

Southern Lakes Regional Metropolitan Parks & Recreation District

150 S. Leroy St.

Fenton, MI 48430

Board of Commissioners Special Budget Meeting- Thursday, September 21st, 2023

7:30am

Call to Order

Chairperson Lockwood called the meeting to order at 7:30am

Attendance/Roll Call

Present: Pat Lockwood, Ray Culbert, Chris Reid, Brenda Simons, Rob Kesler, David McDermott

Roll Call: Lockwood declared there was a quorum with six board members.

Staff Present: Ed Koledo, Shirley Priestap

Public Present: Elizabeth Armstrong, Linden City Council Member

Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion Item: 2024 Budget

Koledo noted that the Fenton Township board had passed the resolution in support of the exploration of the Thompson Road Dog Park property as a potential location for SLPR park development. This will allow the municipal bodies to explore grant opportunities.

Koledo gave an update on the State Bank Trail funding stating \$866,000 has been raised to date and that the remaining cost to be made up is about \$308,692. He noted LAFF has committed to \$152,000 and asked the board to consider SLPR contributing \$100,000. A discussion followed. It was the consensus that the amount may be too high and further discussion would be had at the next regular meeting. He also stated that the required matching funds are there to kick off the project.

Also stated were the easement agreements and the preparation of the checks to pay the property owners. Koledo shared the letter that would be sent along with the payments. A discussion followed. It was the board's consensus to have the lawyer review the letter after it has been reviewed by Jacob Maurer. Also stated was one more easement agreement had to be signed before the checks would be sent out. It was noted that the easement documents were not formatted with the required margins but could be submitted with a cover sheet.

Koledo noted he and Carl Gabrielson made a draft of the one-year agreement with the Loose Senior Center. It was the board's consensus to reduce SLPR's contribution from \$60,000 to \$50,000 for 2024. It was also the board's consensus to keep the stipulation in the contract that reserves a position on the Loose Board for the SLPR Chairperson.

Priestap presented the draft of the 2024 budget. She noted the full-time staff increased to five therefore the health benefits would show an increase. She discussed the line item for Planning Fees & Special projects and the amount budgeted for management goals. A discussion followed and it was noted that the budget should be adjusted by \$10,000 for the reduction to the Loose appropriations and the management goals be increased. Priestap noted the part-time Receptionists' wages were moved from the recreation side of the budget to be supported by the administrative side of the budget. The reduction in program revenue was noted and a discussion followed re: staff efforts to expand programming. Also discussed were the FAPS scheduling revenue and how it has decreased the past couple years. A discussion followed re: steps to rectify the loss. Priestap

noted that an estimated \$125,000 is required from program profits to help support non-program related expenses.

Next Meeting

Regular Monthly Meeting, Thursday, September 28th, 2023 at 7:30am

Adjournment

Chairperson Lockwood adjourned the meeting at 8:45am

Respectfully Submitted, David McDermott, Secretary

Recording Secretary, Shirley Priestap