

CARBON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING OF AUGUST 13, 2021

The August 13, 2021 meeting of the Carbon County Parks and Recreation Commission was held at the Carbon County Environmental Center beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present – Thomas Wildoner, Chairman; Earl Henninger, Vice-Chairman; Richard Forgay II, Secretary; Robert Sikorsky, Member.

Park Staff Present – David Horvath, Park Director.

Commissioner Chris L. Lukasevich was also in attendance.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – Mr. Wildoner called the meeting to order and led the group in pledging allegiance to the American flag.

HEARING OF VISITORS – Jeremy Barbosa representing Riley’s Home Décor and Adrian Allen, president with Raising the House gave a presentation on a drive through Christmas Lights Display that they would like to have at the park running from November 26th through January 02nd on Friday, Saturday, and Sundays from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. excluding Christmas Day and New Years Day. The park board held a discussion concerning the request and raised questions relating to winter road maintenance, traffic control, and needed approvals from Jim Thorpe Borough and Summit Hill Borough.

MINUTES – Motion made by Mr. Sikorsky to approve the minutes of the July 09, 2021 meeting of the Carbon County Parks & Recreation Commission as written, seconded by Mr. Henninger. All board members were in favor.

VOUCHERS/PURCHASE REQUISITIONS – Motion made by Mr. Forgay to recommend approval of vouchers and purchase requisitions submitted for the month of July totaling \$102,847.98, seconded by Mr. Henninger. All board members were in favor.

COMMISSIONER REMARKS – Commissioner Lukasevich requested an update on Memorial Benches and commented on plans for a new PA System at the beach.

PARK OPERATIONS –

Kayak Racks Boat Launch B – Mr. Horvath reported that the kayak racks that were purchased for additional mooring space at Boat Launch B have been delivered. Mr. Horvath reported that the three kayak racks were purchased at a cost of \$2,744.94 and will provide for eighteen (18) additional spaces. Mr. Horvath reported that the racks would be installed prior to next season.

Heritage Festival – Mr. Horvath reported on the planning of the Heritage Festival for September. Mr. Horvath reported that it has been difficult to get food vendors to commit to the event this year. Mr. Horvath stated that some food vendors have already committed to other events or have decided to wait until next year. Mr. Horvath stated that several food vendors have committed for next year already. Mr. Horvath stated that crafters have been difficult to find as well. A discussion was held regarding as to whether to charge or not for the festival. Mr. Sikorsky felt that there should be no charge if the festival were limited this year. Mr. Wildoner, Mr. Henninger, and Mr. Forgay were in favor of charging.

Park Maintenance – Mr. Horvath reported that the sewer line was blocked at the group camping area restroom/shower facility. Mr. Horvath stated that All State Septic was contacted to clear the line.

Mr. Horvath reported that the park is experiencing an electrical problem at the Agnes McCartney pavilion. Mr. Horvath reported that there is not enough power to operate the stove. Mr. Horvath stated that Jack Herman, Lead Maintenance, believes there is a problem with the underground line.

Mr. Horvath reported that repairs were made to a leak in the roof of the maintenance garage.

Mr. Horvath reported that additional 2A modified will be needed for the camping area roads. Mr. Horvath reported that additional repairs are needed to pot-holes and washouts following recent rain events.

Mr. Horvath reported that two of the Part-Time Seasonal Park Maintenance employees will be returning to school for the fall semester. Mr. Horvath noted that both employees were a big help with trimming, mowing, cleaning restrooms, and trash removal.

Mr. Horvath reported that an additional donation for a Memorial Bench was received bringing the total to six benches. Mr. Horvath reported that the benches will be ordered during the off-season with installation of the benches planned for next spring.

Park Security – Mr. Horvath reported that the County has approved the use of funding through the through the PCORP Loss Prevention Grant program in the amount of \$1,339.85 for a new PA System at the beach. The current PA system is no longer operational. Mr. Horvath noted that the PA System will be used to make important announcements such as weather closings and re-opening times.

Mr. Horvath reported that he was informed that the park should expect to receive the new rescue/patrol boat and motor in the fall.

Mr. Horvath reported that the several lifeguards will be returning to school for the fall semester. Mr. Horvath reported that there will be shortages on some days during the month of August particularly during the final two weeks. Mr. Horvath reported that park rangers assisted lifeguards with an unattended child at the swimming area. Mr. Horvath reported that park rangers assisted the Summit Hill Police Department concerning a welfare check at a cabin site last evening. Children and Youth Services were contacted.

SPECIAL ACTIVITY REQUESTS – A request was submitted by Kevin Steigerwalt on behalf of Boy Scout Troop 777 for use of Camp Apple Tree to hold Monday night meetings and occasional weekend campouts. Motion made by Mr. Sikorsky to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Henninger. All board members were in favor.

A wedding request was received from Cathy Raabe and Gregory Pastore. Motion made by Mr. Forgay to approve the request for use of the beach area or lawn area next to the Extension Office on September 25th, seconded by Mr. Sikorsky. All board members were in favor.

A wedding request was received from Bobbie Hefferan and Rich Beagle. Motion made by Mr. Sikorsky to approve the request for the beach area on October 23rd, seconded by Mr. Forgay. All board members were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Horvath reported that there was no correspondence for the August meeting.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion made at 11:00 a.m. by Mr. Henninger to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Sikorsky. All board members were in favor.

Richard Forgay II, Secretary