

Menominee County Parks and Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by Bob Desjarlais at Shakey Lakes Park, Menominee County, MI on May 5, 2014.

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

Approval of agenda: Bob requested an addition to the agenda, a discussion concerning several suggestions he had received from Park Ranger Jim Quist. A motion was made by Vola to accept the amended agenda that was seconded by Glenn. The motion carried.

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

Public Comment: Dick Peterson commented that the park employees were doing an outstanding job.

Business:

- a. **Park Manager/Park Ranger Updates:** Brian reported that there had been both positive and negative reactions to the campsite reservation process held this year at the annex for the first time. 200 reservations were processed, and many campers expressed their appreciation for being allowed to wait inside the building. One camper expressed her dissatisfaction with her allocated campsite however. Park Manager Karen Kayser experienced some difficulty transporting and setting up the park's computer system from Shakey Lakes to the annex. Bob suggested that Karen be given a laptop for next year's registration event. Brian also reported that a seasonal worker had been hired to help out at the parks.
- b. **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. The current expenditure level stands at 36% - normal for this point in the year. All but one of the campsites have been leased for the season, and revenue from boat fees should begin to arrive shortly. Brian announced that he hopes to achieve self-sufficiency for the parks this year.
- c. **Parks Projects /Grants:** Brian announced that all of the grant work at River Park is required to be completed by March 2015. There should be no problem meeting that deadline. Funding for the previously approved grant to upgrade the facilities at Stoney Point was received last week. The work will include: new boat launching pads, gravel and the construction of an ADA parking spot..
- d. **Lease Program:** Brian reported that all is well at the present time. Several campers suggested that the due date be changed from February 15 to March 1. A three-year lease

for the concession stand at Shakey Lakes will be signed in the coming week.

- e. **Review of Bylaws:** Ruby suggested that R96-11 be officially rescinded, since committee members are now entitled to receive a \$50 stipend per meeting. Ruby made a motion to strike the provision from the by-laws that was seconded by Glenn. The motion carried.
- f. **Photographs of Park Issues submitted by Jim Quist:** Bob passed around several photographs for the committee's inspection and discussion. One photo highlighted the new kitchen at the Mellon Township Park. Jim wondered whether we could install a similar facility at Shakey Lakes Park. The committee agreed that this might be a good grant proposal project in the near future. The kitchen could be rented out for various functions. Another photo concerned the continuous presence of bat guano in the Shakey Lakes picnic pavilion. Bats are roosting during the day among the trusses above the picnic tables. Glenn suggested that the committee consider installing a bat house nearby in hopes of attracting the bats from the pavilion to their own complex. He stated that bats are valuable at the park primarily because of the large numbers of mosquitoes they consume each night. He agreed to research the issue for the next meeting.

Correspondence: Brian reported that he had received a letter from Roger Trepanier, a wheelchair-bound, disabled veteran. Mr. Trepanier, who has been camping at the park for 18 years, stated that he is unable to negotiate the gravel surrounding the new bathhouse with his wheelchair. The committee suggested that the letter be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners for further consideration.

Public Comment: Glenn asked Dick Peterson about the repairs to the Shakey Lakes dam that were commissioned by the residents' organization earlier this spring. Dick commented that all work had been completed in good order.

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

Glenn offered a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Ruby. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Glenn D. Cody