

Southern Lakes Regional Metropolitan Parks & Recreation District

150 S. Leroy St.

Fenton, MI 48430

Board of Commissioners Meeting- Thursday, October 26th, 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: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Consent Agenda

- Approval of the September 28th, 2023 regular meeting minutes
- Approval of Treasurer's Report:
 - -Bills paid prior to October 26th, 2023 in the amount \$193,770.03
 - -Payroll paid prior to October 26th, 2023 in the amount of \$21,451.65
- Approval of the Financial Statements for September 2023

Motion by Culbert, seconded by McDermott to approve consent agenda as presented.

Motion Carried: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays

Call to the Audience – None present

Director's Report

Koledo noted two new grants for the pathway. He also noted the easements are in the final stages of review by the title company to clear up loose ends. He stated the easement checks have been issued and will be mailed out upon receipt of reimbursement funds in the amount of \$177,473.29 from the City of Fenton. He noted that he had presented the list and amount to Fenton City Council for approval.

Koledo sited his community interactions and highlighted the Chamber Board Retreat Planning – Career Connections meeting and his meeting with a Fenton Arts Council member about offering an in-kind sponsorship of their upcoming Arts are the Heart event. A discussion followed re: the benefit to SLPR for partnering with a community art event.

Koledo also noted the TRRD meeting, fundraiser, and volunteer day at the park. He discussed the Keepers of the Shiawassee's Hogan Road access site plan and his work facilitating meetings. He also noted that the warehouse SLPR is using in Linden is up for sale. The 2014 facility feasibility study was shared and he noted the participant residency chart over the years.

Accounting Coordinator's Report

Priestap stated the bills this month include the amount of the easement checks to be reimbursed by the City of Fenton. She also stated the City of Fenton DDA had been billed for the summer events in the amount of \$81,663.62 which included \$13,698.55 for administrative expenses. She noted that the grant budget was over \$100,000 but actual expenses were less and the revenue from market and art walk vendors was much more than expected.

Priestap noted the year-end projections for the fourth quarter and stated the budgeted management goals would most likely not be fully met in 2023. A discussion followed re: programming revenue and the decline in participation of some of the historically bigger programs. Priestap stated expenses that are directly supported by program profits are currently \$84,954 and are budgeted for around \$130,000. She presented a recreation programs year to date profit/loss statement and a previous year comparison. It was the board's consensus that a finance committee meeting be held in January to review program growth plans.

Programmers' Report

A written report was presented. Priestap highlighted the successful Witches & Wizards Ball and the Free Fitness Friday event. She stated the fitness event showcases every class on the schedule and will become a tradition to kick off the programming with each brochure season as a promotional event. She said the first one was very well attended. She also noted the plan for youth and adult golf lessons as well as a golf league stating Slaght has been in contact with Fenton Farms. Also noted was the return of the Touch-a-Truck event to be held at Bush Park. Slaght presented to the Fenton Park Board and received permission to hold the event in June of 2024.

Discussion Item: City of Fenton SLPR Board Appointees

The City of Fenton commissioners' current term ends on December 31, 2023. Lockwood stated the mayor will make those appointments at their November council meeting.

Discussion Item: SLPR Student Scholarship Application

Koledo presented a draft scholarship application for the committee. McDermott stated the committee will meet to discuss the criteria.

Discussion Item: Consideration of SLPR Sponsorship for the State Bank Trail

Koledo presented the LAFF Pathway sponsorship levels and requested the board consider one of them. A discussion followed re: concerns about how much would be needed at the end to cover the gap and concerns about SLPR not financially meeting its budgeted management goals in 2023. It was the board's consensus to approve a donation of \$25,000 cash and \$75,000 in-kind for the work SLPR has done, and will do, with The State Bank Trail portion of the LAFF Pathway. If approved by LAFF, SLPR would receive recognition at the LAFF Trail Founder (\$100,000) giving level, less the naming rights to a trail structure.

Motion by McDermott, seconded by Kesler to approve the donation to LAFF in the amount of \$25,000 at the \$100,000 Trail Founders Level which would include \$75,000 in kind, but would not include naming rights.

Motion Carried:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays

Discussion Item: Alcohol Server Plan

Koledo presented the process by which SLPR would provide alcohol services for City events. He stated it is exclusive to City events, and not a public service. A discussion followed re: concerns about the cost to SLPR to which Koledo stated costs are covered including administrative fee and the use of wrist bands to ID 21-and-up participants, with the recommendation that using tickets for 21-and-up is much more appropriate for the types of events held using this service.

Action Item: Approval of the 2024 Loose Agreement:

The Loose Agreement was presented, and it was noted that SLPR board members would continue to serve on the Loose board per the agreement and that the only change from 2023 was the amount which has been changed to \$50,000 annually.

Motion by McDermott, seconded by Culbert to approve the 2024 agreement with the Loose Center as presented.

Motion Carried:

6 Ayes, 0 Nays

Commissioners' Comments: It was the board's consensus to not have a meeting in November.

Next Meeting

Regular Monthly Meeting, Thursday, December 21st at 7:30am

Adjournment:

Chairperson Lockwood adjourned the meeting at 8:55am

Respectfully Submitted, David McDermott, Secretary

Recording Secretary, Shirley Priestap