



*Parks and Recreation enhances community and quality of life through people, parks, and programs.
Senior Center Network makes longer lives, better lives.*

**Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Commission
Virtual Meeting
Thursday, May 14, 2020, 5:30 p.m.
MINUTES**

Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FS31aYqA0A&t=2297s>

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Not done due to lack of flag.

C. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Alisa Korn, Besty Coffia, David Grams, Steve Largent, Rodetta Harrand, Whitney Waara, Andy Marek, and Jalen Provo

Commissioners Excused: Shirley Zerafa

Others Present: Kristine Erickson, Director, Ryan Walsh, Office Manager, Lori Wells, Senior Center Network Manager, Katelynn Brown, Office Coordinator, Ariel Perreault, Office Specialist, Fred Tank, Park Ranger, Scott Swan, Park Ranger, Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation; Nathan Alger, Grand Traverse County Administrator; Erin Schug, Land Steward, Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy; Bob Johnson, American Legion Baseball; John Sohacki, citizen member of the Parks and Recreation Business Development Team

D. First Public Comment

Bob Johnson, representing the American Legion Baseball Board, stated he would notify Parks and Recreation "next week" about whether the baseball season would be held at the Civic Center in 2020.

E. Approval of/Additions to Agenda

Commissioner Grams request to add an agenda item about modifying Park Rules language relative to smoking in parks. Item added as J.4. Recommendation to Rules Committee.

MOTION by Waara, second by Largent, to accept the agenda, the addition of Item J.4.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: Grams, Harrand, Largent, Marek, Provo, Waara, Korn (7)

Nays: (0)

Absent: Coffia and Zerafa (2)

Motion passed 7 to 0.

F. Special Orders of Business/Presentations

There were no Special Orders of Business/Presentations.

G. Consent Calendar

Receive and File

1. Parks and Recreation-Senior Center Network Department Report
2. Parks and Recreation-Senior Center Network Financial Report
3. Parks and Recreation's Application for a Traverse City Track Club Foundation Grant
4. March 23, 2020 Letter to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Regarding NER Permits
5. March 24, 2020 Letter of Support for Norte's Grant Application
6. March 30, 2020 Letter of Support for East Bay Township's Grant Application
7. March 20, 2020 Letter of Support for TART Trails' Grant Application
8. April 14, 2020 Letter of Permission for Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy to Construct Trail at Maple Bay Park and Natural Area
9. Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy's Plan to Update Signage at Maple Bay Park and Natural Area (with Amendments from Parks and Recreation Attached)
10. Grand Traverse Conservation District's March 2020 Report
11. Grand Traverse Conservation District's April 2020 Report
12. April 29, 2020 Meeting Notes: Planned Roundabout at Cass Road, Keystone Road, and Keystone Soccer Complex
13. April 19, 2020 Letter from Norte to County Regarding Response to COVID-19 Pandemic
14. May 8, 2020 Project Update Memo to Parks and Recreation from Networks Northwest and TART Trails; March 2020 Partner Letter to Director from TART Trails and Top of Michigan Trails Council Regarding Nakwema Trailway

Approvals

1. Draft Minutes from March 12, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
MOTION by Grams, second by Marek, to approve the agenda, as presented, with the exception of Items 2, 9, and 12.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: Waara, Provo, Marek, Largent, Harrand, Grams, and Korn (7)

Nays: (0)

Absent: Coffia and Zerafa (2)

Motion passed, 7 to 0.

H. Items Removed from Consent Calendar

Item 2. Commissioner Provo asked about the 208-756 Pool Budget and asked about current expenditures. Staff explained a pool vacuum was purchased through the budget line item and paid for by the Friends of Easling Pool. Director thanked the friends. Commissioner Provo commented on receipt of revenues for Twin Lakes Park. Office Manager explained that some of the unbudgeted revenue from cell tower land leases was mistakenly placed in the Twin Lakes budget. It will be moved to Civic Center budget.

Item 12. Commissioner Largent asked to be included in future discussions and meetings about the planned roundabouts for Keystone and Cass.

Item 9. Commissioner Provo asked if the new signs developed by the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy for Maple Bay Park and Natural Area would work with Parks and Recreation's future branding and wayfinding signage plans. Director stated that the Conservancy cobranded the signs with Parks and Recreation's logo and that many of the signs are able to be easily changed. Commissioner Korn thanked Erin Schug for attending the meeting on behalf of the Conservancy.

MOTION by Korn, second by Largent, to receive and file Items 2, 9, and 12.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: Marek, Grams, Provo, Harrand, Largent, Waara, Korn (7)

Nays: (0)

Excused: Coffia and Zerafa

Motion passed, 7 to 0.

I. Reports

1. Parks and Recreation-Senior Center Department Report
The Director and Senior Center Network Manager gave a verbal report on the department.
2. Committee and Representative Reports
Commissioner Korn gave an update on the discussion from the most recent Business Development Team meeting.

J. New Business

1. Request to Renew Agreement for Resource Management Services at Natural Education Reserve and Medalie Park
MOTION by Provo, second by Marek to approve executing the agreement between Parks and Recreation and the Grand Traverse Conservation District, as presented, for land and resource management services at the Natural Education Reserve.
Roll Call Vote
Yeas: Waara, Provo, Grams, Marek, and Korn (5)
Nays: Harrand (1)
Excused: Coffia and Zerafa (2)
Abstained: Largent (1)
Motion passed, 5 to 1.
2. Request to Enter into Agreement with Redeemer Lutheran Church to Provide Location for Senior Center Network Outreach Programs
MOTION by Marek, second by Waara, to accept the Facility Use Fee Agreement with Redeemer Lutheran Church, and authorize Director Erickson to sign agreement on Parks and Recreation Commission's behalf.
Roll Call Vote
Yeas: (7)
Nays: (0)
Excused: Coffia and Zerafa
Motion passed (7) to (0).
3. COVID-19 Pandemic Impact on Parks and Recreation and Senior Center Network
Commissioner Korn gave a brief introduction of the agenda item. The Director shared three scenarios that the department is exploring as it relates to reservations. The first option is to begin taking reservations for July. The second option would allow the department to take reservations after Labor Day. The last option is to not take reservations for the remainder of the year. It is also suggested that the department closes Power Island for the 2020 season, as the risk for preventing the spread of the virus is too high because of the limited resources to sanitize.
MOTION Marek, second by Harrand to close the Power Island Park for the summer season until further notice.
Roll Call Vote
Yeas: Warra, Provo, Marek, Largent, Harrand, Grams, Korn (7)
Nays: (0)
Excused: Coffia and Zerafa
Motion passed (7) to (0).
4. Recommendation to Rules Committee
Commissioner Grams inquired about the necessary steps for establishing policies related to smoking in the parks.
MOTION by Marek, second by Provo, to send the inquiry to the Rules Committee and to come back to the Parks and Recreation Board.
Roll Call Vote
Yeas: Marek, Grams, Provo, Largent, Waara, and Korn (6)
Nays: Harrand (1)

Excused: Coffia and Zerafa
Motion passed, 7 to 1.

K. Old Business

1. Request to Renew Agreement with Kiwanis Club of Traverse City for Flag Project at Civic Center Park
2. Request to Renew Agreement with Kiwanis Club of Traverse City for Flag Project at Medalie Park
MOTION by Grams, second by Marek, to approve a three year contract for both parks presented.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: (7)

Nays: (0)

Excused: Zerafa and Coffia (2)

Motion passed, 7 to 0.

2. Allocation of Funds from Cell Tower Amendments and Traverse Bay Area Youth Soccer
MOTION by Harrand, second by Largent, to hang on to the funds for now to apply to 2021.

Roll Call Vote

Yeas: Korn, Grams, Largent, Harrand, Waara, Marek and Provo (7)

Nays: (0)

Excused: Zerafa and Coffia (2).

Motion passed, 7 to 0.

L. Second Public Comment

Grand Traverse County Administrator Nate Alger stated that there was good discussion during meeting.

Commissioner Korn stated it will be important for Parks and Recreation and Administration to work together to develop a really good message about expectations for parks.

Commissioner Harrand thanked County Administrator for his leadership during the pandemic.

Director stated that over 1,600 responses to the Civic Center master site planning community survey have been received.

Bob Johnson thanked the board and the County Administrator for their work.

Commissioners commented on the ongoing use of the skate park, even though it is closed, and asked staff to see what is being done at the Frankfort skate park.

M. Notices and Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Korn thanked everyone for attending and said she will see everyone again on Tuesday, at 6 p.m. for the Special Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

N. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.