Group outlining work completed. A cost overrun in supervisory time by Spicer is anticipated. The amount of the over run is around \$50,000.00. The project is \$150,000.00 under budget at this time. A request has been submitted to seek approval for the supervisory cost over run. This section of the IET should be completed by November 1.

PARK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Handicapped Park on the AuSable River is now able to be used since the water level has receded. Additional parking may be available at Pier 17 which is for sale. Mr. Ferguson will talk with AuSable Township to find out what they know of this site being for sale and if it will work for the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission to seek to purchase a portion or all of this property.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

LIBERTY ROAD TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Blaser reported that he met with Mr. Bolen of the Iosco County Road Commission regarding this project. The road commission will be able to move ahead later this fall. It was also noted by Mr. Brewer that the road commission could begin helping with stump removal within the next two weeks. Mr. Ferguson noted that before any work can be done new bids need to be received and a low bidder approved before work can begin. Mr. Blaser will look into getting bids for the project. Roger MacNeil of the DNR has indicated that before the work can start a low bidder must be selected and contract awarded in order to receive reimbursement for the project. Mr. Brewer indicated that the road commission would do the work on a time and material basis and their cost.

TAWAS CITY PARKLAND

The Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the options to the establishment of a park in the City of Tawas City. The county currently owns 13 acres that are not being used for any purpose at this time. Following discussion it was determined that the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission would consider options later this fall.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Iosco County Parks and Recreation will receive an update at the October 19 meeting. Mr. Eggers will have information relating to the various grant applications including the US. Gypsum property, AuSable River Handicapped Park and the Van Ettan Creek Dam Park.

U.S. Gypsum Property Grant - Rob Eggers

More information will be forthcoming over the next couple of months

NEW BUSINESS

PRESEASON SNOWMOBILE TRAIL MEETINGS

The Michigan DNR will host two virtual preseason snowmobile trail meetings on September 23 and September 24. Mr. Blaser will represent the Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission at these meetings. Any member of the commission who would like to attend may do so by following the link for the meetings that is included in the commission meeting packet.

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, September 14, 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 Footsite Barn.

Meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Tom Ferguson