

MINUTES OF THE LENAWEE COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION
MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 27, 2017

Present were Park Commissioners Chris Wittenbach, Secretary Dan Bruggeman, and members KZ Bolton and Ralph Tillotson. Present representing County Administration were Marty Marshall and Kim Murphy, and Mike Sexton from the Maintenance Department.

Upon motion made and supported,

RESOLVED, The Minutes of the previous meeting of January 16, 2017, be approved as presented.

Also present at the meeting were Shelley Lim from the City of Tecumseh, and from One Lenawee, Don Taylor and David Maxwell and Chris Miller, together with representative Bronna Kahle.

The special guests explained their plans to expand the Kiwanis biking trail from the City of Adrian to the City of Tecumseh and to ask for the county's support of the program and assistance in making a grant application to the Michigan Land and Water Trust Fund. The matter was discussed and reviewed, and thereafter,

Upon motion made and supported,

RESOLVED, that the Lenawee County Parks Commission recommend to the Lenawee County Board of Commissioners that Lenawee County act as the applying agency for a Michigan Land and Water Trust Fund grant to improve and extend the Kiwanis bike trail from the City of Adrian to the City of Tecumseh, provided that the City of Adrian or another municipality be responsible for writing the grant and providing the local matching funds, and that the City of Adrian act as project manager and hold and maintain the necessary easements for that project.

Thereafter, the financial report was presented and placed on record.

Mike Sexton from County Maintenance presented a report on the parks.

As to Bi-Centennial Park, the Maintenance Department is investigating the question of a new bridge over the county drain at that park. Mr. Sexton reported that the drain commission prefers a bridge instead of a culvert. Ralph Tillotson suggested that inasmuch as this is a county drain, the cost of the bridge or the culvert should be borne by all taxpayers using that watershed, and Mr. Sexton will present that proposal to the

drain commission.

Further, as to Bi-Centennial Park, Mr. Sexton reported that trespassers are removing split rail fence sections at the North end of the park to gain winter access. It was suggested that a pedestrian access be provided so that the public would not continue to dismantle the fence.

As to Gerber Park, Mr. Sexton reported that a fire plan is developed and will be implemented when weather permits in the early spring.

As to Ramsdell Park, the trails are being maintained and cleared.

As to Taylor Road Park, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is proceeding with opening trails and viewing sites and an area for a prairie seeding. In addition, they are installing necessary drainage culverts across the paths within the park. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service contractors are willing to clear and smooth the parking area on Taylor Road and supply gravel for same, and work on an additional entrance on Carson Road for maintenance purposes. The matter was discussed, and,

Upon motion made and supported,

RESOLVED, That the Parks Commission allocate an amount not to exceed \$12,000 to pay the contractor to complete the parking areas and to purchase a culvert for the Carson Road trail and to develop necessary fencing to protect the park against motorized incursions.

It was also reported that County Maintenance is working with the state officials to prevent unlawful hunting on county park properties.

Mr. Sexton also reported that the county is interested in developing an agreement with the City of Adrian to obtain millings for county maintenance of driveways and parking areas, and the Parks Commission approved of Mr. Sexton going forward with these plans.

KZ Bolton raised the question of utilizing the property that was obtained through condemnation at the North side of the county airport South of Cadmus Road. Marty Marshall will contact the prosecuting attorney for a legal opinion as to any restrictions on the use of that property.

The next meeting of the Parks Commission is scheduled for **Monday, March 20, 2017, at 11:00 A.M.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan R. Bruggeman, Secretary