

Allegan County Parks Advisory Board



Allegan County Parks, Recreation &
Tourism
3283 122nd Ave
Allegan, MI 49010
269-686-9088
parks@allegancounty.org
<http://www.allegancounty.org>

Chairperson: Pam Brown
Vice Chairperson: Jaclyn Hulst

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – MINUTES

Tuesday, October 3, 2023 @ 8:30am

County Service Building – Board Conference Room -3283 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010

Pam Brown
616-490-1627
Allegan

John Clark III
269-274-2736
Allegan

**Daniel
Caywood**
616-291-1214
Dorr

**Mark
DeYoung**
616-318-9612
Dorr

**Joshua
Driscoll**
616-218-5797
Hamilton

**Kevin
Formsma**
616-886-7030
Hamilton

Jaclyn Hulst
616-834-2436
Zeeland

Tom Jessup
269-637-3374
South Haven

Jackie Metz
269-521-6524
Allegan

CALL TO ORDER: Brown called to order at 8:35am.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Brown, Driscoll, Formsma, Hulst, Jessup, Metz

Absent: Clark, Caywood, DeYoung

Also Present: Brandy Gildea; Jesse Lechner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Hulst, seconded by Driscoll to approve the June 06, 2023 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Feedback from Parks Tour.
2. Water Monitoring EGLE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion made by Driscoll, seconded by Hulst to approve the agenda including additional agenda items. The motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PARK ADMINISTRATION UPDATES: Gildea went over the administrative updates:

- Parks have been busy, recent weather warmup brings in late-season guests.
- Seasonal staff ends on October 19th. Seasonal Rangers through the end of the month.
- Modern Restrooms close 1st week of November.
- Awaiting news on DNR Sparks Grant.

REVIEW ITEMS:

1. **Financial Statements-** Gildea went over the expenditure and revenue statements located in the agenda packet. Gildea then went over the quarterly revenue comparisons.
 - a. Discussed price increases due to inflation. Will look at further at updating rental/usage fees to help recover costs and build into the 2025 budget process.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION ITEMS:

1. None
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DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Parks Tour Feedback

- Bysterveld Park-
 - Large green area.
 - Driveway is very bumpy.
 - Cute bridge at entrance.
- Dumont Lake Park & Launch-
 - Play area is mostly for younger kids.
 - Boat Launch – Restroom needs added to amenities list.
- Ely Lake- Not Toured
- Gun Lake Park & Launch-
 - Sign could use updated.
 - Crosswalk- To be discussed with road commission – Jessup.
 - Fencing to replace wooden barrier.
- Littlejohn Lake Park
 - Baseball fields are mowed
 - Bathrooms near pavilions unlocked when pavilion is in use.
 - Would be nice to see seating by the water, maybe a grill area.
 - Would make a great campsite.
- New Richmond Bridge Park & Launch
 - Needs sign for No bikes on bridge, pedestrians right of way sign.
 - Wood replacement needed on bridge.
 - Possible ORV connecting trail added in the future – DNR in works
- Silver Creek Park/ Campground
 - Would like to see more horse crossing signs outside on trail areas.
- West Side Park
 - Trees block view of water at south platform.
 - Fenced in grounds/playground.
 - QR code for flags possibly added later

2. **Park Ordinance Change Request** [Park Ordinance 1010.1](#)
 - a. to allow pets and equines on the beach at Ely Lake during the off-season

A motion was made by Jessup and seconded by Driscoll for no changes to be made to this Ordinance at this time for this request. Motion carried.

3. **Lifejacket Station Proposal at West Side County Park by the Fennville, Pullman, Lakeshore Rotary**

After review of the recommendations given by the MMRMA, The Fennville, Pullman, Lakeshore Rotary decided not to move forward with this proposal.

4. **2025-2029 Recreation Plan** – [2020-2024 Recreation Plan](#)
 - a. Review and update Section 6: goals/objectives
 - b. Discuss/plan public input session of draft plan -will be held during the April 2, 2024 parks board meeting)
 - c. Discuss how to gather more public input/feedback about parks and future planning

The parks advisory board and parks manager when through and drafted edits to the Section 6: goals/objectives in the recreation plans. Parks manager will finish edits and bring to review at the December meeting.

NOTICE OF PARK ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

- Vacancy: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Disc Golf Discussion (December 2023 meeting)

ROUND TABLE:

Formma: ODC River Junction Preserve Opening Saturday

Hulst: Sent brandy EGLE Grant Opportunity

ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting, December 5, 2023, @ 8:30 am in County Service Building – Board Conference Room -3283 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010

A motion was made by Hulst, seconded by Metz to adjourn the meeting at 11:45am. The motion carried.