



LAGRANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES  
September 21, 2023 7:00 PM  
Maple Wood Nature Center

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**PRESENT:** John Egli, Ardala Hepler, Julia Wolheter, Eric Maginn, Paul Baker

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mary Franke, George DeWald

**MINUTES:** Eric Maginn moved, and Ardala Hepler seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS:**

Eric Maginn moved, and Ardala Hepler seconded a motion to approve September 2023 docket claims. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A. 2024 Budget

The council approved the Park 2024 budget with a 3% maximum pay increase.

B. Mike Metz Fen LWCF Project

Project complete, inspected, and approved. Final billing has been submitted.

C. Tetrick Property

LCCF is working on a purchase agreement. Property appraised at \$11,500 per acre. Homeowners approved \$11,000/acre for purchase price.

D. Art in the Park Event

Will be this Saturday, September 23. So far, 11 vendors have committed to attend. Two bands will be providing live music. One food vendor will have food for sale.

E. Disc Golf Tournament

Held at Delt Church Park on October 14, 2023. Half of the proceeds go towards funding purchase of new goal baskets.

F. Master Plan

Received final approval from the state.

Julia Wolheter moved, and Ardala Hepler seconded a motion to approve resolution 2023-09-21-A; Adoption of Master Plan. Board signed resolution 2023-09-21-A; Adoption of Master Plan. Eric Maginn moved, and Julia Wolheter seconded a motion to approve Accessibility Compliance page 102. Motion carried. Form signed. Ardala Hepler moved, and Eric Maginn seconded a motion to approve the LWCF form page 103. Motion carried. Form signed. Signed copies will be mailed to the state.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Naturalist position.

Leslie Arnold resigned; her last day is September 23, 2023.

The board discussed possible changes in the job description going forward. Julia Wolheter moved, and Eric Maginn seconded a motion including a new position title and changes to the duties as discussed. Motion carried.

B. Plans for Roger's

Leslie Arnold received a contact name from the state that would be interested in looking at the log cabins. Mary Franke will follow up with contact and schedule a time for visiting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julia Wolheter, for Ardala Hepler  
JW/ew