

Members Present: President Joe Krapohl, V.P. Jim Washington, Commissioners: Mike Keeler, Joe Madore, Bryant Nolden, Gloria Nealy, Mike Lynch, Cloyce Dickerson, Jeff Wright

Members Absent: Secretary Bill Lucas

Staff Present: Amy McMillan, Director; Barry June, Deputy Director, Matt Armentrout, Director of Facilities Management; Leisa Gagne, Finance Officer; Danielle Fulcher, Marketing Specialist; Nancy Edwards, Program Specialist/Grants, Deborah Wilkes, Administrative Secretary; Patrick Linihan, Administrative Intern

Others Present:

1) Call to Order. President Krapohl presided and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2) Opportunity for members of the public to address the commission.

Paul Gibbs inquired about the equipment and digging going on at the Fair Grounds.

3) Consent Agenda. President Krapohl asked commissioners if there are any items they wish to remove from the consent agenda for discussion. No items were removed from the consent agenda.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Keeler

Supported by Commissioner Washington

Motion and support for approval of consent agenda items A through D, as listed.

Roll Call

Yeas: Dickerson, Wright, Krapohl, Nolden, Keeler, Nealy, Washington, Madore, Lynch

Nays: None

Absent: Lucas

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

4. Director's Report

A. Ms. McMillan asked Danielle Fulcher to introduce a guest. Ms. Fulcher introduced Eero Nurmi, a marketing intern from Baker College. He will be here for 120 hours this summer. He is sitting in to see how a commission meeting goes. (The commissioners welcomed him)

B. Resolutions: We have two resolutions ready for the commission today. We were working on the details until the end of yesterday. Back in March the Parks and Board approved an amendment to our agreement with the City of Flint that, among other things included assigning the Parks with the authority and responsibility to seek funding to support the Riverfront Restoration Project.

It is about a 36 million dollar project and we started the project with about a 21 million gap. We submitted placeholder applications to the St of MI DNR Trust Fund for two projects, a development and an acquisition project. One is for 13,333,333.33 and the other is \$400,000. One of the items on our to-do list is to have approved resolutions from the parks commission and

the Board of Commissioners. Mike Lynch, Chair of Public Works has waived this request through the Public Works Committee. The Board office and Corporation Counsel have been very accommodating in our time line to make this happen.

Madore: Is this property already established and owned by us or part of the larger acquisition?

McMillan: The way we will be structuring trust fund projects going forward is the development funds, there is a limit of \$300,000.00 per project for trust fund grants so we are breaking down development projects as we go forward. This section of the trail is in the Chevy Commons area of the restoration project. It is part of the overall project, but it is a single development element.

Madore: But the property that this development is on, who owns it now?

McMillan: It is currently under the ownership of CN Rail Lines. It is under negotiation at this time and we expect that to be complete early in the fall.

Madore: Who is going to be the owner by the fall?

McMillan: Either we will have an easement, which is sufficient under the terms of the grant or it would be transferred to the County.

Wright: The County at large or the County Parks?

McMillan: It would be transferred to the County because the County Parks does not own property, it manages property owned by the County.

Wright: The reason he asked is, he hopes that the person doing the negotiations is keeping in mind that there has potential for contamination on this site.

McMillan: Phase 1 and Phase 2 Environmental studies are being done at this time.

Wright: So any part of those negotiations should ensure this body and potentially the County Board is not responsible for future problems.

McMillan: That is also correct. The construction of that trail would essentially cap that line.

Keeler: Is that basically the full distance of Chevy Commons?

McMillan: No, it is about half. It is about an \$800,000 project so we would break it into two projects.

Keeler: To about Stevenson?

McMillan: Yes.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Washington

Motion and support for approval of Resolution # 006-16.

Roll Call

Yeas: Wright, Krapohl, Madore, Nolden, Dickerson, Washington, Lynch, Nealy, Keeler

Nays: None

Absent: Lucas

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

The next resolution is an acquisition.

Madore: The same question: is this City owned property or who owns it now?

McMillan: It is city owned property. This grant would acquire the recreation interests in the property.

Madore: Not the simple interest?

McMillan: No we will not ask the City to transfer the ownership of any property directly either to the County or the State. The process under which this would occur to utilize the funding is still a subject under considerable discussion with the state in order to get to that \$10 million. It is likely there will be some amendments in future action that is required going forward. But we need to hit the July 15 date for grant submission and Monday is the last time the BOC meets before July 15.

Madore: This is only to acquire the property, not to develop it? That would be down the road?

McMillan: Correct. That will be down the road.

Madore: If it is done and the Parks, and/or the County has the interest on the property is there any further responsibility on us or the County to patrol or maintain or do maintenance on it?

McMillan: We currently patrol it as part of the amended agreement with the City of Flint. Currently the Land Bank does a portion of the maintenance and the DDA does another portion of the maintenance. We are keeping those partnerships in place for the foreseeable future. Part of what we are working on as part of that overall funding structure is dollars to be dedicated for the overall maintenance of the project.

There are three issues that are running all concurrently with each other. They are all tied together, some of the acquisition, development and maintenance issues are part of that big puzzle that will all be resolved before we are done.

Madore: Do we know if anything will be put in our next budget for maintaining this project if it goes through?

McMillan: Our hope is that we will be able to do the in-stream work associated with the work in 2017. Consumers Energy is in the process of getting permits to do the remediation on the north side of the dam, which is a big multi-million dollar project. That needs to be complete before we can begin the in-stream work on the dam and going south. There are dollars that have been put in the overall budget for the State for 2016-17 that will allow us to remove the super structure of the Hamilton Dam. The Hamilton Dam is the most dangerous dam in the State of Michigan. The City and the County and various partners have been trying to get dollars for at least 10 years to remove the dam. That will come first, and then we expect, if all else goes well, we will be in-stream in September of next year as those dollars and permits are confirmed.

All of the in-stream work needs to be completed, not inclusive of Chevy Commons, we have a few EPA grants pending on that, needs to be done before any of the bank work at Riverbank Park. The in-stream work will essentially disturb the area by Riverbank Park, but not the amphitheater area.

We have the dollars in our budget that we assigned to patrols that we started in May. We begin mowing at Chevy Commons next week.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Washington

Motion and support for approval of Resolution # 008-16

Roll Call

Yeas: Lynch, Keeler, Nolden, Wright, Dickerson, Krapohl, Nealy, Washington

Nays: Madore

Absent: Lucas

MOTION CARRIED 8-1

C. Mission Statement and Core Values and Vision Statements

Ted Amsden worked with the commission and staff to finalize the process we started in February to review our mission statement and core values.

Krapohl: There is a summary of the work that both the staff and commissioners worked on. We thank the staff for their input. If you've had a chance to review the document, we would like you to take action by adopting the mission statement and core values that were the consensus.

Action Taken:

Motion by Commissioner Wright
Supported by Commissioner Nolden

Motion and support to adopt the strategic direction as listed in your packet with the Vision, Mission, Core Values and Core Value Statements.

Yeas: All ayes

Nays: None

Absent: Lucas

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

5) New Business In answer to the question from the public: A couple meeting ago we discussed that we are constructing an equestrian arena at the E. A. Cummings Center. This will be used solely for equestrian use so there will not be the competing interest in the main arena that currently exists. This is part of our overall master plan for the Cummings Center. We have secured the services of an expert in the construction of arenas, particularly as it relates to the footing of arenas. He does the major work at the Waterloo Hunt Club, which is where most of southeast Michigan folks come to show horses in dressage, hunter/jumper and jumping. He will be here in July to supervise the base of the arena's installation, which is the critical part of the

construction. We expect the project to be completed by the beginning of August if the weather cooperates.

6) Opportunity for Commissioners to address the Commission.

Madore: He just wanted to say regarding the City of Flint project, he is only concerned about us overextending ourselves and our obligation regarding funding, liability, maintenance, staff, patrols. He'd like to see us concentrate on our existing properties; that is his reason for voting no.

Nealy: She attended the Max Brandon Eco event and it was nice. The people attending enjoyed it, even though it was very hot.

McMillan: We'll also be showing off those improvements to the Ruth Mott Foundation tomorrow.

Nolden: He also attended with his two grandkids. It was a wonderful event and the park looks wonderful.

Wright: Glad to be back.

Keeler: Related a story about a trail ride to Saugatuck, South Haven, and Kalamazoo. His group of riders took the bike trails. This is the possibility as we start punching out more of these sections of trails and they connect to Columbiaville and if Atlas hooks to Grand Blanc. Folks will be coming to Genesee County to ride the trails and making it a destination. They will make it a 50 mile day, get a hotel, get something to eat. One of the wives didn't want to ride so she shopped all day long, so that is more money into the area. So these are possibilities as we link these trails, people will come from outside the area. We're doing good!

Krapohl: The parks do drive the economics in communities and there are numerous studies to show that. He'd like to see those trails connected as well.

President Krapohl commented to the general public: You don't always have to wait until a meeting to ask questions, feel free to call the office, even the office staff can answer your questions to let you know what is going on in the parks, or you can speak to the director and ask questions. You can call any time; you don't have to wait for a meeting.

7) Opportunity for the public to address the commission No one from the public addressed the commission.

8) Adjournment. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 am.

