

Chair
Tim Machowicz, Citizen Rep.

Vice-Chair
Chuck Nelson, Citizen Rep.

Secretary
Phil Hanes, Drain Commissioner

Members
Dwight Washington, BOC Rep.
Dave Pohl, BOC Rep.
Roni Christmas, Planning Comm. Rep.
Kevin Holt, Road Comm. Rep.
James Graham, Citizen Rep.
Pat Jackson, Citizen Rep.
Natalie Elkins, Citizen Rep.



Staff
Kyle Thornton
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Coordinator

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MINUTES

PARKS AND GREENSPACE COMMISSION

Friday, February 5, 2021 AT 8:30 A.M.

JOIN VIA TELEPHONIC CONFERENCE: Dial 1.929.205.6099 ~ MEETING ID: 857 4607 9083

OR VIDEO CONFERENCE: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85746079083>

PURSUANT TO PA 228 of 2020, DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

I. Call to Order - Declaration of Quorum

Chair Tim Machowicz declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 8:33AM

Members Present: Tim Machowicz (Ovid Township), Phil Hanes (St. Johns, MI), Dave Pohl (Dallas Township), James Graham (Greenbush Township), Patricia Jackson (Olive Township), Roni Christmas (Brooksville, FL), Kevin Holt (Dewitt Township)

Guests Present: Seth Gibson, Barry Culham

Staff Present: Kyle Thornton, Craig Longnecker, Todd Campbell

- A. Approval of February 5, 2021 Agenda
Moved by Roni Christmas, seconded by Kevin Holt, to approve the February 5, 2021 meeting Agenda. Motion carried.
- B. Approval February 5, 2021 Per Diems
Moved by Dave Pohl, seconded by Kevin Holt, to approve the February 5, 2021 meeting Per Diems. Motion carried.
- C. Approval of January 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes
Moved by Roni Christmas, seconded by Kevin Holt, to approve the January 8, 2021 meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

II. Public Comments Non-Agenda Items

Seth Gibson of the Clinton Conservation District mentioned the annual spring tree sale is scheduled to go live online for pre-sales starting this afternoon. Seth also reported from the CISMA Steering Committee Meeting about phragmite treatments at the parks for 2021.

III. Coordinator's Report – Kyle Thornton

- A. Kyle Thornton reports he attended the virtual MPARKS Association Conference and helped with snow removal around the Courthouse and the parking lots at the park.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Water Based Recreation – Phil mentioned at the last County Drainage Board meeting they voted to open bids for cleaning out of a few sections of drains along the Looking Glass River; one between Hollister and Upton road and another upstream from Chandler Road.

- B. Non-Motorized Facilities – Chuck Nelson/Dave Pohl

- County-wide NMF Plan / Trails Advisory Council
- FMCIS Trail

Dave commented trail is getting used and unfortunately the snowmobiles have found the CIS Trail. Barry Culham opened discussion of snowmobiles and snow plowing of the trail through St. Johns. Following the discussion Barry talked about tree removal and how reflects in his budget, plus the hurdles he faces to get trees removed along the FMCIS Trail. He is going to look into options with the forestry division of the DNR for tree removal.

- C. Universal Access – Kyle mentioned that universal access is a top priority for Clinton Lakes Improvements.

- D. Finance Committee – Tim Machowicz

Kyle reported budget still looks good and nothing new to really report, some expenses have taken place to prepare for spring.

- E. Grassland Committee – Chuck Nelson/Jim Graham

Not much to report from Kyle or Jim, as the Grassland is covered with snow. Jim mentioned the Grassland would be a good place to snowshoe or cross-country ski. Nothing to report on the two-acre lot by the road, as we are waiting for spring with bids in place.

- F. Southern County Park Search Team – It was reported the Ways & Means Committee voted to increase the match to 50% (\$439,900) to maximize our points possibility. The MNRTF Grant is expected to be submitted Mid-March and on track to completed in a timely manner.

- G. Health Committee – Kyle mentioned from the MPARKS Conference; one of the main topics was how to keep guest who “found” parks and outdoor spaces to keep coming back to these spaces after the pandemic.

V. Old Business

A. Clinton Lakes Improvement Project

- a. Kyle presented the new designs for the Clinton Lakes improvements, highlighting some of the changes that have been recently made. This followed with a board discussion on the kayak launch being universally accessible and developing two dog parks (one for small and one for large dogs). During the discussion the board talked about tabling approval of the designs to allow time for the Parks and Greenspace staff to respond to the questions on the kayak launch and dog park.

Moved by Pat Jackson, seconded by Roni Christmas, with a recommendation to table PGSC approval of the final designs until the March 2021 PGSC meeting. Motion carried.

B. Parks & Greenspace (PGSC) Board

- a. Phil Hanes said he was willing to remain as the PGSC, Secretary. A discussion followed about keeping all three positions the same, if all committee members are interested in renewing their position.

Moved by Pat Jackson, seconded by Kevin Holt, a recommendation for the Parks and Greenspace Commission Board with positions: Chair - Tim Machowicz; Vice-Chair - Chuck Nelson and Secretary - Phil Hanes. Motion carried.

C. Fish Stocking

- a. Kyle reported that Natalie opened the lines of communication with the DNR about the options of Electro Shocking Survey in the Clinton County Lakes. He also provided the original quote from Stoney Creek, which does show the hybrid bluegill as an option for restocking. Seth opened the discussion to see if the survey was complete that Tom started with the fish scales from the lakes. Kyle was going to check with Chuck if he had additional information or data, as nothing has been found in Tom's old files or at the park. Tim reminded that we need a permit approved with the DNR to both pull pure bluegill out of Lake Ovid and restock fish from Stoney Creek.

VI. New Business

- A. No new business reported.

VII. Public Comments – Agenda Items

- A. No public comments.

VIII. Adjournment –Next Meeting:

Friday, March 5, 2021 at 8:30 am
Zoom

Moved by Roni Christmas, seconded by Dave Pohl to adjourn the meeting until Friday, March 5, 2021. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:49AM