

Menominee County Parks and Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Bob Desjarlais at the Annex in Stephenson, MI on December 1, 2014.

Reporting for roll call were: Bob Desjarlais, Ruby Ivens, Glenn Cody, County Commissioner James Furlong, and County Administrator Brian Bousley. There was a quorum present to conduct the meeting.

Approval of agenda: . A motion was made by James to accept the amended agenda that was seconded by Ruby. The motion carried.

Minutes: A motion was made by Bob to approve the minutes from the last meeting that was seconded by Ruby. The motion carried.

Guest Speaker: Jennie Miller, Director of the Communicable Disease Program of the Public Health Department for Delta and Menominee Counties addressed the committee concerning bats and the possibility of rabies infection at the county parks. Her input had been requested by the committee prior to the proposed installation of bat houses at Shakey Lakes Park. She began her presentation with a short video concerning the danger of rabies from various sources, and then continued by sharing her personal knowledge about bats - especially how they and the public might both be protected. She stated that bats serve a very important role in the natural eco-system and that they helped keep the population of many troublesome insects in check including mosquitoes. Glenn shared the committee's desire to exclude bats from the rafters of the picnic pavilion, by installing a ceiling that would prevent them from roosting directly above the picnic tables. Bat houses would then be constructed and installed in an appropriate area away from the pavilion in an attempt to provide alternative shelter. Jennie stated that she saw no problem with the plan as long as the bat houses were high enough off the ground to be above the reach of visitors to the park, especially children. She did caution the committee concerning the need to exclude the bats from their traditional roosting area at the appropriate time of year. Female bats give birth in the warmer months extending from April through August. Their exclusion from structures needs to be conducted either before or after this period in order to prevent stranding those that are not yet able to fly.

Business:

- a. **Park Projects:** Brian reported that Alger Delta Electric Cooperative still had not ordered the new transformer for Shakey Lakes Park. Also, the new specifications requested by the DNR concerning the well project and electrical upgrades for River Park have been submitted. As soon as the DNR issues their approval, bids to accomplish the work will be solicited. Brian also reported that the parks will not receive a grant from the Hannahville Indian Community this year.
- b. **Park Manager/Park Ranger Updates:** Brian reported that all of the parks are now closed for the season. Jim Quist is the only park employee that remains on duty..

- c. **Monthly Budget Review:** Brian distributed copies of the latest budget for the committee's perusal and review. Several questions concerning clarification of specific items were raised and answered. Brian commented that the budget looks good at this point, although it was too early to report much concerning any financial activity for the month of December.
- d. **Lease Program:** Brian requested that the committee vote on the two changes to the lease policy proposed at the November meeting so that they could be forwarded to the Menominee County Board of Commissioners for their consideration. James made a motion, seconded by Glenn, that seasonal car passes must be affixed to the vehicle's windshield and that the license plate number of the vehicle associated with the pass be recorded at the time of registration. The motion carried. James made a further motion, seconded by Glenn, that the deadline for full payment for seasonal campsites be set for March 1. The motion carried.
- e. **Concessionaire Contract:** Brian also requested that the committee vote on the two changes to the concessionaire contract that had been proposed at the November meeting.: James made a motion, seconded by Ruby, that the provision concerning the administration of the coin-op laundry appliances be removed from the contract, and that two seasonal vehicle stickers be provided to the operators of the concession stand. The motion carried.
- f. **2015 Meeting Schedule:** Brian announced the committee's meeting schedule for the coming year.

Correspondence: None.

Public Comment: None

Any Other Items Members Wish to Present: There were no additional items.

James offered a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Glenn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Glenn D. Cody