

**Southern Lakes Regional Metropolitan Parks & Recreation District**  
Fenton Community & Cultural Center  
150 S. Leroy St., Fenton, MI 48430  
Board of Commissioners Meeting- Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
7:30am

**Call to Order**

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

Koledo asked that a discussion item to be added to the agenda:

Discussion Item (e) SLPR Cargo Van and noted that the swearing in of Pam Howd would not take place today. It was also noted that Howd would not be appointed to the board until 2026.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Attendance/Roll Call**

Present: Patricia Lockwood, Chris Reid, Rob Kesler, Brenda Simons, David McDermott, Elizabeth Armstrong

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

Staff Present: Ed Koledo, Shirley Priestap

Public Present: Pam Howd

**Call to the Audience**

Pam Howd presented a poster and flyers to promote an upcoming event in Linden called the Environmental Health Expo to bring radon awareness. She described the event to be held at the Loose Senior Center and invited the board to attend.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

- Approval of August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, regular meeting minutes
- Approval of Treasurer's Report:
  - Bills paid prior to September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in the amount \$92,361.45
  - Payroll paid prior to September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in the amount of \$36,809.06
  - Financial Statements for August 2025

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

Roll Call:

Lockwood	Aye
Kelser	Aye
Reid	Aye
Simons	Aye
Armstrong	Aye
McDermott	Aye

Motion Carried: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays

### **Director's Report**

Koledo discussed his community interactions highlighting the FACT consortium meeting where SLPR was given 7 used computers that are in good working order. He stated that two of the computers are set up for the public during office hours and can be used upon signing an 'acceptable use policy' agreement. A discussion followed. Also highlighted was his attendance at the Fenton Education Foundation pancake breakfast event, noting that most people when asked stated they had received the SLPR brochure. Koledo also talked about his invitation to speak at the Preserve for Stop Soldier Suicide and his help on the Fenton Township parks and recreation advisory committee. He stated the Township grant writers have found maybe \$500,000 for parking and handicap parking for the TRRD. He also stated he attended the farm dinner in Byron.

Koledo gave an update on the Hogan Road kayak launch project stating the cost has increased from \$58,000 to \$300,000 noting delays for property survey, Township property purchase, and soil erosion test. A discussion followed and it was stated that the Keepers of the Shiawassee have the \$58,000 and are now faced with an additional funding challenge.

The Happening in Linden and Grow Linden organizations were discussed, and it was stated that SLPR is not in partnership with any of the events, however it supports the events through promotion. Fenton DDA events were discussed, and it was stated that the Markets, Family Nights, Rev Up Fenton Car Show, and Concerts all went very well.

The FCCC office kitchen is complete, and staff is back in the office.

### **Accounting Coordinator's Report**

Priestap stated that the bills paid prior to the meeting were higher than usual due in part to the annual Drivers Training insurance of over \$10,000; the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Loose payment of \$12,500; Fall brochure expenses, and the payment to the Market Manager. She also stated that the final market has ended and once all expenses are known to be accounted for, the City of Fenton DDA will be billed an estimated \$109,000 to reimburse for the summer event expenses – to be adjusted by the vendor fees collected.

Priestap noted the annual millage levy report has been submitted to the county and to the municipalities.

The 2026 budget was discussed and it was noted that approximately \$120,000 was required from program profits to balance the budget. Priestap also noted the estimated property tax revenue for 2026 is \$639,000, up by \$31,000 from 2025.

### **Action Item: SLPR/Loose Agreement**

Koledo presented a draft of the current agreement with changes that would include a payment split into 4 quarterly payments plus an amount to be distributed as needed for additional programs. A discussion followed re: having some SLPR programs utilize the Center for evening classes and Loose potential to grow programs. It was the board's consensus to offer a three-year contract with the following breakdown for funding: 2026=\$50k, 2027-\$45k with \$5k in new program grants, 2028-\$40k with \$10k in new program grants. With that, it was understood that

Ed would discuss with Ellen and if in favor, write up a new contract for the SLPR attorney to review with the intent to bring it signature-ready back to the Board for approval. A vote on approving an actual contract was postponed until these changes and could be made.

**Discussion Item (a): Executive Director Applicants and Interview Process**

Koledo presented a list of first round and second round interview questions. Personnel committee chair, Simons stated the committee had narrowed down the 17 applications received to 7 for the first round. A discussion followed re: the format for first round. It was the board's consensus to schedule the 7 first rounders for 30-minute zoom meetings and move forward from there for in person second interviews. Lockwood stated that in the event there is not a qualified applicant, then an interim Director would be appointed until the right person is found and hired. The 7 resumes selected for first round interviews will be shared with the board members.

**Discussion Item (b): SLPR/Loose Senior Programming**

It was the consensus and understanding that the current agreement has been to allow SLPR to use the Loose facility for SLPR programming and that it would carry forward to the new agreement. Priestap stated she and other staff members will be looking into adding SLPR programs that can be held at the Center in the evenings. It was noted that SLPR would assist Loose in growing their programs as well.

**Discussion Item (c): LAFF Pathway – Choice One Bank Trail Update**

Koledo stated Phase 2 was over by \$900,000 and that the additional funding required has been covered by the MDOT TAP grant.

**Discussion Item (d): Chamber Annual Dinner – SLPR Legacy Award Recipient**

Lockwood stated that she and Koledo would attend the event to receive the award and invited the board. She asked that the board consider approving funding for this special occasion so that both the board members and staff could attend. It was the consensus that SLPR would reserve a table or two depending on how many members and staff would like to attend.

**Discussion Item (e): The Need for a New Cargo Van**

Koledo described the age and condition of the SLPR van stating it was time to look at purchasing one. He recommended a used van. A discussion followed re: local dealerships who will give the best price. Koledo will bring top contending deals to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

**Commissioner Comments**

The finance committee is meeting to review the 2026 budget draft.

**Next Meeting**

Regular Monthly Meeting, Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:30am at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center.

**Adjournment:**

Chairperson Lockwood adjourned the meeting at 9:10am

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