

SOUTHERN LAKES REGIONAL METROPOLITAN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
**Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**  
**Thursday, February 23, 2017**  
**6:00pm**  
**150 S. Leroy St.**  
**Fenton, MI 48430**

**Call to Order**

Chairperson, Ray Culbert called the Meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Attendance**

Present: Ray Culbert, Shaun Shumaker, Patricia Lockwood, David McDermott, Brad Dick

Roll Call: Ms. Ciofu declared there was a quorum with Five board members.

Staff Present: Vince Paris, Shirley Ciofu, Harrision Cypher, Sherie Peruski

Public Present: Riddley Nimmo of Plunkett/Cooney, PLC

Ken Wensel, Loose Board Chair

Several Members of the Loose Senior Center and others (names on record)

Mr. Culbert opened the meeting and asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion by Ms. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. Shumaker to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion Carried: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Mr. Culbert introduced himself and the board made their introductions. He gave a briefing of the hearing from the public process noting each person who wishes to be heard will get 5 minutes to make a statement. He also stated that the board was present to hear the public's concerns and would not be taking questions nor commenting on the statements made. Mr. Culbert also instructed the public to sign in and leave an address or email address if they'd like to receive a copy of the minutes after they are approved in March.

**Loose Senior Center Presentation:** Ken Wensel. Chair

Mr. Wensel made a presentation on behalf of himself and the Loose Board. He stated that the Loose Board had signed a resolution to speak to the municipalities to express their concern about the action taken by the SLPR Board to change the process by which Loose may or may not receive 19% of the SLPR millage.

His stated reasons for protesting were: information that was provided to the public (prior to the vote on the SLPR millage) stated Loose would receive a percent of the millage dollars annually for programming; and it was the intent of the Tri County Rec and Senior Center to

guarantee that funding. Mr. Wensel referenced the 2001 Resolution and noted his conversation with Bob Burek, former SLPR board member. Mr. Wensel also noted that although the Resolution doesn't carry legal weight, he felt it was a moral obligation to maintain the funding as it is currently. Mr. Wensel noted information provided by Ms. Lockwood expressed SLPR's intention to move to a grant process for future funding. Mr. Wensel noted that could potentially leave the Loose Center at a loss. Mr. Wensel also stated Mr. Patrick J. O'Callahan, attorney for the Loose Center had provided a professional opinion that SLPR has a right to make a change because the SLPR resolution is not part of the SLPR Charter.

**Hearing of the Public:** Some Members of the Loose Center and others addressed the board and these are their comments paraphrased for content:

Roby Deese, former Loose liaison to SLPR spoke on transparency between Loose and SLPR via his monthly report during the time he served. Mr. Deese stated he had read SLPR's grant thoroughly. Later, he was given a second opportunity to speak at which time he noted the grant requirements were restrictive stating Loose is a separate entity with SLPR having no power over the Loose Center and that the grant would take away their identity.

Diane Storters, Loose member stated it's a fine center and legality should have nothing to do with what's going on.

Nancy Poulin, Loose member stated she's retired with expenses and feels Loose Center is 'their place'.

Lester Scott, Loose board member read a letter from another board member which praised Loose Center. The letter also referenced the interlocal agreement with Fenton Township dropping out. Mr. Scott also stated it's a major part of his life and grant money should go to Loose Center.

Rosalie Anthony, Loose librarian stated it's a convenient place for people who have no money to go for recreation because there are fun, educational programs and food.

Barb Reynolds, Loose member stated the Loose Center is warm and she attends for the coffee, donuts, friendship, and meals.

Walter R. Smith, Jr., Loose member stated Loose Center is his salvation and enjoys the Caretel room for TV, coffee, and friends stating don't cut the money.

Terry Wright, former SLPR board member stated his mom is a member. He spoke to his time serving on that board stating the topic of Loose funding came up. He noted whatever the SLPR board was considering would be legitimate, more defined, and would require board consensus to pass. He stated the process should be allowed to work itself out with facts from both sides. Mr. Wright stated SLPR is 'like a City' and the board is under oath to do what's best for SLPR.

Ramona Deese, Loose member gave a history of Loose Center and stated she directs the chorus

and they give musical performances. She also stated lonely seniors depend on Loose Center for activity.

Cheryl King, former Loose board member spoke to the quality of the Loose Center stating it's respected in Genesee County. Later, she was given a second opportunity to speak at which time she stated if the Charter was changed Loose Center should be part of it.

Roy Width, Loose member wanted SLPR to define how it would spend the money if it were not given to Loose. He stated the money was being taken because of a loophole and we should just let it ride.

Vince Eible, Loose board treasurer spoke to financial transparency, noting Mr. Culbert serves on Loose Center's board and finance committee and noted Ms. Lockwood also serves on the Loose Center's board. Mr. Eible took a second opportunity to speak and read the 2001 Resolution and felt the 19% should be "grandfathered".

Ken Maxwell, Loose board member spoke to making phone calls (during the millage campaign)

Kathy Metivier, Loose receptionist stated Loose Center is more of a family than a senior center and said this action may put Loose Center in jeopardy.

Julie Johnson, Loose chorus said she met her friend at the Loose Center and they were happy to be part of the group.

June Rigg, Loose member stated you are treated with respect and patience at the Loose Center.

Alberta Martin, former SLPR board chair and Loose board member stated she was on the SLPR board when the resolution was signed.

Hearing of the Public was closed at 7:26pm.  
Regular Monthly Board Meeting resumed at 7:35pm.

**Programmers Report:** Programmers presented a written report.

**Accounting Report:** Ms. Ciofu presented a written report.

**Director Report:** Mr. Paris presented a written report.

**Items for Discussion:** Establishing a Scholarship Fund and Golf Outing Fundraiser for Scholarships

Mr. Paris stated that a scholarship fund was set up via a journal entry from recreation fund equity in the amount of \$1,000. He stated in the past SLPR had budgeted \$18,000 annually for scholarships and in recent years could no longer afford to fund it. He noted SLPR had also established a process where families could apply for \$100. He noted the criterion for need was

based on the school lunch program and at that time, SLPR partnered with the schools to identify the need. A golf outing was discussed as means of raising scholarship funds as was the Tour Des Lac event and a Lock In event that Mr. Shumaker had suggested. A discussion followed re: other fundraising ideas and concerns about guidelines and program awareness. Mr. Paris suggested the discussion continue with the Programs/Operations committee.

**Item for Discussion:** Establishing a Facility Fund

Mr. Paris requested the board determine how much should be set aside from 2016 net income for the facility fund. It was the consensus to continue the discussion with the Policy committee.

**Action Items:** Election of Officers and Committee Assignments

Ms. Lockwood made a motion to table the election of officers until the new Fenton Township appointee could be sworn in. After discussion, it was the consensus to move forward. Ms. Lockwood rescinded her motion to table.

Mr. Culbert opened the nominations for officers.

Chair: Ms. Lockwood nominated Mr. Culbert, seconded by Mr. Dick. Mr. Culbert accepted nomination for Chairperson. Ms. Lockwood moved to close nominations, seconded by Mr. Dick.

Motion Carried: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Vice Chair: Mr. Culbert nominated Ms. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. Dick. Ms. Lockwood accepted the nomination for Vice Chairperson. Mr. Culbert moved to close nominations, seconded by Mr. Dick.

Motion Carried: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Treasurer: Mr. Culbert nominated Mr. McDermott. Mr. McDermott declined. Ms. Lockwood nominated Mr. Dick, seconded by Mr. Culbert. Mr. Dick accepted the nomination for Treasurer. Ms. Lockwood moved to close nominations, seconded by Mr. Shumaker.

Motion Carried: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Secretary: Mr. Culbert nominated Mr. McDermott. Mr. McDermott accepted nomination for Secretary. Ms. Lockwood moved to close nominations, seconded by Mr. Dick.

Motion Carried: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Mr. Culbert opened the committee assignments to discussion.

Operations & Programs/Community Relations: Chair, Pat Lockwood; Member Shaun Shumaker, Ray Culbert

Finance: Chair, Brad Dick; Member Ray Culbert

Personnel/Policy: Chair, Brad Dick; Member Ray Culbert

Marketing/Technology: Chair, Dave McDermott; Member Shaun Shumaker, Ray Culbert

Motion by Ms. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. Shumaker to approve committee appointees as presented.

Motion Carried: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

**Commissioners Comments:** Mr. Shumaker suggested staff check out the Silver Lake Ski club prior to the start of SLPR's new wake board program.

Ms. Lockwood noted her committee would further discuss the grant and the publics' comments and make a recommendation to the board. The importance of meeting with the Loose board following discussion at the SLPR board was also noted.

**Next Meeting;**

Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00pm at the Fenton Community Center

**Adjournment**

Chairperson Culbert adjourned the meeting at 8:13 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary, Shirley Ciofu

