

**CARBON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2021**

The September 10, 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 – There were no visitors present for the September meeting.

MINUTES – Motion made by Mr. Sikorsky to approve the minutes of the August 13, 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 August totaling \$72,581.47, seconded by Mr. Sikorsky. All board members were in favor.

COMMISSIONER REMARKS – Commissioner Lukasevich thanked the park staff for their work and dedication during the season noting that the park receives many positive reviews and comments throughout the year.

PARK OPERATIONS –

Lights At The Lake – Mr. Horvath reported that Raising the House is currently working on obtaining approvals from Summit Hill Borough and Jim Thorpe Borough for the Lights at the Lake drive-through holiday light display that they would like to have at the park. Mr. Horvath stated that the need for the approvals was one of the Special Conditions that was included in the Special Activity Agreement request form. Mr. Horvath reviewed the other Special Conditions that included the right of the County to cancel the event on any day for weather or for any other reason in which the County may deem necessary for safety reasons. Mr. Forgay questioned who would make the decision to cancel the event on a given day. Commissioner Lukasevich stated that the recommendation would come from the Park Director. Mr. Wildoner questioned whether it should be required that PA Dept of Transportation be notified due to the fact that the event is occurring during the winter months. Mr. Henninger noted that Lentz Trail is usually one of the last roads to be plowed. Mr. Wildoner questioned if they would have enough volunteers and fire police support for traffic flow at night. Commissioner Lukasevich stated that he had no concerns with Raising the House getting the support and help it needed. Mr. Forgay stated that there are many questions yet relating to security and logistics. Mr. Forgay stated that he also felt that the park was not intended for this type of activity. Mr. Sikorsky agreed and stated he was not in favor of the idea also citing park staffing availability around the holidays.

Pow Wow Festival – Mr. Horvath reported that the Pow Wow Festival will be held this weekend on September 11th and 12th. Mr. Horvath stated that the event has moved from one day to two days and was

well attended in 2019. Mr. Horvath reported that there will be two food vendors and several crafters on hand. Mr. Horvath stated that the food stand is also considering opening for the event. Mr. Horvath noted that the event will run from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on both days.

Park Maintenance – Mr. Horvath reported that the beach area pump stations are currently operating on only two pumps as opposed to four. Mr. Horvath reported that he was informed that two pumps will need to be replaced for next season. Mr. Horvath reported that he will budget for additional grinder pumps for next year.

Mr. Horvath reported that there is currently no power at the Agnes McArteny pavilion. Mr. Horvath reported that he was informed that there is an electrical issue underground. Mr. Horvath reported that park maintenance is currently assessing the issue to determine whether a new line can be pulled through the conduit.

Mr. Horvath reported that two Seasonal Maintenance employees have returned to school for the fall semester. Mr. Horvath reported that another seasonal employee will also be approaching his hourly threshold for the season. Mr. Sikorsky suggested requesting additional hours for the employee if needed due to the circumstances with the lack of help.

Mr. Horvath reported that he would like to get the lighting at the boat launches as soon as time and scheduling permits. Mr. Horvath stated that he would also like to return to working on repairs to the section of Shoreline Trail leading from the camping area. Mr. Horvath stated that there are several walkways that need to be completed.

Mr. Horvath reported that the maintenance staff will begin preparing for the Heritage Festival this upcoming week.

Park Security – Mr. Horvath reported that the park lost power sometime overnight on September 01st. Mr. Horvath reported that fortunately the power was restored around 12:00 Noon on September 03rd prior to campers arriving for Labor Day Weekend. Mr. Horvath reported that the swimming area was closed on September 02, 03, 04, and 05th due to high water levels resulting from the storm event. Mr. Horvath reported that the swimming area re-opened on Labor Day. Mr. Horvath stated that there was a light crowd for the holiday despite Beltzville remaining closed.

Mr. Horvath reported that the park rangers assisted the boat rental with responding to a paddle boat. Commissioner Lukasevich reported that the new boat and motor is now expected sometime in November.

SPECIAL ACTIVITY REQUESTS – There were no Special Activity Requests for the meeting.

Mr. Horvath noted that the Alzheimer's Associating is planning to hold a Memory Walk on Saturday, October 03rd. Mr. Horvath reported that the park is awaiting the request form and insurance.

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

ADJOURNMENT – Motion made at 11:10 a.m. by Mr. Forgay to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Henninger. All board members were in favor.

Richard Forgay II, Secretary