

# ***Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission* Minutes**

April 14, 2016

The Murray County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission convened on April 14, 2016, in the Courts Meeting Room of the Murray County Government Center. The following voting members were present: Rick Clercx (Chair), Troy Wehking (Vice Chair), Justin Hoffmann, James Jens, Tom Kappes, Leroy Reese, and Doug Stewart. Ex-officio members in attendance were: Amy Rucker and Jean Christoffels. Also present was Lynn Wickmann.

Chair Clercx called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

## **Agenda:**

**MSP: Doug Stewart and Tom Kappes to approve the agenda.**

## **Open Forum:**

### *Request for Monument at Seven Mile Lake Park*

Lynn Wickmann presented a request on behalf of the Balaton Sportsmen's club. They wanted to do something to commemorate the work of Fred Tutt at Swenson Park. Sam Tutt, Fred's son, thought that Fred would not want to be named alone, so they decided to name Mr. Tutt's Parks Board colleagues along with him on a memorial. The Balaton Sportsmen's Club would pay for it. Mr. Wickmann presented a mock-up of a memorial that he suggested be erected near the flagpole. He stated that it is very preliminary. The mock-up showed the names of the 1972 Parks Board members engraved in stone. He said that it may end up being a metal plaque instead. He also said that while the mock-up shows just the names of the Parks Board members, he would like to include some history, too. He has requested and received information from the Balaton Historical Society and Heidi Winter and he will contact the Murray County Historical Society as well. Mr. Wickmann will continue with his research and come back to this group when he has a clearer idea of what the Balaton Sportsmen's Club would like the memorial to be.

## **Secretary's Report:**

**MSP: James Jens and Justin Hoffmann to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2016 meeting.**

## **Park Director's Report:**

- Justin Hoffmann read a "thank you" from Paul Horn's family.
- He said that someone has been "doing doughnuts" at Foreman Acres and End-O-Line via the bike trail.
- The Fulda camp host requested that the seasonal camping fee be reduced to \$1,000 from \$1,200. Justin noted that seasonal sites at the other parks were filled up as soon as the sites were offered this spring. No action was taken.
- A seasonal camper had asked if he moves his camper out of the park for a weekend, how can he reserve his spot? In response, Justin had signs made for the seasonal sites and had site number signs made, too. They are mounted on steel posts. He has started installing them.
- The County Commissioners approved cutting down some trees at East Lake Sarah in the boat launch area. They thought they should be taken down before the overlay this summer. The Commissioners asked that the area be reseeded and that a new tree be planted. Some township residents expressed the opinion that the area should be filled

in and overlaid for parking. There may be enough room for 6 trucks and trailers if it is striped diagonally. The area would need to be excavated and filled before paving. No action was taken.

- Justin would like to remove garbage cans from individual campsites. The wind blows the cans and their lids all over the campgrounds. He checked with the Department of Health and was told that it's OK to remove the cans from individual sites as long as there's a dumpster available for campers to dispose of trash. The garbage cans at boat landings and other public areas would remain in place. The Board agreed that he can try that this year and put the cans back at the individual sites next year if necessary.
- Water is on at End-O-Line, Marsh's Landing, East Sarah and Sundquist. Will turn on water at Seven Mile tomorrow and Swenson next week.
- A water meter was ordered for the bathroom at Swenson. It will tell how much is being used so that if the park is expanded, the septic system can be sized appropriately. Otherwise the generic state standard applies, which may require more than what is truly needed. New showerheads will be installed, too.
- There are issues with the fish grinder at Marsh's Landing and the dump station at Sundquist.
- The Lakers 4-H Club, about 15 kids and 10 parents, helped with cleanup at Swenson Park. They picked up branches, cleaned fire pits, raked sand in the playgrounds, replaced screws in equipment, picked up garbage in the tree line, put in posts for new signs, etc. They were there 2.5 hours and got a lot done. East Lake Sarah, End-O-Line, Foreman Acres and Marsh's Landing need to be cleaned up yet.
- Docks were put in on Lake Sarah yesterday. Two fishing piers need to be put in yet.
- The new sweeper works great.

### **Old Business:**

#### *2017 Park Projects*

Adding a bathroom at Lime Lake Park is on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) short-term list. The City of Dovray has a vault toilet that they've offered to Murray County for free. A new one, the size of the one at East Lake Sarah (9 x 18), which is smaller than Dovray's, would be \$4,827 installed. Justin will get some more information.

Also on the CIP is extending sewer to Sundquist Park. At the suggestion of Chris Hanson, Murray County Water Resources Administrator, Justin sent a letter to the Shetek Area Water and Sewer Commission (SAWS) expressing interest in hooking up. Chris said that the Commission reviewed the letter, and while not opposed to the proposal, no action was taken. They are awaiting action from the County Board. Justin will put the sewer extension in his 2017 budget and see what happens.

#### *Corabelle Park Proposed Name Change*

Troy talked with Pat Kremer. Pat said that the family decided that they don't want to move forward with requesting the name change.

#### *Seven-Mile Lake Park Sewer Hookup to Camp Host Site*

It is approximately 150 feet from the camp host site to the sewer. The hosts, Les and Sue Speckmeier, have a nephew, Brian Ackerman, who could be willing to run the pipe. According to Jean Christoffels, the County would need to submit a plumbing plan to Jason Kloss of Public Health. It was suggested to install a large enough pipe to enable hooking up all of the campsites at a later date. The City of Fulda will not charge a hook-up or usage fee for the one site. It's possible that the camp host site is too low. Justin will look into this further.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be June 9, 2016 at Lime Lake Park, weather permitting.

**MSP: Troy Wehking and Justin Hoffmann to adjourn the meeting.**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary –Murray County Parks & Recreation  
Advisory Commission

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President – Murray County Parks & Recreation  
Advisory Commission