

SOUTHERN LAKES REGIONAL METROPOLITAN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Thursday, September 19th, 2019
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, Christine Reid, Rob Kesler, Patricia Lockwood, Scott Grossmeyer
Delayed: Brenda Simons
Roll Call: Mr. Culbert declared there was a quorum with five board members
Staff Present: Vince Paris, Shirley Ciofu, Kristen Archambeau
Public Present: Dave Witter, Amy Converse

Chairperson Ray Culbert changed the order of the agenda to allow for the Programs report to follow the consent agenda.

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of the Agenda
- Approval of August 22nd, 2019 Regular Board meeting minutes
- Approval of Treasurer's Report:
 - Bills paid prior to September 19th, 2019 in the amount of \$47,418.81
 - Financial Statements for July (revised) and August

Motion by Ms. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. Kesler to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion Carried: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays

Ms. Simons arrived.

Programmers: Ms. Archambeau noted the upcoming Masquerade Night, stating it's a special Halloween event for adults, and asked that the members present take a flyer to advertise. She also reported on the growth of adaptive soccer, dance, instructional basketball, and flag football noting Halo Burger has again agreed to sponsor the jerseys for the flag football program. The upcoming Fall recital was noted and it's expected to be full to capacity. Also noted was the upcoming intergenerational Halloween event that is sponsored in part with grant dollars from CDGB funds and the State Bank – both of which support the senior programs. Programs added for the Fall include a softball league and hunter's safety.

Call to the Audience: Mr. Culbert stated anyone from the public present would have five minutes to address the Board per policy.

David Witter introduced himself as the AYSO area director in Genesee County and AYSO board member. He asked that the Board "drop plans to take over Deer Run Park". He discussed the mosquito virus and possibility of refunding participant fees because of the threat to participants health. He discussed the region in Genesee County as being in AYSO Section 8 and that they have received awards for quality and management. He further described the philosophy AYSO subscribes to as open registration and every child plays half the game. He

noted they are good users of the complex, coaches are trained, and Amy Converse is this league's commissioner, auditor, and "mama bear".

Amy Converse introduced herself as the Regional AYSO Commissioner stating she has never been asked to provide financial statements, budgets, or vendor lists before. She said providing their budget would not do SLPR any good because SLPR would not be able to get the same deals from vendors or maintenance people. She discussed her involvement and passion for the program and the soccer complex as a volunteer. Ms. Converse stated her opinion on how the public perceives SLPR. She made accusations and stated assumptions about the Board's attitude towards its constituents and kids. She presented each Board member with a folder containing what she described as "emails with questions". Ms. Converse stated her expectations are for SLPR to put in commercial roads and bathrooms as listed in a contract she drafted and included in the folder.

Director's Report: Mr. Paris stated staff are deep into the budget process and that he and Ms. Ciofu had reviewed the first draft with the staff and will create the second draft for the finance committee to review prior to the upcoming budget workshop. He noted his investigative work on the financial and operational aspects of the Deer Run soccer facility continues, stating he had hoped to get some numbers for the 2020 budget, but the Committee has been unable to get the information they need to present a recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Paris discussed the Silver Lake Road pathway and MDNR grant application stating the scores fell short with easements and agreed upon maintenance. He further stated that at this time, without a clear timeline for securing easements, the plan is to pull the grant from consideration and resubmit before the April 2020 deadline. Also discussed was SLPR's involvement with the FACT Consortium and the plans to purchase video taping and editing equipment to enable SLPR to offer classes and plan for a possible future film festival too. A discussion followed re: video content, expanding outreach, and how the school and community leaders are supportive of SLPR's involvement.

Mr. Paris also noted the upcoming MML conference and his attendance. A discussion followed re: working towards getting SLPR as part of the program because of their major contribution to its Communities.

Accounting Report: Ms. Ciofu noted the growth in the fitness program from \$3500 in 2017 to \$9000 in 2019 for the same period. She discussed the budget process and noted that staff was asked to gather metrics and research of new programming. She described the changes to the July financial statements primarily affected the balance sheet for journal entries from the bank reconciliation for credit card receivables and payroll taxes payable. She also noted the billing to both Linden and Fenton DDA for the Summer events would take place in October.

Ms. Ciofu explained that the auditing firm of Lewis/Knopf has agreed to perform the audit for 12/31/19 at the same cost as last years audit in the amount of \$7,150. She further explained that they have also agreed to only a \$100 increase per year for the following two years after. It was her recommendation that SLPR continues its relationship with Lewis/Knopf based on this beneficial agreement. It was the Board's consensus to continue as Lewis/Knopf has proposed through 2022 with the audit of 12/31/2021.

Action Item: Approval of the 2020 Meeting Dates

Ms. Ciofu presented the list of 2020 regular board meeting dates stating they are proposed as usual as the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm with the exception of November which will be the 3rd Thursday and December which will be the 3rd Thursday and occur at 1:30pm in conjunction with the annual Networking at Noon event.

Motion by Mr. Grossmeyer, seconded by Mr. Kesler to approve the 2020 meeting dates as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays

Committee Reports: Operations Committee: Ms. Lockwood stated she was taken back by the public comments that described the Board as 'not caring about kids'. She said kids are SLPR's and this Board's number one priority and that the comments were both slanderous and inappropriate to the Board. She further stated the Board is only interested in facts and that Mr. Paris has been working to get financial numbers to create a budget for the operation of Deer Run. Ms. Lockwood stated the Operations Committee will wait for a report before they make a recommendation to the Board and before the Board would make a decision. She further stated SLPR creates quality programs in the best interest of kids and asks that the conversations stay focused on that.

Ms. Lockwood described how the holders of the Deer Park contract brought the idea to SLPR and asked that SLPR consider operating it. She further stated SLPR's intention would be inclusive to every organization that wants to use it with AYSO as priority. She said there was lack of cooperation in assisting Mr. Paris in creating a budget. Ms. Reid inquired about the project timeline and Mr. Paris noted he wanted to get it into the budget for 2020, but the lack of cooperation was preventing that. Ms. Simons stated she agreed with Ms. Lockwood's comments and looks forward to seeing some financial information.

Commissioner Comments:

Ms. Simons stated she met with members of the Fenton Arts Commission along with Linden reps and gathered information for Linden. She stated Linden is very excited and enthusiastic about creating the same in Linden.

Ms. Simons also asked that she be included via conference call at the upcoming Budget Workshop in September 30th.

Mr. Grossmeyer stated he was recommended to the County to sit on the MTA board and the County approved.

Ms. Reid congratulated Mr. Paris and the SLPR staff for doing a great job. She noted programs are up and it's good to see the community participating.

Next Meeting

Budget Workshop: Monday, September 30th, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Fenton Township Hall

Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, October 24th, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Fenton Community Center

Facility Needs Assessment: Thursday, November 7th, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Fenton Community Center

Adjournment

Chairperson Culbert adjourned the meeting at 7:02pm

Respectfully Submitted, Scott Grossmeyer, Secretary

Recording Secretary, Shirley Ciofu