

**MONROE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
BOARD MINUTES**

May 20, 2020 3:30 pm

Zoom Meeting

Board Members Present: Evelyn Harrell, Joe Goss, Amy Thompson, Dr. Carolyn VandeWiele, Kevin Dogan, J.D, Carol Walter, and Phil Cornwell

Staff Members Present: Kelli Witmer, John Robertson, Kay Medley, Matt Wilhoit, Jeff Sanders, Andy French, Beth Cossairt, and County Attorney, Margie Rice

Guest Present: Michael Nosofsky, Executive Director, Cutters Soccer Club, Michele Burns, President, Cutters Soccer Club, Penny Githens, Monroe County Commissioner

I. Meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m. by President Evelyn Harrell

II. Approval of the meeting minutes for April 15, 2020 –

Ms. Thompson made a motion to approve the April 15, 2020 meeting minutes, and Mr. Goss seconded.

The motion passed unanimously

III. Approval of the April 26 – May 17, 2020 Credit Card Charges –

Mr. Goss made a motion to approve the April 26 - May 17, 2020 credit card charges and Ms. Thompson seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. New Business

- A. Reopening Monroe County parks & facilities –** Ms. Witmer informed the Board that the schedule for opening County parks, Karst Dog Pak, and Detmer Garden is tentatively set for June 1. The Karst Splash Pad is closed for the 2020 season due to the impossibility of enforcing physical distancing in a small fenced in area.

Ms. Witmer stated that shelter rentals would be available on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 9am to 3pm with select shelters. One restroom facility will be open at each park that has such facilities. Mr. Cornwell asked what type of signage would be posted to inform the public of what is available when they enter the parks. Ms. Witmer stated that there have been numerous yard signs purchased with arrows indicating where open restroom facilities are located. There will also be various “wash your hands” and “social distancing” signs. Ms. Witmer noted that the park staff is removing non-essential park items in order to reduce frequently touched surfaces.

The Parks Board discussed drinking fountains and the Governor’s recommendations for reopening Indiana. The consensus was to shut off all park drinking fountains for now. Ms. Walter asked if it would be possible for the park concessionaire to sell water. Ms. Witmer informed the Board that Karen Smith has decided to quit as the park concessionaire due to additional regulations and the COVID situation. Coke Cola also informed the Department that they are removing the beverage vending machines from

Karst Farm Park due to poor sales.

The Board asked the park staff how they intend to notify the public of the opening of the parks and what amenities will be available. Mr. Robertson informed the Board that there are several different avenues used to notify the public: The MCPR website, Facebook, WCLS, The Herald Times, The Journal, the parks general mailing list, and posted signs at the parks.

- B. Touchless faucets + Cassidy + Weddle discussion** – Ms. Witmer informed the Board that most of the faucets in the parks are touchless except for ten. The staff recommends replacing those faucets with touchless faucets. Seven are located in restrooms, one in the Commons kitchen, and two at utility sinks. Ms. Witmer stated that the cost to replace the faucets, parts and labor from Weddle Plumbing is approximately \$8,225 plus electrical services provided by Cassidy Electric. After discussion, the Board decided to replace all the faucets that are not touchless.

Mr. Goss made a motion to approve the touchless faucets project for the estimated \$8,225 plus the electrical costs pursuant to the contract with Cassidy Electric. Mr. Cornwell seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Cutters discussion pertaining to fall 2020 season** –

Mr. Nosofsky updated the Board on the fall youth soccer schedule. He also mentioned that Cutters have been abiding by the State and local health guidelines pertaining to COVID-19 for athletic activities. Cutters has also been working closely with the Indiana Youth Soccer Association during these trying times.

Mr. Nosofsky said that the earliest Cutters would be able to hold tryouts is June 22. Activities depends upon which stage Monroe County is in and stage four is preferable. Mr. Nosofsky stated that Cutters would be sending out a survey to their members to ascertain how comfortable they are resuming soccer activities and group training.

Mr. Nosofsky informed the Board the youth/adult 3 v 3 tournament is scheduled for June 27, but the Cutters Board will be meeting soon to discuss the fate of the tournament. It has been difficult to plan due to the numerous uncertainties at this point.

Mr. Nosofsky asked the Parks Board to think about the possibility of modifying the Cutters soccer contract if fall soccer play is reduced or cancelled. Mr. Nosofsky appreciated the Board waiving the June fee due to the cancellation of the entire spring soccer season.

Ms. Witmer and Mr. French stated that the athletic fields are in good shape due to the spring closure. They reported that there should be adequate field maintenance supplies and money in the horticultural supply line to cover the remainder of the year. Ms. Witmer reminded the Board of the future need for a Dakota Turf Tender top dresser that may cost approximately \$15,000.

- V. Financial Reports** – Please read

Mr. Goss moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Dogan seconded.

President Evelyn Harrell adjourned the MCPR Board meeting at 4:46 pm

Amy Thompson - Secretary

Date

Minutes Prepared by Kay Medley