

Big Prairie Township Parks Commission

Tuesday July 13, 2021

Meeting Called to Order: 2 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Public Input: Mike Long, Mike Martinez and Michelle McNeal present. No comments.

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion by VanDam, 2nd by Ruehmeier approve the minutes from June 29, 2021 after omitting under New Business – “overtime is not permitted without board approval.” Motion carried.

Camp Host: Oxbow – Steve – All seems well. Dishonesty amongst campers is discouraging.
Big Bend – Randy & Johanne – Seasonal guests, trailer park, appear to enjoy pushing limits.
Fires unattended on the Greenbelt - are to be distinguished by camp host. Fires on rented lot – hosts are to knock on door of unit and remind guests the must be attended. Suggested placing trash cans at approach of docks for guests to utilize. Rekindling or start time of camp fire in the A.M. has been mentioned and will be discussed further by board.

Board Reports: Chairman – Tourist Council thanked Parks Commission for generous donation for the competition.

Vice Chairman – 0

Secretary – 0

Treasurer – Randy Rose will receive a 1099 at the end of the year per Ross Accounting.

Extra dumpsters – made contact with Republic Waste and waiting for return call from account manager Scott. Teresa to contact Republic Waste if no return call soon.

Shelving for BB has been ordered and paid for, Greg to pick up in Grand Rapids when ready.

Treasurer Report: June 25- July 1, 2021 = \$16,666.29 July 2 – 8, 2021 = \$28,973.42 Total = \$45,639.71

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

Present and Pay Bills: Motion to table approval of bills until information is accurate and complete. Additionally, change bill present and pay procedure to reflect a push of 2 weeks for bill pay approval. Therefore, allowing ample time for parks manager, treasurer and Ross accounting to compile, enter data, print report and produce checks for bill approval and payment. Motion carried.

Motion by Ryman, 2nd by VanDam to approve the following bills for payment; State of Michigan (Accident Fund) \$3,956.00, Schultz Septic Service \$210.00, Schultz Septic Tank Service \$205.00 and Bob Schultz \$300.00 for the total of \$4671.00. Motion carried.

Maintenance Report: BB – Newaygo Co. Road Commission will be moving one cabin from Fremont. Cost was not given at time of this meeting. Nieboer Electric to conduct electrical hook up once placed. Mattresses will need to be ordered. Discussed possible purchase of a futon and for the cabin.

Oxbow – Office building project slated to begin September 20 – October 18, 2021.

Newygo Plumbing conducted video of sewer [cast iron] plumbing and detected large amounts of corrosion and recommended replacement piping for sinks and lavatories. Shower plumbing is not affected as it is separate. Greg to secure estimates for pipe replacement.

Both parks – will hold off on brining roads due to possible rain. Discussed placement of cameras on bathhouses. Greg to compile camera system costs for each park. New line of WiFi (Micom) for guests to utilize, password available at each office. Limited distance and signal strength are not the fault of parks. Discussed placement of NO SMOKING OR VAPING signage at playgrounds and beaches. Greg to replace dilapidated wood picnic tables on lots and greenbelt with new composite tables.

Finishing up small scale projects.

Hoping to have a low profile children's play stations finished and installed next week.

Greg – new hours – M-TH 10 hour days.

Office Report: July 4 weekend, Friday and Saturday, County Sheriff made presence at both parks.

One security employee quit without notice.

Discussed inquiring with County Sheriff the possibility of using the portable speed detector unit within the parks to give guests a visual of what they're actual speed is vs. the posted limit.

BB – One violation for noise. Repeat offender. Letter to be sent.

The Point – playground and trailer park – kids fighting, parent threatened to do bodily harm, police summoned and report made.

OX – 2nd warning given, police were summoned and told if police were to return, possible arrest.

Lottery Packets out by August 27, 2021.

Old Business: Golf Cart Pilot Program – board discussed and agreed to initiate a one year trial on allowing golf cart usage at both parks. Registration, policies, rules and regulations forthcoming.

New Business: Grants – board discussed and agreed to move forward.

Grass Conservation – board discussed and agreed to move forward.

Revisit Budget – next meeting.

Miscellaneous: 0

Adjournment: Motion by Ruehmeier, 2nd by Ryman to adjourn this meeting at 4:25 P.M. Motion carried.

Next regular meeting to be Tuesday July 27, 2021 – 2 P.M. @ Big Prairie Township Hall.

Submitted for Approval

Colleen Ryman
Secretary

Approved July 27, 2021