

Southern Lakes Regional Metropolitan Parks & Recreation District

Fenton Community & Cultural Center

150 S. Leroy St., Fenton, MI 48430

Board of Commissioners Meeting MINUTES- Friday, March 20th, 2026

7:30am

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance/Roll Call

Present: Patricia Lockwood, Brenda Simons, David McDermott, Rob Kesler

Excused: Chris Reid, Elizabeth Armstrong

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

Staff Present: Tyler Carpenter, Shirley Priestap

Public Present: Loose Senior Center: Tessa Sweeney, Director; Ellen Glass, Linden City Manager

Call to the Audience

None present

Approval of Consent Agenda

- Approval of February 27th, 2026 regular meeting minutes
- Approval of Treasurer's Report:
 - Bills paid prior to March 20th, 2026, in the amount \$13,122.10
 - Payroll paid prior to March 20th, 2026 in the amount of \$22,866.74
 - Financial Statements for February 2026

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

Roll Call:

Lockwood Aye

Simons Aye

McDermott Aye

Kesler Aye

Motion Carried: 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

Loose Senior Center – Annual Report

Tessa Sweeney, Loose Director and Ellen Glass, Linden City Manager presented the participation, membership, and program data for 2025, highlighting the facility repairs to the annex and Loose's financial position. It was noted that Fenton Township gave \$67,000 in its CDBG funds to help with the annex project. Sweeney also highlighted the increase in programs and attendance and the demographics of both the areas and age groups of participants. Creating a stronger partnership with SLPR and working with SLPR to develop additional and evening programming was discussed. Also discussed was the idea of

sharing information and cross-promoting programs. Glass explained that Loose is no longer a 501c3 and operates on its own with a separate fund held within and under the direction of the City of Linden.

Director's Report

Carpenter noted the biweekly meetings with the LAFF Pathway engineers and contractors stating that he's working with Jacob Maurer on Phase 3 discussions and with Fenton Township Operations Manager, Tom Broecker and Zoning Administrator, Mike Deem. He also noted community interactions with both the Linden and Fenton Township Parks & Recreation Boards. He highlighted the Hogan Road launch project stating it is making progress. And stated staff are bringing programs to the Fenton Township beach and Civic Center this summer.

He stated the Fenton DDA met to review the grant proposal for the Farmers Market, Concerts, Family Nights, and Art Walk events. Also stated was the upcoming Linden DDA meeting to discuss concerts and other opportunities in Linden to utilize its parks.

Carpenter noted that he and the full-time staff attended the MParks conference held in Lansing. He also noted a meeting is scheduled with Genesee County Parks & Recreation to discuss the next steps for the Disc Golf project as well as other ways to partner with them.

Finance Manager's Report

Priestap reminded the board of the upcoming annual audit and stated that the finance committee would be able to call in the morning of March 31st in lieu of meeting the auditors in person prior to the start of the audit. She noted the bills paid prior to the meeting were less than usual because of the shortened time between meetings.

She recommended budget amendments be made to the salaries of the Executive Director and of the Finance Manager because at the time of the budget approval, salaries had not yet been determined.

Action Item (a): 2026 Budget Amendment

Motion by McDermott, seconded by Simons, to amend the 2026 Administrative Budget for salaries that had not yet been determined at the time the budget was adopted. This includes the corresponding affected line items for related employer costs and management goals as presented.

Motion Carried: 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

Action Item (b): MDOT Resolution for SLPR's Continued Support

This action is postponed until the meeting in April

Discussion Item (a): Letter of Support Request – Argentine Township Land Acquisition

Carpenter explained that Teresa Ciesielski requested a letter of support from SLPR for an Argentine land acquisition application for Argentine Park. He presented a resolution of support: that SLPR hereby supports submission of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application for Argentine Land Acquisition by the DNR. A resolution was prepared and presented for approval.

Motion by Lockwood, seconded by Kesler to approve the resolution of support as presented.

Motion Carried: 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

Program Report

A written quarterly programs report was presented.

Commissioner Comments

Lockwood gave an update on the City of Fenton's progress with the Rackham Foundation and taking over the governing of the FCCC.

Next Meeting

Regular Monthly Meeting: Friday, April 24th , 2026 at 7:30am

Adjournment:

Chairperson Lockwood adjourned the meeting at 8:45am

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