

Chair
Tim Machowicz, Citizen Rep.

Vice-Chair
Chuck Nelson, Citizen Rep.

Secretary
Phil Hanses, Drain Commissioner

Members
Dwight Washington, BOC Rep.
Dave Pohl, BOC Rep.
Roni Christmas, Planning Comm. Rep.
Kevin Holt, Road Comm. Rep.
James Graham, Citizen Rep.
Pat Jackson, Citizen Rep.
Natalie Elkins, Citizen Rep.



Staff
Kyle Thornton
Parks and Greenspace
Coordinator

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MINUTES

PARKS AND GREENSPACE COMMISSION

Friday, January 7, 2022, AT 8:30 A.M.
Clinton County Courthouse
Board of Commissioners Boardroom
100 E. State Street, St. Johns, MI 48879

I. Call to Order - Declaration of Quorum

Chair Tim Machowicz declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 8:32AM

Members Present: Tim Machowicz, Chuck Nelson, James Graham, Dwight Washington, Dave Pohl, Roni Christmas, Natalie Elkins, Kevin Holt, Phil Hanses, Pat Jackson

Guests Present: Kelcie Sweeney, Ron Gunderson

Staff Present: Kyle Thornton, Todd Campbell, Corey Zverina

- A. Approval of January 7, 2022, Agenda
Moved by Natalie Elkins, seconded by Pat Jackson, to approve the January 7, 2022, meeting Agenda. Motion carried.
- B. Approval January 7, 2022, Per Diems
Moved by Roni Christmas, seconded by David Pohl, to approve the January 7, 2022, meeting Per Diems. Motion carried.
- C. Approval of December 3, 2021, Meeting Minutes
Moved by Roni Christmas, seconded by Dwight Washington, to approve the December 3, 2021, meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

II. Public Comments Non-Agenda Items

- A. Kelcie Sweeney of the Clinton Conservation District reported a Save the Date for March 11, as the Soil and Water Conservation Society is offering a Forestry Focus Workshop. CCD is also working on a 4th grade seeding project and mentioned they are looking for contacts within area schools (4th grade teachers and/or principals). Orders start next month for the spring tree sale and inventory is expected to be low due to COVID-19, so Kelcie recommended to place orders early. Kelcie also took a moment to thank everyone for their continued support and she is moving into a new position with MDARD.

III. Coordinator's Report – Kyle Thornton

- A. Kyle Thornton reported that he passed the Core Pesticide class and test during December. He also reported the Corey Zverina and Nathan Spitzley kept busy over their holiday break from school by building and painting about a half dozen new benches for the park.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Water Based Recreation – Phil Hanses & Chuck Nelson
- a. Chuck Nelson reported the septic tank group is continuing to meet to discuss and investigate the septic tanks around Lake Victoria.
- B. Non-Motorized Facilities – Chuck Nelson & Dave Pohl
- County-wide NMF Plan / Trails Advisory Council
 - FMCIS Trail
- a. Dave Pohl introduced Ron Gunderson from the Mid-West Michigan Trail Authority. Ron Gunderson explained the climate around a multitude of trails across Michigan and within the Mid-West Michigan Trail Authority. This led to a discussion of options for FMCIS Trail that spans through Clinton, Ionia, and Shiawassee Counties. The current state of the FMCIS Trail was compared with the cost, funding, and maintenance associated with other trails within the Mid-West Michigan Trail Authority, in the hopes of improving the FMCIS Trail.
- C. Universal Access – Dwight Washington & Pat Jackson
- a. Nothing specific to highlight on Universal Access.
- D. Finance Committee – Tim Machowicz
- a. Tim Machowicz reported that 2021 completed the fiscal year under budget.
- E. Grassland Committee – Chuck Nelson & Jim Graham
- a. Nothing specific to highlight on the Grassland

- F. Southern County Park Search Team – Chuck Nelson, Tim Machowicz, Phil Hanses, and Dave Pohl
 - a. Kyle mentioned we are still waiting until the January 20, 2022, Ways and Means Committee Meeting for further direction on the Pratt Road Property.
- G. Health Committee – Dwight Washington & Pat Jackson
 - a. Nothing specific to highlight on the Health Committee.

V. Old Business

- A. Clinton Lakes Improvements
 - a. Kyle Thornton reported status of the Clinton Lakes Improvement Project and remaining budget. He reported the Mobi Mat has been received and he is the process of ordering signage.

VI. New Business

- B. 2021 Survey of Forested Ecosystems – Pratt Road Property
 - a. Chuck Nelson mentioned that Gillian Chirillio did a great job with the Ecosystem Report of the property at 7575 W. Pratt Road. Kyle Thornton agreed and mentioned he is excited and highlighted the report showing the low number of invasive species listed on the property.

VII. Public Comments – Agenda Items

- A. None

VIII. Adjournment –Next Meeting:

Friday, February 4, 2022, at 8:30 am
Board of Commissioners Room, Clinton County Courthouse – 2nd Floor
100 E. State Street, St. Johns, MI 48879

Moved by Roni Christmas, seconded by Kevin Holt to adjourn the meeting until Friday, February 4, 2022. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:53AM