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Polverento and Tim Machowicz,
Citizen Representatives



CLINTON COUNTY PARKS AND GREEN SPACE COMMISSION

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COORDINATOR'S REPORT

April 2011

ACTIVITIES:

National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) *Removing Barriers Initiative Award*

Application materials have been submitted. Award recipients will be notified late April.

P&GSC Coordinator Contract

The County Board Finance and Personnel Committee approved renewal of my employment contract through December 31, 2013. Projects that I am looking forward to complete during the new contract period include:

- Create and document procedures and forms to guide and sustain safe and organized field operations. Much has already been accomplished.
- Clinton County Non-Motorized Facility Plan
- Clinton County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan (current plan expires 3-28-13)
- Searles Property Acquisition (Phase II)
- Motz County Park Development (Phase II) – The focus will be on the 260-acre addition. I propose construction of passive facilities such as entrance drive, vehicle parking, maintenance building/storage yard, trails, vault toilets, tree plantings, native prairie grasses, fishing/observation platforms, etc.
- Initiate development of non-motorized facilities based on NMF Plan priorities.

Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)

Final grant reports were submitted to Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) on March 24. Clinton County is benefiting from energy-efficiency improvements made to interior lighting and HVAC systems. C2AE's June 2009 *Energy Study* forecast greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions of 33 MtCO₂e/YR and annual budget savings of \$25,300 related to the work. With the project just completed, actual savings in terms of units of energy consumed will be known by this time next year.

DELEG will soon be announcing a new Request for Proposals for LED and plasma lighting improvement projects. Building and Grounds Director Blaine Stevens is currently researching the benefits of switching all of the County's exterior parking lot and building lighting to LED fixtures. Preliminary information obtained suggests the county would realize significant savings from use of LED lighting fixtures. The saving would come from reduction in energy consumption and less employee time needed to maintain the longer-life expectancy lamps. It is likely that the current EECBG Project Team will be preparing a second grant application for County Board consideration.

Commercial Pesticide Applicators Certification

I passed the Commercial Core and three specialty applicator certification exams. For the next three years I am able to apply pesticides to control aquatic, turf and right-of-way vegetation and insect pests in the park. A DEQ permit to control American Pondweed in areas adjoining the swimming beach has been applied for. It is proposed to use a granular aquatic herbicide in late April / early May. Used according to label directions, the application will have no negative impact on the fishery or water quality.

"A Taste of Clinton County"

The Commission was represented at this March 16 RESA event by a table-top display and an enthusiastic Master of Ceremonies who promoted Motz County Park every time she took the microphone. Pat Jackson was the MC. Pat recognized the participation of the Construction Trades Program students in the building of the park pavilion and she always mentioned the design awards that the park has received. Thank you, Pat!

Seasonal Park Rangers

2010 Park Rangers Dan Nelson and Luc Sutherland will be returning for the summer of 2011. I am seeking a university intern to fill the remaining open position. If an acceptable intern isn't found by mid-April, the position will be announced on the Clinton County web site. All of last summer's Park Rangers performed their duties exceptionally well. The Commission is fortunate to have Dan and Luc returning for another year.

Other Assignments/Activities in Progress

The following re-occurring or proposed tasks are listed for general information:

- Parkland and open space acquisition evaluation tool
- Agricultural Preservation Board – staff liaison
- Design, construct and install Maple River access site sign
- Community Development Department – general management
- Clinton County "Authorized Organization Representative" for federal grants
- Assist w/ creation of Clinton County Trail Advisory Council
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block program grant management
- *Clinton County Non-Motorized Facilities Plan* – written plan development