

Allegan County Parks Advisory Board



Allegan County Parks, Recreation &
Tourism
3283 122nd Ave
Allegan, MI 49010
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<http://www.allegancounty.org>

Chairperson: Pam Brown
Vice Chairperson: Joshua Driscoll

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – MINUTES

Tuesday, June 4, 2024 @ 8:30am

County Service Building – Board 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 8:32am.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Pam Brown, John Clark, Mark DeYoung, Joshua Driscoll, Kevin Formsma, Jaclyn Hulst, Tom Jessup, Jackie Metz

Absent: Daniel Caywood

Also Present: Brandy Gildea, Jesse Lechner, Hailey Pearson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Hulst, seconded by Brown to approve the April 2, 2024 minutes. The motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by DeYoung, seconded by Brown to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

PARK ADMINISTRATION UPDATES:

- We got through the holiday weekend and all went well.
- Gildea explained the difference between a park ranger and the park maintenance team and the responsibilities of both.
- Gildea submitted the request to have more park ranger hours available through the 2025 budget process.
 - Discusses the usage of parks increasing and where things are requiring additional staff time.

REVIEW ITEMS:

1. Financial Statements
 - a. Review Quarter Revenue Comparisons
- Gildea reviewed 1st and 2nd quarter's revenue and budgets. Everything is on track. No new expenditures outside of everyday use. We actioned off old equipment and received a check for over 22,000 from Bidergy. This will go into the parks capital and

covers the costs of future capital. Quarterly comparisons show we are off to a great start.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION ITEMS:

1. None
-

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. 2025-2029 Recreation Plan – [2020-2024 Recreation Plan](#) –
 - Gildea discusses the Recreation Plan and reviews Section 7, Action Program. Clark asks that we add Littlejohn walking trails to the first page as an accomplishment. The needs and wants of the county are defined, from collaboration and volunteers, programming for park users, and the long-term forest management plan. Each Park's needs have been identified and listed out. The 2021 Special Review is listed out following the needs lists. This shows the park's priority projects and was integral to the Board of Commissioners's decisions regarding the parks. The Parks board suggests this section may not be needed. The 2025-2029 Priority list, focuses on top identified projects that need to be completed.
 - DeYoung discusses how in other communities there are big companies looking to put their name out, Allegan isn't as lucky to have bigger companies. Smaller companies are being hit up for all the small events on a regular basis. Discusses receiving revenue from things like people who pass away and want to donate to an endowment fund for the parks. The Board of Commissioners made a shift years ago to no longer fund parks through the general fund and only utilize funds from Shared Casino funds.

A Motion Jessup, seconded by Clark to recommended sending the priority list, even though we have not finished the process of approving the recreation plan, to the BOC for review and this draft to go to the public after the final proofreading. The motion carried.

NOTICE OF PARK ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Vacancy: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Park promotion and water levels.

ROUND TABLE:

Clark: Discusses spongy moth issues and skin reaction.

Jessup: Would like to see a "Enjoy Allegan County Parks" sign at each park.

DeYoung: Discusses Michigan Association of Counties letter to DNR.

Driscoll: Brought in an Allegan County trail map from the 60's to share. Shared promotional advertising for the disc golf baskets.

Hulst: Interested in getting other departments to collaborate with. Plans to proofread through the Recreation Plan and will share the results with staff.

ADJOURNMENT:

Next Meetings:

- Schedule Parks Meeting: August 13, 2024, @ 8:30 am - All-Day Parks Tour

A motion was made by Jessup, seconded by Brown to adjourn the meeting at 10:32am. The motion carried.