

**Van Buren County Parks Commission Board
 Regular Meeting Minutes
 March 14, 2023**

**Physical Location: Conference Room 303
 Van Buren County Administration Building
 219 E Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw MI 49079**

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum and Attendees

At 11:01 AM, by Chair Mike Chappell with attendees/absentees/status as follows:

Board Member Attendance Report--Parks and Recreation Commission										
<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Attendance/Quorum Status</i>	<i>Declared Remote Location</i>			<i>Present Anytime</i>	<i>Present @ Start</i>	<i>+ Late Arrivals</i>	<i>- Early Departs</i>	<i>Present @ End</i>
			<i>Municipality</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>State</i>					
Mike Chappell	Chair	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
John Small	Vice Chair	Did not attend meeting				No	No	✓	✓	No
Wayne Nelson	Secretary	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Joe Parman	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Kurt Doroh	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Ryan Post	Member	Did not attend meeting				No	No	✓	✓	No
Dick Godfrey	Member	Did not attend meeting				No	No	✓	✓	No
Paul Garrod	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
Emily Hickmott	Member	Attended physically				Yes	Yes	✓	✓	Yes
<vacancy>	Member	Did not attend meeting				No	No	✓	✓	No
Count:						6	6	0	0	6
Members Present:							6 of 9	6 of 9	6 of 9	6 of 9
Quorum (Yes/No):							Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- a. **Board Members Present (6); Board Members Absent (3); Board Vacancies: (1).** A quorum (6 of 9) is initially present, and a quorum remained throughout the meeting.
- b. **Staff and Others Present:** None

2. Approval of Agenda--The prepared agenda, modified by the additional of Item 5a, was approved 6-0 on the motion of Parman, supported by Doroh.

3. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting held February 14, 2023--The proposed minutes of the meeting were included in the agenda packet. The minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0 on the motion by Doroh, supported by Garrod.

4. Public Comment—None

5. New Business—

- a. **Non-Profit Coordinating Effort—**Information was received from Sandra Merchant, President of the VBC Historical Society, Inc., that a meeting of various non-profit entities was held on March 13, resulting in the concept to establish a coordinating effort to manage public exposure for the entities. There was a consensus to support this effort.

6. Unfinished Business—

- a. **Board Vacancy and Representation Status—**There was no action to report on the remaining Board vacancy. Regarding the status of Board Member Ryan Post, it apparently was the intent that this position would be served by the incumbent VBC Finance Director and not by Mr. Post individually. It was clarified that the board position runs with the office of VBC Finance Director and not Mr. Post individually, approved by a vote of 6-0 on the motion of Doroh, supported by Parman.
- b. **County Fair Board and Museum Leases—**The current lease between the county and the Van Buren County Historical Society was distributed in the agenda packet. Nelson announced that the county's GIS staff is reviewing this lease, the lease between the county and the Van Buren Youth Fair Association Society, and the entirety of county-owned land along CR-681 and Red Arrow Highway in Hartford Township to determine if any land description errors, gaps, overlaps, or other problems exist, and to prepare a presentation map showing all uses of the land.
- c. **Kayak Launch Project—**Marcy Hamilton of SWM Planning Commission followed up with Chair Chappell on the status of recommendations for a new grant application to the state. A public hearing, and formal creation and funding of the VBC Parks Fund is pending.
- d. **Michigan Sparks Grant Program—**Marcy Hamilton continues to monitor this for us.

7. General Member Comments—

- a. Members were reminded that we plan a bus tour of various potential park/recreation opportunities in Keeler Township in May.
- b. Chappell announce that he would not be at the April meeting.

8. Adjournment—All business being completed, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 11:34 AM, on the motion of Doroh, supported by Parman.



Wayne Nelson, Secretary

Van Buren County Parks and Recreation Commission