

**EMMET COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2009 12:00 P.M.
EMMET COUNTY COURTHOUSE
COURT ROOM
200 DIVISION STREET
PETOSKEY, MI 49770**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: LEXIE BRUMMELER, WENDY ARMSTRONG, DAN PLASENCIA
MEMBERS ABSENT: CHAIRMAN DEAN SHEERENS; LEROY GREGORY
STAFF: LORI MIER, SANDY HANSEN
VISITORS: NANCY SALAR, MONICA LINEHAN

I Call to Order

Armstrong called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. All members were present except Sheerens and Gregory.

II Minutes of November 20, 2008

Armstrong noted that she was absent from the November meeting, yet her name is listed as the person who made the motion to adjourn the meeting. After discussion, it was determined that Sheerens should be listed as making that motion. A motion was made by Armstrong to approve the November 20, 2008 meeting minutes as corrected. The motion was supported by Plasencia. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

III Headlands

Mier reported that the Headlands are very busy and there have been more bookings this winter than ever. They had discussed closing the guesthouse but with the amount of bookings it will stay open. There has been a lot of foot traffic and there are bookings into April. The property is in need of a trail groomer as the machine that they have now is not suitable for their needs. The beach house is closed for the season. Brummeler asked if everything is functioning well in the guesthouse. Mier responded that it was; however they are looking at ways to make the building more efficient as the large glass wall is not very heat efficient. Prices to upgrade the glass are being looked at. Plasencia suggested looking into window coverings as well. This would help when the house is not occupied.

IV Camp Petosega

Mier reported that they had troubles with frozen pipes on New Years day. The water was shut off, and the valves and shower head was replaced. There was also a break under the kitchen sink. The heat was on; however the wall vent motor seemed to have frozen open letting in the cold air. The lottery for the recreation hall worked well this year. Hansen stated that most got the dates they wanted and they are booked through summer. Campsite reservations have already been coming in. They are now site specific reservations. Mier stated that they are trying to educate the public so that they understand that if they want to extend their stay at a site, they may have to move if the site is booked for the extended dates. This information will be added to the website. The site numbers have changed and Hansen stated that the interactive map online accurately reflects these changes. It also allows one to highlight a site to see what amenities are available for that site and which sites are

designated as tent sites. Mier stated that the recreation hall hasn't had any septic issues since the pipe was lowered. There were also some downed trees during the last storms. A tree went through the hanger. The electricity is being repaired by White Pines Electric and the siding will have to be repaired. The extent of the damage from the downed trees won't be fully known until spring. The bath house is moving along; the roof is up and shingled. The next project at the campground is Winterfest. Hansen stated that the Scouts will be out to build igloos and stay over in them. There will also be games, food, races, and winter photography. There are posters to put up in the sporting goods areas once the waiver is received. The races are for 18 years and above. Hansen explained that registration for the races will be required. She added that eventually they would like to eventually have met the requirements to hold a national race there. Mier added that this would take a lot of work to do.

V Community Center

Hansen reported that there is a waiting list for reservations and there are currently four dates left available for the year. Armstrong asked about the reservation fees. They are \$600 for Emmet County residents, an additional \$150 if the kitchen is reserved, and reservations require a \$300 deposit. There are meetings, antique shows, and car shows booked and a possible week-long concert event pending for the Odawa. Mier stated that revenue is up \$190,000.

VI Nancy Salar-Emmet County Recreation Plan

Salar stated that the community forum flyer invites the members and the public to forums to discuss and gather information and input for the Recreation Plan. The first meeting is for public officials and community leaders and the second meeting will be for the public. At these meetings, the current plan will be reviewed as well as gathering input and ideas. The draft plan was reviewed. Salar noted that the yellow highlights the changes to be made. These changes are additions, deletions, or corrections based on input that has been received so far. The group reviewed the suggested changes; Salar will make the changes. She noted that the formatting will be done at the end of the process once everything has been added or removed in the text. Paragraphs were removed on page 6 and page 11 because they didn't fit. Salar pointed out that chapter 3 is the new chapter and was emailed or delivered to the members prior to the meeting. She noted that the breakdown of park types is per DNR policy types and the types that pertained to Emmet County parks were listed here. The acreage and available parks are broken down by townships. The chart with the park types, services, and accessibility is blank as more information is being gathered. Salar stated that she will be in contact with the townships and asked for any further information from any of the members. The State also requires a notation if any money has been received from them. Private/semi-private recreation and golf courses are listed; Salar asked again for any additions to these lists. Non-motorized trails are being worked on. Salar stated that she had met with Emily Myerson who gave her some suggestions. Plasencia stated that the Crooked Lake Outdoor Club which is located in Littlefield Township next to the Shores development should be included in the lists. Also, he stated that Eagle Beach is no longer in business and should be removed. Salar stated that the missing maps should be available prior to the next meeting. Hansen and Mier stated that they had read through the draft and saw no issues. Hansen asked Salar what her goal is with the forum meetings. Salar stated that she is looking for input from the public, additions to the plan, and local officials input. She explained that when finished, the plan will be adopted as a county-wide plan, but the townships can adopt as their township plan if they wish to as well. The plan is geared to meet the DNR standards for a county plan; more details are needed from the local officials.

VII Miscellaneous

Each of the members introduced themselves to Plasencia and gave him a bit of their background information.

The playground in Alanson was discussed.

Salar advised Plasencia that according to the committee rules, there should be no less than 3 Commissioners on this committee; currently there are two. She also noted that they lost one of the citizen representatives and the Commissioners have yet to appoint a replacement. Interested persons for that position have already submitted letters of interest to the clerk. Salar asked Plasencia to bring this up at the next Board of Commissioners meeting.

VIII Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next meeting will be February 17, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Board Room.

Motion to adjourn was made by Brummeler; seconded by Plasencia. The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.