

SOUTHERN LAKES REGIONAL METROPOLITAN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Study Session – 2023 Goals Update

Thursday, April 20th, 2023

150 S. Leroy St.
Fenton, MI 48430

Call to Order

Chairperson, Lockwood called to order at 6:05pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance

Present: Patricia Lockwood, Ray Culbert, David McDermott, Chris Reid

Delayed: Rob Kesler

Phoned In: Brenda Simons

Staff Present: Ed Koledo, Shirley Ciofu

Public Present: Meghan Slaght

Roll Call: Lockwood declared a quorum with four board members present.

Kesler arrived at 6:10pm

Presentation by Candidate for Program Coordinator/Office Manager – Meghan Slaght

Lockwood stated that Koledo was asked to invite his choice for the position to meet and present to the board. Koledo introduced Meghan Slaght and explained that of the candidates chosen for an interview, she shined. Slaght described a plan to boost programming, explained her public presentation, community events, and parks & recreation experiences; and her work with students in five local school districts. Her presentation was well received. It was the board's consensus that Slaght would bring a positive focus on program growth with experience and leadership qualities. They were impressed with her outlining goals in that regard and with her work with special needs kids at the Flint Disability Network as well as her work with the Flint-Genesee Chamber of Commerce.

Goals and Objectives Study Session

Koledo presented 2023 objectives and the Executive Directors Initiatives based on the six goals listed in SLPR's 2022-2027 Master Plan. He outlined what had been achieved and the next step for each.

Goal presented and discussed:

1. Expand Programming in the SLPR Service Area to the point where it creates 60% of SLPR revenue (G1 & G6)
 - a. Seek user, school district, municipal input (including survey results) and public input to develop new and relevant programming in all areas.
 - b. Bring on an additional full-time employee for expanded programming, event

planning/management, and FCCC office management.

2. Secure Key Property (G2, G4, & G6)
 - a. Manage grant requests, sponsorship opportunities, and general fundraising towards the completion of The State Bank Trail (P2 of the LAFF Pathway)
 - b. Manage all aspects for the pre-construction and construction processes involving completion of The State Bank Trail.
 - c. Continue to develop P3 & P4 grant opportunities for the LAFF Pathway.
 - d. Develop alternate locations to allow for expanded fitness and enrichment programming.
 - e. Determine potential locations for an SLPR rec-center.
3. Develop a Plan to establish a New Recreation and Administrative Facility (G4 & G5)
 - a. Continue effort changing the SLPR Charter to allow for MNRTF Grant eligibility.
 - b. Maintain/Increase the Capital Improvement line item and savings plan for a new building.
 - c. Develop a timeline and budget for a park and recreation center (phase 1) that meets the special needs of current and future SLPR programming.
4. Market SLPR & Create a High-Value for an SLPR Partnership (G1 & G3)
 - a. Maintain a team-approach to all SLPR initiatives.
 - b. Keep SLPR events, partnerships, and sponsorships relevant and current in multiple print and social media applications.
 - c. Partner at every opportunity to assist with community events, philanthropic activities/fundraisers, and outside county, state, and private organizations looking to better the community.
 - d. Network with surrounding pathway and river-trail organizations to assist in awareness of plans, initiatives, fundraisers, awareness of grants, and upcoming efforts.

A discussion followed re: adopting realistic goals that can be accomplished and eliminating the ones that have been temporarily unattainable. Also discussed was Phase 3 and 4 of the Pathway, the need for a 'Rec Center', and property possibilities.

Discussion Item: FACT Consortium/PEG Coordinator Position

Koledo presented the Fenton Area Cable Television Consortium (FACT) cost allocation for the PEG Coordinator's salary for 2023-2024. He stated the plan to go back to \$25,000 annually for rate of pay and a new contractor under consideration. Noted was the three municipalities that have already approved it. It was the consensus to take action to approve it at the next regular board meeting.

Discussion Item: Loose Annual Report

Koledo stated he received a request from Carl Gabrielson to send an annual report electronically, rather than an in-person presentation to the SLPR Board. It was the consensus that the presentation be made in person.

Discussion Item: Freedom Festival Fireworks Sponsorship

Koledo explained the Chamber's potential need for additional funds for the Freedom Festival fireworks. He asked the board to consider financial support for the fireworks in the form of a \$1,000 contribution and up to an additional amount to cover any shortages they may experience in their fundraising goals. A discussion followed re: a cap on the amount SLPR would back. It was the consensus to see the Chambers revised budget with their fundraising plan and to take action to approve financial support at the next regular board meeting.

Koledo also gave an update on the easements stating no checks have been issued yet. He also stated that the two new property owners have been made aware of the pathway easements, are supportive of the pathway, and willing to sign an agreement. The cost of the agreement is the only thing to negotiate.

Also discussed was the progress on the kayak launch site design/development at Hogan Road and meetings with the Keepers of the Shiawassee group.

Adjournment: Chairperson Lockwood adjourned the meeting at 8:05pm

Respectfully Submitted, David McDermott, Secretary
Recording Secretary, Shirley Priestap