

Roscommon Metropolitan Recreation Authority (RMRA)
September 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sue Jock at 7:00 p.m. at the CRAF Center.

Present: S. Jock, D. Smitz, M. Bryd, C. Allen, Roscommon Village Clerk swore in Derek Smitz, Maryln Byrd and Connie Allen

Karrie Williams and Matt Nester will be sworn in at the Village Hall (excused)

Election of Board Members: Chair – Sue Jock

Motion S. Jock, 2nd C. Allen Co-Chair – Derek Smitz

Motion S. Jock, 2nd C. Allen Treasurer – Marlyn Byrd

Motion S. Jock, 2nd M. Byrd Secretary – Connie Allen

Recognition of Guests: J. Borak (AuSable River Center), J. Tucker (AuSable River Center & Christmas in the Village), P. Tucker (AuSable River Center & Christmas in the Village), R. Edwards (Roscommon Historic Model Train Club)

Approval of Agenda – Motion C. Allen, 2nd M. Byrd

Minutes – Motion to accept as presented M. Byrd, 2nd S. Jock

Correspondence – Gahagan insurance claim paid, check given to J. Mellgren; Letter received from Jerry Adair, discussing risk management; PAR Grant Plan information shared; Michelle Stevenson is the county contact.

Treasurer Report – M. Byrd – As of August 31, 2012 Checking account balance \$4,262.74, savings account balance \$356.59, motion to accept S. Jock, 2nd C. Allen, report filed subject to audit.

Reports:

Recreation Authority – S. Jock – Metro Park is closed for the season, shed has been re-shingled, floors and walls painted. Tisdale Trail cleaned by St. Michael's Youth Group, trail will be brush hogged soon and maintained by Bill Torongo. The Jeep Jamboree sponsored by Nester Chevrolet will allow RMRA to participate to raise funds with entrance fees and a 50/50, Nester Chevrolet will cover insurance liability for the event which will be held October 20, 2012.

AuSable River Center – J. Borak – Canoe Raffle held September 15 at Michigan Firemen's Memorial Festival. Canoe won by Ron Miller. Visitors from Port Huron on a bus tour visited the Center this morning.

Christmas in the Village (CIV) – J. Tucker – All lights on the trees on the lawn of the CRAF Center and gazebo will be LED. They will be put up in time for CIV and taken down the first week in January. The Village pays for the electric, the lights are on a timer. CIV will hold a pastie sale in January with orders taken at CIV, December 1. If the concert is held this year it will be November 30.

CRAF Center – M. Byrd – Presented financial report as of August 31, 2012. Expenditures are down from last year. Membership numbers are staying consistent. All inside lights have been replaced with new energy efficient ballast and bulbs.

Gahagan Nature Preserve – J. Mellgren – (Report presented by S. Jock) – Holding their Annual Membership meeting October 14. We are recruiting new board members. This year's day camp was a success. Area schools will be for their annual fall field trips. The Board is considering creating a part-time naturalist position for the preserve starting sometime in 2013. Brian and Mary Hutchins, Tom Dale and Tracy Bosworth have authored a biography of Marguerite Gahagan. The book will be available at our annual meeting and open house October 14.

Old Business:

Village of Roscommon Recreation Plan - Shared with those present. The Plan includes the area's recreation inventory, along with goals and objectives for the next five years. Included in the plan are trails for walking, biking and running, new playground equipment, expand and update the park, increase public awareness of recreation opportunities in the area, provide more activities across the age spectrum, improve access to the Village for ORV, ATV and snowmobiles, and preserve open space for future growth.

By-Laws – S. Jock distributed a copy of the By-Laws to those present. Under the Open Meetings Act the law states that within 10 days of the first meeting of a public body in each calendar or fiscal year the body must publicly post a list stating the dates, times and places of all its regular meetings at its principal office. If there is a change in schedule, within three days of the meeting in which the change is made, the public body must post a notice stating the new dates, times and places of regular meetings. Minutes will be forwarded to the Roscommon Village Clerk and the Higgins Township Supervisor.

CRAF Center Light Project – M. Byrd – The project has been completed.

2013 Gazebo Concert Series – M. Byrd – The grant application is due October 1 and has been completed. Motion by S. Jock, 2nd by C. Allen to approve grant request to the Michigan Arts & Cultural Affairs Council for the 2013 Gazebo Concert Series.

New Business:

Review and update current Personnel Policies – S. Jock – M. Byrd has a copy and will scan the policy for the board.

Safety Plan for current public areas – S. Jock – A park safety walk thru has been completed, all damaged equipment has been removed and documented; all safety hazards must be documented; we must have a safety plan for public areas.

Awareness of Authority and Activities offered – S. Jock – develop a plan, network with other area groups (non-profits, churches, recreational, etc.) to promote activities and events to the public.

Financial Plan – S. Jock – We must develop a plan for RMRA financial security. We currently have approximately \$4,000. Methods to increase our funds are fundraising activities, levy a millage, or offer bonds. We can apply for grants. The Nester Jeep Jamboree will bring us some much-needed revenue. Brainstorm and bring in ideas at our next meeting. We need to do 2 or 3 large fundraising events each year.

Activities sponsored by RMRA – We need new playground equipment; S. Jock is currently writing a grant; bike paths (in the Village Rec Plan); improvements to Metro Park, remove/replace tennis and basketball courts. The Park is always in use. Roscommon Rotary will be approached for matching funds; HME, a sponsor of the Michigan Firemen's Memorial Festival has expressed an interest in investing in Roscommon. Each RMRA Board member is asked to compile and prioritize a list of 10 activities, to cover all age groups, to promote within the community. What children programs need to be established for 2013? (NOTE: Metro Park is not in the DDA District) DDA, along with the Village, are working together on sidewalk replacement.

Michigan Township Participating Plan – Grant request open as of October 1. We need to review and access our needs and submit a grant.

Roscommon Historic Model Train Club – R. Jones – The riding train has been put away for the winter, but will be available for CIV. Electrical power has been added so that lights and 'lawn ornaments' can be set up in the center section of the tracks. The Club sponsors all the Christmas lights in the Village storefronts and are preparing train layouts for storefront window displays. We are currently open on Saturdays. We will be attending a train show in Stafford, representing Roscommon. A new trifold is being produced and a raffle will be held to raise funds for the Club.

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn D. Smitz, 2nd M. Bryd. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m. The next meeting will be November 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the CRAF Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Allen

Secretary