



LAGRANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES
July 22, 2021
7:00PM
Pine Knob Learning Center

PRESENT: Ardala Hepler, Bob Arnold, Paul Yoder, Julia Wolheter, Eric Maginn

ALSO PRESENT: Mary Franke, Leslie Arnold, Richard Muntz, Emily Wolfe, Terry Martin, Steve McKowan

MINUTES: Eric Maginn moved and Julia Wolheter seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Mike Metz Fen LWCF Project – LaGrange Highway Dept. has been in to lay some limestone trail. Trail is going very well. We needed to bring in some road gravel to fill in entrance where some highway dept. machinery got stuck. Boardwalk is going well. One boardwalk end is waiting for approval from the DNR to approve rerouting a boardwalk bridge to not disturb a Massasauga Snake hibernating area.
- B. ADA Projects – We were able to see the completed kitchen in the Pine Knob Learning Center. The kitchen is nice and bright. Paul Yoder (Dallas Lake Construction) is complete with his part for the pit toilet at Rogers; park staff will finish up. We are still waiting on material to complete the railing at Dallas Lodge and sink drain covers for bathrooms. Paul Yoder will send a Dallas Lake Construction invoice in a few weeks.
- C. 2022 Budget – Discussion about process to establish funds in 2022 budget for a new track steer. Two quotes received so far - \$68,000 and \$70,000 – includes track steer, forks, bucket, and brush cutter. The 2022 budget has a new vehicle line for \$36,500. Proposed to forgo a new vehicle next year and re-allocate that line into an equipment line. The oldest truck in the park fleet is a 2006 truck used to pull the mower trailers; and it seems to be in good running condition. We need to get one more quote. Julia Wolheter moved to submit 2022 Budget with \$70,000.00 in Equipment Line in lieu of New Truck Line. Paul Yoder seconded. Motion carried.
- D. Delt Pavilion – George has already drawn up plans for new Delt Field Pavilion. Pavilion plans need to be certified by an engineer. So far, the pavilion project pricing is coming in around \$147,000. We would like to keep it under \$150,000. Proposing to use \$15,000 from Park non-reverting funds, \$75,000 from Dekko Grant (yet to apply to), and asking Town Council to help with remaining balance (approximately \$57,000) from an ADA account and/or Covid account. Paul Yoder moved to use \$15,000 from Park non-reverting funds toward Delt Field Pavilion Project. Eric Maginn seconded. Motion carried. Julia Wolheter moved to approve submitting grant application to Dekko asking for \$75,000 and to ask for project balance from Town Council. Paul Yoder seconded. Motion carried.
- E. Other—From last month meeting’s approval to have the gravel drive at Delt Church Park sprayed for dust control. The drive was sprayed last Tuesday, July 13. It is very nice, seemed to be applied pretty thick. Estimated to last about a year.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Website – The county is creating a new website that will include the Parks Department. They offered the option to create an opportunity for online reservations for pavilions/buildings. The cost would be an additional \$1500 for this website option. Furthermore, customers would have to pay online credit card processing fees of 2.95 percent plus \$1 per transaction. Discussion resulted in foregoing this option for now.
- B. Events/Programs – presented by Leslie Arnold
 - 1. Music in the Park – Jim Gust played at the Sweetgum Pavilion last weekend for July. Jim Gust charged \$100/hour. As we gain more experience with this event, we will learn how to set up better for the band and audience. We are still confirming band performances for August and September. The price range seems to be \$125 to \$200 hour and playing a 3 hour concert.
 - 2. Fall Fest – An event name hasn't been decided yet. Planning for October 21st and 22nd with an afternoon and evening program each day. The plan is to have a fun family event with wagon rides, crafts, bonfire, stories, and games. Waiting for confirmation from the Horsemen for horse-drawn wagon ride; backup idea is tractor pulled wagon ride. Evening program may have a little more “spooky” elements, but nothing scary.
- C. Other – We had one seasonal staff member get poison ivy during day camp. He waited a week and a half before notifying the office – He thought it would get better, but instead it got worse. He did go to the Occupational Health office for treatment. This event led to the discussion of having future under 18 aged employees have a “Consent to Treat” form on file in the event a parent cannot be reached and medical treatment is necessary. Richard Muntz agreed that this would be a good idea.
- D. Relay for Life – Event is scheduled for September 25. Have not received any other communication in regards to this event.

CLAIMS:

Julia Wolheter moved and Eric Maginn seconded a motion to accept July claims as presented. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Wolfe, for Ardala Hepler

EW/ew