

Big Prairie Township Parks Commission

Wednesday August 10, 2022

Meeting Called to Order: 5 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Middleton, Ruehmeier, Ryman, Tucker and VanDam present.

Public Input: Guest from BB Park appeared before the board to explain Lottery entry circumstances. Board to discuss and make decision.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Middleton, 2nd by Ruehmeier to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Middleton, 2nd by Ruehmeier to approve the minutes from July 27, 2022 as written. Motion carried.

Board Reports: Chairman –had a short meeting with Twp. Supervisor, Dave Wright re: UIA. It was suggested that both boards meet disclosing facts from both sides and decide together the best solution. Discussed the possibility of fundraising project with American Legion – Croton. Chairman has filed a small claims case through Newaygo County District Court, White Cloud MI - Reyes Building and Painting LLC, Wyoming MI.

Vice Chairman – 0

Treasurer – Contact was made to Artic Ice re: when is ice expected to be delivered. Representative insured that we would receive a delivery today. Rep. checked into the issue, it was resolved and should any issues arise in the future, contact them immediately.

Republic Waste – the additional fees that were paid for refuse removal are to be refunded by Republic as the charges were not for BPT parks but another business. Was billed by mistake, verified by pictures.

Treasurer Computer – in need of more RAM. IT contractor has had message(s) left but no call back to date. Board discussed the possibility of searching for a new IT contact.

Consumers Energy Meeting August 24, 2022 – Newaygo High School Cafeteria at 5:30pm meeting starts at 6:00pm. Re: Future of Dams

Secretary – will send copy of 2nd Amended Lease to Original Lease we hold with Consumers Energy to those wanting one.

Trustee – 0

Treasurer Report: July 22-28, 2022 = \$38,667.16 July 29-Aug 4, 2022 = \$97,251.16 Total = \$135,918.32

Motion by Ryman, 2nd by VanDam to approve the Treasurer report as presented. Motion carried.

Present & Pay Bills: Motion by Ryman, 2nd by Middleton to approve the following; Gross payroll week ending August 4, 2022 = \$23,060.25. Bills = \$23,016.07. Motion carried.

Grant Report: Jill continues working on ADA grant and to secure matching funds for grant project. Fremont Foundation by be a possibility.

Park Director: Camp Host – 0

Maintenance – Two bids revealed for electrical connection to new cabin. Nieboer Electric - \$2,055.00. Platz Electric - \$5,500.00. Nieboer Electric, Fremont was granted the job.

BB – the point - #47 – a 50 amp RV power outlet was added to the electrical pedestal unauthorized by board or maintenance. Board decided and instructed Andy to remove it immediately.

Incident Report – BB - #34 - Vulgar and inappropriate language used towards an employee. Guest has stated they are leaving for two (2) weeks to search for living arrangements/employment. Board discussed and decided to give one (1) final opportunity to remain in the park and to be talked to tomorrow. Has numerous violations on file.

Motion by Ruehmeier, 2nd by Middleton to allow guest #34 one final opportunity to remain in the park when they return in two (2) weeks, in the event they were not successful in securing employment. However, one (1) more infraction written will result in a 3 year ban from all BPT Parks. 3 yes - 2 no. Motion carried.

Incident Report – BB – guest on a lot used an unauthorized vehicle to perform “doughnut” in the boat launch boat trailer parking area. This caused damage to another guest’s parked boat trailer deeming it unusable to remove their boat from the water. Newaygo County Sheriff Dept. was summoned and a report was taken. Two (2) witnesses came forward, suspect was named. Suspect to receive a ban from all BPTPC parks.

BBPOA – current President of the BBPOA let BPTPC Chairman know that the board stated BPTPC cannot use their U shaped parking area for lottery guests to park (once per year). President of BBPOA has returned the key to the fence gate that was given by BPTPC for use of the pavilion by BBPOA meetings, free of charge.

Office - OX – one employee is now being trained in the office.

Board suggested and discussed a longer span of time between lottery packet pickup to deadline. Numerous dates were discussed. Discussed having a drop box for packets as well.

Motion by Ruehmeier, 2nd by Tucker to have lottery packets available beginning July 4 of given year and turn in on or before August 1 of given year. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Amendments, Reinstatement Policy and Violation Policy have been reviewed/approved by the board. To be forwarded to Big Prairie Township for final approval.

Motion by Tucker, 2nd by VanDam to approve the Amendments, Reinstatement Policy and Violation Policy and forward them to the Township for final approval. Motion carried.

New Business: Winter Camping – board discussed simplifying winter camping option for seasonal guests wishing to utilize winter camping. The following was suggested; Seasonal guest would have two (2) options starting with Lottery Draw 2023. A. Seasonal from May – Oct = current rate. B. Seasonal from May – May = current rate + winter rate (would include first Six (6) nights at no charge) after that current nightly rate. Non – seasonal rates are current nightly rate.

Motion by Ryman, 2nd by Middleton to allow seasonal guests the choice of option A or B commencing Lottery Draw 2023 as follows: A = Seasonal May – Oct = current rate. B = Seasonal Yr. from May – May = current

rate + winter rate with first Six (6) nights included at no charge - Seventh (7) night and beyond = current nightly rate. All other winter campers = current nightly rate. NOTE: dock rental not available during winter camping. Motion carried.

Active Shooter Training – discussed and determined to research options for training.

Oxbow – Level Lots – several lots need to be evaluated for resurfacing to level out. Trustee and Treasurer to evaluate.

Dog Waste Containers – will look into different containers than what is currently being used.

Shower Valves – Motion by Ruehmeier, 2nd by Middleton to purchase Ten (10) wall mounted, exposed shower, stainless steel wall showers to replace those needed at BB for the amount of \$505.70 per unit from Amazon. ZORO G1121639. Mfr # S-1590-AF. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous: Discussed the lottery entry circumstances presented during public comment. Board made the decision based on circumstances to allow guest to enter the lottery for 2022. Additionally, the board discussed two (2) other lottery entry circumstances and allowed entry.

Discussed the need for a policy re: when boats are parked on docks not assigned to them. Will BPTP employees be allowed to remove them and put where, contact towing, contact local authorities, how to contact owner etc.? Charges if applicable to owner(s).

Adjournment: Motion by Middleton, 2nd by Tucker to adjourn this meeting at 8:33 P.M.

Submitted for Approval

Colleen Ryman
BPTPC
Secretary

Approved on