

Approved
December 19, 2007 Minutes
Airport Administration Office

I. ROLL CALL 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners Jussila, Romps, Elegeert, Lindquist, Shirley, Thill and Larrabee and Herioux

ABSENT: Rivard

OTHERS PRESENT: Manager Ness, Asst Smith, Operations Manager Branz and Rory Mattson

II. AGENDA APPROVAL: Moved by Lindquist, supported by Shirley to add under “New Business”: Special Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation, and approve the December 19, 2007 agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

III. MINUTES: Moved by Thill supported by Lindquist to approve the October 24, 2007 minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS:

Sent: None

Sent: None

V. REPORTS:

A. Chairman’s Report:

B. Finance Report:

a. Payment of Bills: Moved by Thill and supported by Larrabee to approve the bills, totaling \$2,882.16. MOTION CARRIED.

b. County Budget Status handout was given to board. Ness told board this will be the monthly report given to the board (county books will be official record). Board will review and bring questions to next board meeting.

C. Operations Manager Report:

a. Park Plan work session: All board members gave list of their ideas and concerns about all parks. This list will be compiled and given to Mattson to incorporate with other park meeting ideas into the new Park Plan. Short editorial will be written in the Daily Press along with February meeting dates to get the public involved for final park plan meeting. Plan will then be finalized and given to the Parks board and the County Board for approval; grants will then be applied for in March of 2008.

- b. Salvage Tree Cutting Update at PTP – All trees marked and will be taken down in winter. Ralph Bugay has agreed to cut all trees, keeping timber as payment. This will be done winter of 2008.
- c. Pioneer Trail Park – Pavilion roof – Rory Mattson is writing grant request to Plum Creek for help in materials for PTP Pavilion Upgrade. Next grant schedule is in March 2008.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

A) Business After Hours – to be held at Pioneer Trail Park – July 23rd, 2008. Sponsored by Parks, Airport and possibly Michigan Works. (Some discrepancy on dates with co-sponsors)

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A) Discussion was held regarding the Special Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations to the County Board. Elegeert gave a brief history as to why the committee was formed. Parks board members to the Committee, Ken Jussila and Starr Romps, gave insight as to the how the recommendations were finalized. Branz was asked to prepare a 12-month schedule of job position (especially a structured plan for what happens with down-time in the winter). A few recommendations were discussed at length. Moved by Larrabee, seconded by Romps to write a letter to the County Board Chairman to postpone discussing the Parks recommendation at the Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for January 15, 2008 – 10:30 a.m. at the State Building, allowing the Parks to be able to write up their own proposal and present to the County no later than the March 4th, 2008 County Board meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- B) A special meeting of the Parks Board will be held January 3, 2008 – 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Administration Office to write up a proposal to the County Board on the Park Recommendations from the Special Ad Hoc Committee.

VIII. Public Comment: None

IX. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Kelly Smith, Asst Manager

Ken Jussila, Chairman

Recommendations from the Board Meeting 12-19-2007 for information for the January 3, 2008 special meeting to discuss the proposal to be written to the County Board.

- 1) Keep Gary as the full-time parks supervisor for the 6 months (possibly time in April and October also) and then have county hire Gary for another job, creating a full time position for the County year round. (No snow plowing in the winter)
- 2) Close the house for the winter and open in the summer with the Parks Board having the ability to look at other options in the summer months.
- 3) Gary to write up a 12-month structured plan especially showing details of down times (winter months).
- 4) Request in the letter to the County, referencing that the Parks has been separated totally only for months, and ask for more time, telling the county board a new Park Plan is being written for major grant possibilities, new information and funding from within the State of Michigan, new recommendations from the Parks Board and all of this would impact the Parks. More time to write up our own proposal and give to the County board no later than the March 4th, 2008 meeting.
- 5) Keep Gary full time just as is – and sell why. (Using all above examples and more)
- 6) Not wanting to close the house at all, referring to possible vandalism and more cost.
- 7) County maintenance department aid in repairs and maintenance – work orders to County department.

Also, making a reference to the wish of the County Board to have the Parks self-sufficient, and this a 1st and major goal of the Parks Board, but also, looking at other park systems, realizing that it will probably never come to pass. But the goal is the #1 priority of the Board.

Meeting Schedules

- a) January 3, 2008 – 4:00 p.m. – Parks Board meeting – Airport Administration Office.
 - 1) *Special Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation discussion only.*
 - 2) *Letter to be written to Chairman of County Board requesting more time*
- b) January 08, 2008, County Board Re-organizational meeting, 10:30 a.m. the State Building.
- c) January 15, 2008 – Committee of the Whole Meeting, 10:30 a.m. at the State Building.
- d) January 22, 2008 – Regular County Board Meeting - 5:15 p.m. County Courthouse
- e) January 23, 2008 – Regular Parks Board Monthly Meeting – 4:00 p.m. Airport Admin.