

Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission
Veronica Valley Park Committee Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2024 | 2:00 p.m.

Leelanau County Government Center – Commissioners Meeting Room
8527 E. Government Center Dr. Suttons Bay MI 49682

CALL TO ORDER: 2:11 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

- Keith Beduhn
- Steve Christensen
- John Popa
- F. Jon Walter (*Absent*)

STAFF PRESENT:

- Richard Lewis – Interim County Administrator
- Lori Eubanks, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Requested Additions to the Agenda:

- Progress on Fence (Popa)

Motion by Christensen to approve the agenda, as amended. Seconded by Beduhn.

Ayes: 3 (Beduhn, Christensen; Popa)

No: 0 Absent: 1 (Walter)

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

STAFF COMMENTS: None.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – March 6, 2024

Approval of the March 6, 2024 meeting minutes will be presented at the next Veronica Valley Committee meeting, pending review by committee members.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Kids Fishing Day – Beduhn reported everything is on track regarding preparation for the Kids Fishing Day. He added that the Board of Commissioners (BOC) approved the check to purchase fish to stock the ponds prior to the event.
2. **2024 Budget/Repairs and Improvements** – Popa reported that the park sign had been re-installed. Popa said if there is money in the budget, he would like to talk with Commissioner Walter about installing cable on the bridge (to mitigate the fall hazard identified by Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority).

Christensen began a motion to recommend to the Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission to put out for bid the installation of the cable; however, Interim Administrator Lewis, suggested holding off on the cable project until Lewis met with Jerry Culman, Maintenance Director, to compile a list of all projects addressed in MMRMA's safety assessment that could then be combined into one Request For Proposal (RFP) and/or grant request for all three parks (Veronica Valley, Myles Kimmerly, and Old Settlers Parks). Christensen withdrew his motion.

3. **Five-Year Plan** - Regarding projects on the list for the 5-Year Plan, Beduhn reported that he was working with Alan Campbell on details for paving the Phase I, ADA-compliant trail as well as a possible resource for grant funding. Popa added that a covered pavilion should be on the list. Lewis advised that the park plan design could begin once a selection for a consultant was made from responses received on the RFP (which is still outstanding). Painting the Mack Bridge was discussed; however, Popa felt painting was unnecessary. Christensen added that, despite the peeling paint, the integrity of the bridge was intact. Also discussed for addition to the Five-Year Plan was paving the parking lot and adding handicap parking signs.

4. Progress on Fence – Lewis reported that once the fence materials are delivered on site, he would find a contractor to install the fence within the next 60 days.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

STAFF COMMENTS: None.

MEMBER COMMENTS: Christensen advised Beduhn to work with Scott Bradley, Maintenance Worker, regarding switching out one of the two portable toilets for a Universal Access (UA) one. Popa inquired if the playground equipment at Veronica Valley needed to be replaced. Lewis responded that this topic could be added as part of the Park Plan discussion at the June Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Beduhn motioned to adjourn; seconded by Christensen. The motion carried. With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned to the call of Chair Beduhn at 2:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori Eubanks, Recording Secretary