



ALLEGAN COUNTY
REQUEST FOR ACTION FORM

Completed RFA form must be attached to a work order request through the Track-It System. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Administration @ ext. 2633.

RFA#: 209-096
Date: 12/9/21

Request Type	Routine Items	Select a Request Type to reveal and complete required form.
Department Requesting	Parks	
Submitted By	Brandy Gildea	
Contact Information	EXT 2542	

Description

This work order is information and discussion only. No board action is required at this time.

As requested from the BOC 2021 Strategic Plan.

Board Priority Project from the 2021 Strategic Plan: Service Level Assessment: Recreation and Wellness

"Parks and Recreation – The current Parks plan does not expire until the end of 2024. As such, it was recommended the Citizen Survey and all of the Parks related comments from the Board Input Survey be referred to the Parks Department and Parks Advisory Board for evaluation of the current Parks plan. Recommendations may be formed for the Board’s consideration in the form of changes to the Parks plan to address the survey results, including recommendations for funding."

The review was completed by the Parks Advisory Board and the information below was the result of that review.

The next steps is for Parks to bring an official request to future BOC meetings on items #1 (Lease & Manage Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th) & #2 (West Side Park Beach Access – part 1 engineering) of the list below. The rest of the items on the list would be completed as funding becomes available.

Over this past year the parks board has taken the following steps to complete this.

Step 1: Review Feedback from Citizen Survey and Board of Commissioners Survey on improvements for Parks and Recreation including campgrounds. Feedback included:

Citizen Survey -

- Paths and walking trails
- Recreation opportunities
- Recreation programs

Board of Commissioner Survey -

- Quality of the Lake Michigan shoreline Access to county and state park
- Trails & biking
- Recreation activities for people who choose to live here
- Ability to provide more outdoor recreational opportunities is essential
- Restore access to the beach at west side park
- Accept the proposed park at 26th street Trowbridge dam
- Site improvements Silver Creek and Ely lake Campgrounds
- Trails, Parks, and water access
- Consider the work to include campground improvements, so that beginner campers, and glampers, feel welcome.
- Walking trails available throughout the year

Step 2: Discuss updates to current Goals and Objectives. Review and update information on action plans for County owned and operated Parks listed in Recreation Plan. Recommended changes and/or additions to Recreation Plan including recommended additions to the Park System.

After reviewing all items in step 2 over the past several Parks Advisory Board meetings the 1st priority was identified. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Langeance:

The Parks Advisory Board has no changes to the current recreation plan and recommends the BOC work with Trowbridge Township for assistance (funding), negotiate with the DNR to lease the Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th Street, and add it to the County Parks system. The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes -5, No -0, Absent -4


The Parks Advisory Board reviewed the improvement projects listed in the current Recreation Plan. They developed a list of priority projects that meet the goals and objectives of the current Recreation Plan and the feedback from the Citizen Survey and Board Input Survey.

A motion was made by Kapenga, seconded by Metz to recommend the BOC support of prioritization of projects as recommended by the Parks Advisory Board to include #4 – Silver Creek camp improvements to include updated camping, bathrooms, and non-equestrian walking trails. The rest of the numbered items on the list would shift down 1 number. The motion carried.

Following is the revised list that is being recommended:

1. Lease & Manage Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th
 - Add to the 2025-2029 Recreation Plan Inventory section – not necessary to add to current Recreation Plan as lease and operations would not begin until after this current plan expires.
 - Project would include a developed ten-acre park with Kalamazoo River boating access, walking trails, viewing areas, playground, pavilion and picnic areas.
2. West Side Park Beach Access
 - Develop a plan to restore ADA beach access and/or viewing points to Lake Michigan (See: Reestablishing West Side County Park Beach Lake Michigan Beach Access Word document & Excel spreadsheet)
3. Add playground equipment for Ely Lake Campground
4. Silver Creek Campground Improvements
 - a. Improvements to included modernize some campsites, add modern bathrooms with shower house and add walking trails (separate from Equestrian trails)
5. Dumont Lake Park - Bank/bridge stabilization project
 - Make necessary improvements to ensure the bank does not erode causing the loss of the drive into the park and entrance bridge.
6. Modern (water & electric) Campground at Littlejohn
 - Identify best locations for campground to include current baseball fields
 - Turn former concession building into shower house
7. New Richmond Park Improvements
 - Develop and install kayak launch
 - Add a pay machine and gate at current parking lot
 - Additional parking and no pay parking lot
 - Add improved location closer to river for sturgeon trailer
 - Create an area for presentation and fish release near river for education and sturgeon release opportunities
8. Modernize Bysterveld Park
 - Modern restroom (running water & electric)
 - Add electricity to the pavilion
 - Pave the entrance drive & parking lot to enable year round use
9. Miscellaneous priority projects identified as funding is available
 - Disc Golf Course
 - Build and install a 18 hole disc golf course
 - Update and replace Park Signage
 - Have same design/Entrance Signage at each park
 - Ensure all rules and information are the same for all parks
 - Add pay machine to Dumont Lake Boat Launch


Agenda Item #3- 2020-2024 Recreation Plan Review - Priority Projects & Operations- Support Documentation – Updated 12/7/2021



Strategic Goal: Provide valuable and necessary quality services to our customers.

Board Priority Project: Service Level Assessment

- Recreation and Wellness
 - Parks and Recreation - The current Parks plan does not expire until the end of 2024. As such, it is recommended the Citizen Survey and all of the Parks related comments from the Board Input Survey be referred to the Parks Department and Parks Advisory Board for evaluation of the current Parks plan. Recommendations may be formed for the Board's consideration in the form of changes to the Parks plan to address the survey results, including recommendations for funding.



June 24, 2021 UPDATE:

- This matter was assigned over to the Parks Advisory Board and we do anticipate a response by the end of the year.
- Commissioner Dugan advised that discussions regarding Trowbridge Dam Park continue. There is a meeting July 13 at 10 am. (online meeting)
- Parks signage should be reviewed as part of this project.

RESULTS:

Step 1: Review Feedback from Citizen Survey and Board of Commissioners Survey on improvements for Parks and Recreation including campgrounds. Feedback included:

Citizen Survey

- Paths and walking trails
- Recreation opportunities
- Recreation programs

Board of Commissioner Survey

- Quality of the Lake Michigan shoreline Access to county and state park
- Trails & biking
- Recreation activities for people who choose to live here
- Ability to provide more outdoor recreational opportunities is essential
- Restore access to the beach at west side park
- Accept the proposed park at 26th street Trowbridge dam
- Site improvements Silver Creek and Ely lake Campgrounds
- Trails, Parks, and water access
- Consider the work to include campground improvements, so that beginner campers, and glampers, feel welcome.
- Walking trails available throughout the year

Step 2: Discuss updates to current Goals and Objectives. Review and update information on action plans for County owned and operated Parks listed in Recreation Plan. Recommended changes and/or additions to Recreation Plan including recommended additions to the Park System.

After reviewing all items in step 2 over the past several Parks Advisory Board meetings the 1st priority was identified. A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Langeance:

The Parks Advisory Board has no changes to the current recreation plan and recommends the BOC work with Trowbridge Township for assistance (funding), negotiate with the DNR to lease the Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th Street, and add it to the County Parks system.

The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes -5, No -0, Absent -4

The Parks Advisory Board reviewed the improvement projects listed in the current Recreation Plan. The following have been identified as priority projects as they meet the goals and objectives of the current Recreation Plan and the feedback from the Citizen Survey and Board Input Survey:

1. Lease & Manage Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th
 - Add to the 2025-2029 Recreation Plan Inventory section – not necessary to add to current Recreation Plan as lease and operations would not begin until after this current plan expires.
 - Project would include a developed ten-acre park with Kalamazoo River boating access, walking trails, viewing areas, playground, pavilion and picnic areas.
2. West Side Park Beach Access
 - Develop a plan to restore ADA beach access and/or viewing points to Lake Michigan (See: Reestablishing West Side County Park Beach Lake Michigan Beach Access Word document & Excel spreadsheet)
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 - Have same design/Entrance Signage at each park
 - Ensure all rules and information are the same for all parks
 - Add pay machine to Dumont Lake Boat Launch

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: John Clark III

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – Minutes

Pam Brown
616-490-1627
Allegan

Tuesday, October 5, 2021 @ 8:30am
Zimmerman Room – Human Services Building – 3255 122nd Ave, Allegan MI 49010

John Clark III
269-274-2736
Allegan

CALL TO ORDER: Brown called to order at 8:34am

ROLL CALL:

Present: Brown, Clark, DeYoung, Kapenga, Langeance

Absent: Dugan, Dykstra, Formsma, Metz

Also Present: Brandy Gildea; Heather Bausick

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Langeance, seconded by Kapenga to approve the June 6, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Gale Dugan
269-694-5276
Otsego

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

**Samuel
Dykstra**
269-792-2945
Wayland

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion made by Kapenga, seconded by DeYoung to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried

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

PARK ADMINISTRATION UPDATES: Gildea went through the written administrative update that she sent out to them parks board.

Dean Kapenga
616-218-2599
Hamilton

- Last day for seasonal staff is 10/21/21
- Additional safety railings added at New Richmond
- Fence at Littlejohn not taken down. Hope to have removed by fall
- Floor resurfacing done at Gun Lake, West Side, Dumont, and Littlejohn
- Park Expenditures are on track
- Park revenue on track – Future concerns are dumpster costs
- 2020 revenue was \$111,397.61. So far in 2021 revenue is \$123,136.79 and we still have rest of fall.
- Capital Improvement projects in progress:
 - Gun Lake Park – watercraft launch replacement to begin May 2022
 - Pavement Maintenance – complete by fall 2021
 - Refinish restroom floors – complete by late September 2021
 - Playground equipment for West Side
 - Vehicle Replacement for parks staff – complete
 - Utility Box for F-350 truck - complete

Jackie Metz
269-521-6524
Allegan

**Maryl
Langeance**
269-694-9326
Otsego

REVIEW ITEMS:

1. **Financial Statements** – Gildea went over the expenditure and revenue statements located in agenda packet. Gildea then went over the quarterly revenues comparisons
 - Q1 – Similar to past first quarters
 - Q2 – Best second quarter ever
 - Q3 – great numbers compared to 2020 and previous years
 - i. Decrease in Dumont launch fees – could be because of less lake usage, higher gas prices, people are paying
 - ii. Slight decrease in pavilion rentals – not many early reservations made in spring because people not sure about Covid restrictions
 - iii. Equestrian trail fees down – very hot and buggy. Hopefully numbers increase as fall brings cooler weather
 - iv. Increase in Gun Lake and New Richmond launch fees.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION ITEMS:

1. Letter of Support for Blue Star Trail – Review and recommended to BOC/County Administrator a request for a Letter of Support from Friends of Blue Star Trail (FOBST). They are currently assisting to apply for a grant for a section in the Saugatuck area.
 - a. This trail will connect South Haven to Holland
 - b. This section of trail will not need any financial/maintenance support from Parks or the county

A motion was made by Kapenga, seconded by Clark to recommend the BOC/County Administrator authorize the Parks Manager send a Letter of Support to the Friends of Blue Star Trail(FOBST) for current and future grant applications that aid in the development and construction of Blue Star Trail project with the purpose to provide a non-motorized trail to connect people and communities from Holland to South Haven while improving their safety, wellness, economic health, and environment. The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes -5, No -0, Absent -4

Brown: Yes

Clark: Yes

DeYoung: Yes

Dugan: Absent

Langeance: Yes

Dykstra: Absent

Formsma: Absent

Kapenga: Yes

Metz: Absent

2. Bicycle/XC ski trail through State Game Area – Review and recommend to BOC/County Administrator a request for a Letter of Support from Rob

Allen/5A's for creating a bicycle/XC ski trail system through the Allegan County State Game Area.

- Rob Allen's group is working with DNR to create a trail system on the outskirts of the game area by Hamilton and Allegan.
- Current equestrian trails, hunting areas would not be disturbed
- Looking to use old XC trails/walking trails that have not been used or maintained in years.
- Clark questioned if trail would run by Littlejohn park and Gildea answered there were no plans at this time

A motion was made by Kapenga, seconded by Langeance to recommend BOC/County Administrator authorize the Parks Manager send a Letter of Support to Rob Allen/5A's for creating a bicycle/XC ski trail system through the Allegan County State Game Area. The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes -5, No -0, Absent -4

Brown: Yes

Clark: Yes

DeYoung: Yes

Dugan: Absent

Langeance: Yes

Dykstra: Absent

Formsma: Absent

Kapenga: Yes

Metz: Absent

3. Disc Golf Course @ Littlejohn Lake County Park – Clark discussed the addition of a course to be constructed at Littlejohn Park. Clark discussed using county equipment to make sure areas stay safe and clear for operation.
 - BOC approval needed before a grant can be written to request funding. Clark states most startup costs would be through donations and volunteer work but grants would be needed for toilets, additional signage, and potential bridge construction over the stream.
 - Kapenga advised the motion should be structured to include an overall financial obligation including costs to build, maintenance cost, usage costs, etc.
 - Gildea suggested to Clark to develop estimates for costs for all aspects of the course; including baskets, tees, tee pads, signage, maintenance, tree removal/stump grinding. Also to form a volunteer group/Friends group that would help budget costs and start a fundraiser to generate money for startup. 501(c)3 as an option for group also discussed.
 - Gildea will be preparing a spreadsheet for items needed from Clark that need to be put in place before a motion can be considered by the Parks board.

Once John gets all requested information it will be brought back to the the Parks Advisory Board for review and recommendation to the BOC.

4. West Side Park – Gildea reviewed three choices for new playground equipment for West Side Park, which is budgeted for in the Capital Improvement Plan.
 - In 2016 as a result of a property dispute over a section of the park it was determined that the neighboring land owner would pay the county \$12,500 for this section of property and as part of that agreement that money would be used to purchase playground equipment.
 - Gildea worked with Game Time, who is approved through MIDeal to determine option that would fall near the approved \$20,000 budget. Gildea also reached out to the public for feedback on what they would like to see placed at the park. General consensus was to replace merry go round or add something that is not located in any of our other parks.
 - After review the three options the Vista Treetop 2 structure, which is a climbing, and spinning structure that can be used by more than one child at a time was the preferred option. The Vista Treetop 2 structure is \$24,988.50, which is \$4988.50 over budget.

A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Langeance to recommend that the BOC allow for an additional \$5000 in funds from the parks capital funding for the purchase of the Vista Treetop 2 structure. The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes -5, No -0, Absent -4

Brown: Yes

Dykstra: Absent

Clark: Yes

Formsma: Absent

DeYoung: Yes

Kapenga: Yes

Dugan: Absent

Metz: Absent

Langeance: Yes

5. 2020-2024 Recreation Plan Review
 - a. Step 1: Discussed Parks Advisory Board recommendation from National Community Citizen Survey, Board and Elected Official Combined Board Survey and input from Parks Advisory Board Members
 - b. Step 2: Discussed any updates to current Goals/Objectives
 - c. Step 3: Discussed any updated info/action plans for County owned/operated Parks listed in Recreation Plan
 - d. Step 4: Recommended changes and/or additions to Recreation Plan(current Park system)
 - e. Step 5: Recommended Additions to the Park System
 - f. Step 6: Recommend to the BOC
 - i. BOC approve changes in current plan and be included in 2025-2029 recreation Plan
 - ii. Additional projects and or funding requests

Gildea went over all the steps and information that has been presented and reviewed at part meeting. She then stated that The Parks Advisory Board needed

to determine; 1.) Are there any changes or missed actions for parks in our current park system, 2.) Is there anything that needs to be added to our current park System 3.) What would be the top priority projects for the parks to recommend to the BOC.

Clark stated he thought the site plan at Littlejohn need to be changed as the current site plan shows campground plans for the back area of the park. Gildea stated that the most current approved BOC site plans are what are shown in the Recreation Plan but it is listed in the action section for the change to update site plan and no longer have campground at back of park. Discussion took place about adding the Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th Street to our county park system.

A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Langeance that after review of the recreation plan and additional information that they had no changes to the current recreation plan/parks and would recommend the BOC work with the Trowbridge Township for assistance (funding) and negotiate with the DNR to lease the Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th Street and add it to the County Parks system. The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes -5, No -0, Absent -4

Brown: Yes

Dykstra: Absent

Clark: Yes

Formsma: Absent

DeYoung: Yes

Kapenga: Yes

Dugan: Absent

Metz: Absent

Langeance: Yes

The Parks Board discussed priority projects & operations and currently identified four items currently that would be top priorities; West Side Park Beach Access, Playground Equipment for Ely Lake Campground, Modern Campground at Littlejohn and better compensation for and to keep parks staff (rangers/maintenance). Further discussion on this is needed.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Brown for Parks Advisory Board to review all park projects and operations at their December 7, 2021 meeting so they can then make a recommendation to the BOC for funding/priority of park projects/operations.. The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes -5, No -0, Absent -4

Brown: Yes

Dykstra: Absent

Clark: Yes

Formsma: Absent

DeYoung: Yes

Kapenga: Yes

Dugan: Absent

Metz: Absent

Langeance: Yes

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Gun Lake Park Improvements – Gildea reviewed site plan for the 2022 MNRTF grant in advance of the public input session.
 - Key items in site plan include moving handicap parking to accessible site near paved walkways, extending beach, sidewalk along front of park, new swings
 - A public meeting is scheduled for 10/12/21 from 5:00 pm -6:00 pm at the Gun Lake Park to get feedback from the community.

NOTICE OF PARK ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS: No openings at this time.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Issues at Silver Creek Campground with non-equestrian campers using sites which are larger and should be available to accommodate large horse trailers

ROUND TABLE:

Gildea: Gildea went over staff's schedules, and was worried due to those schedules that the park board member may have heard that services might be being missed. Board members stated they have not heard of any missed services or issues and will let us know if they do.

ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting –Tuesday, December 7, 2021 @ 8:30 am in Zimmerman Room - Human Service Building -3255 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010

A motion was made by Kapenga, seconded by Brown to adjourn the meeting at 11:09am. The motion carried.

Alleghan County Parks Advisory Board



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

Chairperson: Pam Brown
Vice Chairperson: John Clark III

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – Minutes

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 @ 8:30am

Zimmerman Room – Human Services Building – 3255 122nd Ave, Alleghan MI 49010

Pam Brown
616-490-1627
Alleghan

John Clark III
269-274-2736
Alleghan

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

Gale Dugan
269-694-5276
Otsego

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

Dean Kapenga
616-218-2599
Hamilton

Jackie Metz
269-521-6524
Alleghan

**Maryln
Langeance**
269-694-9326
Otsego

CALL TO ORDER: Brown called to order at 8:36am

ROLL CALL:

Present: Brown, DeYoung, Formsma, Kapenga, Langeance, Metz

Absent: Dugan, Clark

Also Present: Brandy Gildea; Heather Bausick, Duane Lemar, Deb Lemar, Dawn VanDyke, Barry VanDyke

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Kapenga, seconded by DeYoung to approve the October 5, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion made by DeYoung, seconded by Langeance to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried

PARK ADMINISTRATION UPDATES: Gildea went through the written administrative update that she sent out to the parks board.

- Littlejohn fence removed and recycled
- Floors resurfaced and walls painted at Gun Lake, West Side, Dumont, and Littlejohn
- ODC Programs have been planned and scheduled for 2022
- West Side Park –RFP for Beach Access Services has been released and received back
- Park Expenditures are on track
- Park revenue- to date revenue is \$138,060.14 which is an increase of \$26,662.53 from last season
- Capital Improvement projects in progress:
 - Gun Lake Park – watercraft launch replacement to begin May 2022
 - Playground equipment for West Side has been ordered and will be installed spring 2022

REVIEW ITEMS:

1. **Financial Statements** – Gildea went over the expenditure and revenue statements located in agenda packet. Gildea then went over the quarterly revenues comparisons

- Down for the year at Dumont boat Launch, Silver Creek and Ely Equestrian trail fees
- Large increases for the year at Ely and Silver Creek campsites
- Increase in Bysterveld pavilion usage, and season pass sales are up
- Overall, parks budgeted for \$95,910 and expenditures to date are \$90,239.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION ITEMS:

1. 2022 Parks Advisory Board Meeting

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February 1	8:30am	Board Conference Room
April 5	8:30am	Board Conference Room
June 7	8:30am	Board Conference Room
August 2	8:30am	All Day Parks Tour
October 4	8:30am	Board Conference Room
December 6	8:30am	Board Conference Room

A motion was made by Langeance, seconded by Metz to accept the schedule presented for the 2022 Parks Advisory Board Meetings. The motion carried.

2. Gun Lake Park Improvements

- Gildea reviewed site plan and noted there have been no changes in plan since last presented
- Gildea showed costs including the breakdown in costs for all parts of the projected project. Brown expressed concerns about price increases and Gildea reassured her that the engineering firm is estimating for inflation or additional costs.
- If approved, Gildea will work with engineering firm to complete the grant. An appointment will be made to meet with the public for input, then application would be submitted 4/1/22. Grand approval wouldn't be awarded until 12/2022 and work would begin spring 2023.

A motion was made by Kapenga and seconded by Formsma to recommend Parks Manager proceed with 2022 MNRTF grant development based on the attached list of improvement items and to authorize up to \$116,100 for local match. Motion carried.

3. 2020-2024 Recreation Plan review – Priority Projects and Operations equipment

- Gildea reviewed the entire Recreation Review process that the Parks Board has completed.
- Gildea presented ideas and recommendations for priority items on the support documentation included in the agenda packet
- Kapenga stated he felt the two most used parks, Ely and Silver Creek, should be a priority and more funding should go to these parks because they are used more. This may include playground equipment and concrete pads.

- Formsma stated he would like to see more pedestrian walking trails at Ely and Silver Creek. Especially around the lake at Ely.
- Deyoung stated restoring the ADA access at West Side is important because it was part of a grant originally and maintaining a previous grant project is important to secure future grants.
 - a Gildea discussed the ADA access at West Side Park and which option would be the best fit to restore access and be structurally sound. These included a concrete path, a tunnel, a wood/metal ramp, and preserving the bluff. Gildea indicated that a concrete path could be constructed along the drainage area and have concrete or metal piling to hold back sides of the path. This concrete path would end at the bottom of the bluff and then a 30ft transition area could be placed (i.e. mats) that could be removed in the winter.
 - b Kapenga noted the original wood structure ramp cost around \$240,000 and once eroded, had to be removed completely. He stated protection of the bluff from erosion must be addressed before putting another structure in.
 - c DeYoung suggested Parks should work with Army Corp of Engineers to discuss our options when working with erosion of bluffs on the lake. DeYoung also noted that the South stairs need replacing and shouldn't go straight down and viewing areas should be incorporated.
 - d Formsma indicated he would like the bluff kept as natural as possible and not to be too invasive for the sake of ADA access. Brown and Langeance agreed.

A motion was made by Kapenga, seconded by Metz to recommend the BOC support of prioritization of projects as recommended by the Parks Advisory Board to include #4 – Silver Creek camp improvements to include updated camping, bathrooms, and non-equestrian walking trails. The rest of the numbered items on the list would shift down 1 number. The motion carried.

Following is the revised list that is being recommended:

1. Lease & Manage Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th
 - Add to the 2025-2029 Recreation Plan Inventory section – not necessary to add to current Recreation Plan as lease and operations would not begin until after this current plan expires.
 - Project would include a developed ten-acre park with Kalamazoo River boating access, walking trails, viewing areas, playground, pavilion and picnic areas.
2. West Side Park Beach Access
 - Develop a plan to restore ADA beach access and/or viewing points to Lake Michigan (See: Reestablishing West Side County Park Beach Lake Michigan Beach Access Word document & Excel spreadsheet)

3. Add playground equipment for Ely Lake Campground
 4. Silver Creek Campground Improvements
 - Improvements to included modernize some campsites, add modern bathrooms with shower house and add walking trails (separate from Equestrian trails)
 5. Dumont Lake Park - Bank/bridge stabilization project
 - Make necessary improvements to ensure the bank does not erode causing the loss of the drive into the park and entrance bridge.
 6. Modern (water & electric) Campground at Littlejohn
 - Identify best locations for campground to include current baseball fields
 - Turn former concession building into shower house
 7. New Richmond Park Improvements
 - Develop and install kayak launch
 - Add a pay machine and gate at current parking lot
 - Additional parking and no pay parking lot
 - Add improved location closer to river for sturgeon trailer
 - Create an area for presentation and fish release near river for education and sturgeon release opportunities
 8. Modernize Bysterveld Park
 - Modern restroom (running water & electric)
 - Add electricity to the pavilion
 - Pave the entrance drive & parking lot to enable year round use
 9. Miscellaneous priority projects identified as funding is available
 - Disc Golf Course
 - Build and install a 18 hole disc golf course
 - Update and replace Park Signage
 - Have same design/Entrance Signage at each park
 - Ensure all rule, information is the same at all parks
 - Add pay machine to Dumont Lake Boat Launch
-

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Silver Creek Campground
 - Duane and Deb Lemar 2255 104th Ave Zeeland, MI spoke in regards to issues they have dealt with over this past summer. They have had several encounters with non-equestrian campers, especially concerned with the homeless campers staying in the park. They are concerned with liability issues they may face or the county may face from inexperienced public in dealing with horses. Duane believes many campers and riders are not paying and would like to see a full time staff member at the campground to collect money and monitor campers.
 - Dawn and Barry VanDyke spoke in regards to remote control cars and motorized vehicles bothering/spooking the horses
 - Brown would like to see equestrian and non-equestrian sites and to keep these campers separate

- Gildea stated that Silver Creek is a public campground and cannot discriminate on types of campers nor can campers be asked if they are homeless. Any changes to fees or sites would be up to the BOC. As long as campers are keeping sites maintained and aren't a nuisance, they cannot be kicked out or denied stay until they reach the max stay of 15 days.
- Kapenga suggested a Campground Host for each Ely and Silver Creek to monitor campers, report issues, and collect fees if needed. Gildea stated a job application would need to be developed for this position and applications could be requested and reviewed.
- Gildea stated that pay for rangers would be increasing next year and that may recruit more applicants. Also, the suggestion of camp hosts at Ely and Silver Creek will be explored.
- Brown will put all her info together she has collected from riders and present to Gildea as some possible solutions to this issue

NOTICE OF PARK ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

- **Vacancy: term expires 12/22**
- **Vacancy: term expires 12/24**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Sign Inventory/Possible Upgrades
2. Army Corp of Engineer Speaker to address West Side Erosion
3. Donors

ROUND TABLE:

Gildea: Thanked Marlyn for her service. Presented snapshot of new county website and new tourist and heritage trail page. Merry Christmas to everyone.

DeYoung: Dorr Twp rec/business association had a Christmas tree lighting and hundreds showed up. Great turnout.

Kapenga: New county website that is very user friendly.

Metz: FACETS has volunteered 1,204 hours in 2021 on the equestrian trails.

Langeance: Merry Christmas

Brown: Thanked the board for listening to public concerns. Read an email from John Clark III regarding disc golf course and mapping.

Formsma: Thanked Marlyn. Enjoyed seeing the year end park numbers.

Bausick: Merry Christmas.

ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting –Tuesday, February 1, 2022 @ 8:30 am in

Board Conference Room – 3283 122nd Ave Allegan, MI 49010

A motion was made by Kapenga, seconded by Brown to adjourn the meeting at 11:14am. The motion carried.