

William J. Bunek, Committee Chairman

NOTICE OF MEETING

A Building & Grounds Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., in the Board of Commissioners Meeting Room located in the Leelanau County Government Center, Suttons Bay, Michigan

A live streaming of this meeting will be available for viewing via the following link –
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNQTgIgcTedF2qB8floC1GQ?view_as=subscriber

If you would like to provide comment during the meeting, please watch the livestreamed video, and call in during one of the two public comment portions on the agenda, to **231-256-8109**. There will be no queue, and calls will be taken in the order they are received. Emailed comments are also welcomed prior to the meeting, and can be addressed to clerk@leelanau.gov

(Please silence cellular/electronic devices)

(Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded and are not the official record of the meeting, the formally approved/accepted written copy of the minutes will be the official record of the meeting.)

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

Approval of Agenda and Late Additions/Deletions

Public Comment

Action Items:

1. Approval of Minutes – February 28, 2020, & March 5, 2020.
2. Bench/Plaque Donation Request, Parks and Recreation Commission on behalf of the Lake Leelanau Lake Association.

Discussion Items

Board Member Comment

Public Comment

Motion to Adjourn

Posted: 4/15/2021
1:00 p.m.

**LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE – Friday, February 28, 2020**

Tentative Minutes.

Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded (audio and video) and are not the official record of the meeting; the formally approved/accepted written copy of the minutes will be the official record of the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 9:59 a.m. by Committee Chairman Bunek. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

Roll Call: District #2 Debra L. Rushton PRESENT
 #3 William J. Bunek PRESENT

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Committee Chairman Bunek, followed by a moment of silence.

Maintenance Director Jerry Culman II, Administrative Assistant Laurel Evans, and MSU Home Horticulture Program Instructor, Master Gardener Coordinator Nate Walton were all present.

Approval of Agenda and Late Additions/Deletions:

**MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.
SECONDED BY BUNEK.**

Discussion – none.

AYES – 2 (Rushton, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment:

None.

Action Items –

Review of Request Procedure Memo:

Committee Chairman Bunek read from a memo dated February 18, 2020, to the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners from Administrator Chet Janik (on file in the Clerk's office). The memo stated that the Building and Grounds Committee met on January 31, 2020, and made the following recommendation:

All requests by those who want to place non-government items on County property (including the parks) must submit a written proposal to the County Administrator that outlines the following:

- The type of item
- Proposed location
- Length of placement
- Potential costs associated with the request

Once a written proposal is received, a meeting of the Building and Grounds Committee will be scheduled to review the proposal and to make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to approve, deny and/or modify any request, as well as to place additional restrictions on the request.

Committee Chairman Bunek suggested it may be a good idea to create a form for any request that would go through the Building and Grounds Committee. Evans will draft one for review. Commissioner Rushton asked that the form have a spot to also have maintenance costs addressed.

Review of Government Center Campus Landscaping Plan:

Walton and Jerry Culman reviewed the landscaping map (copy on file in the Clerk's office). Walton said he had another map that shows what is currently planted (in an area he identified to members) and Commissioner Rushton asked for a copy of that map be provided to them as it would be useful to have. Discussion continued with Walton regarding landscaping and shading as well as locations or varieties of plantings he may recommend. Rushton suggested that they may want to consider any future expansion of the parking lot if necessary. Discussion continued regarding possible locations. Culman mentioned that the Veterans Memorial now has an open area with irrigation. Committee Chairman Bunek asked Culman if any existing trees are dying or need replacing to which Culman answered everything is still viable. Evans suggested gathering a list of acceptable tree options. Walton said he has a list of native trees not exceeding 20' in height. Culman asked about hand planting or using a spade truck. He also suggested the possibility of extending the tree line along both sides of the campus driveway that could eventually grow in enough and develop a canopy.

Commissioner Rushton said they do now have a few different options they are able to present to the Board of Commissioners. Committee Chairman Bunek read the list of options to be: continuing the canopy along the driveway, a location at the Veterans Memorial, or also the East side of the building, but that is not as accessible. Conversation ensued. Rushton remarked that the Veterans area may be a better space for placement due to parking and possible events or gatherings. Bunek asked if Rushton thought it would be a problem to place a donated tree from the League of Women Voters at the Veterans Memorial area. Would it be changing that area to "memorials"? Discussion continued among the group of possible options near the Veterans area. Culman stated it was a big issue initially to make sure the Veterans

Memorial area was an area to be enjoyed, but not to have gatherings, picnics, etc. like at other County parks. Bunek asked if we want the campus to become a “memorial campus” that commemorates all kinds of things? Bunek will speak to David McCulloch and try to find out the feeling from Veterans about placement of a donation tree from the League of Women Voters in the area of the Veterans Memorial.

Discussion continued regarding the sign/plaque size and material types that would be allowed to be used.

Tree/Plaque Donation Request, League of Women Voters:

Commissioner Rushton stated she is not yet ready to make a recommendation. Committee Chairman Bunek said they will get the necessary information gathered and plan another meeting as soon as possible, possibly next week.

Pinwheel Garden Request, Traverse Bay Children’s Advocacy Center:

Committee Chairman Bunek read the memo request from Jourdan Dean, Traverse Bay CAC Prevention Coordinator, requesting permission to display a pinwheel garden at the corner of E. Government Center Dr. and Duck Lake Rd. in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Commissioner Rushton said she is certain they all would agree that the purpose is good; however, after taking the emotion out of the request the practicality of putting the plastic pinwheels out at this time of year doesn’t seem feasible. Evans added that she just doesn’t see winter ending during that time frame.

MOTION BY BUNEK TO RECOMMEND TO DECLINE THE PINWHEEL GARDEN REQUEST FROM TRAVERSE BAY CHILDREN’S ADVOCACY CENTER.

SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 2 (Rushton, Bunek)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION CARRIED.

Committee Chairman Bunek said that recommendation will be brought to the Board of Commissioners.

Discussion Items:

None.

Board Member Comments:

None.

Public Comment:

None.

Commissioner Rushton asked if Culman would please update the map with sewer lines, electrical, irrigation or any other infrastructure that is underground, as it would be helpful to have for the Board of Commissioners to see. Committee Chairman Bunek added that it will also be useful reference for the future.

Bunek will plan on checking with David McCulloch, or others, about thoughts on what the Veterans' general feeling would be in regards to adding anything to the Veterans Memorial area.

Evans mentioned the sign by the road is taking a beating from the snowplowing, as well as the corner of smaller sign being broken on the drive up to the building. Culman said he is aware of those items.

Committee Chairman Bunek said he has written down the idea that they have the best places for options of tree placement would be to continue the canopy, near the Veterans Memorial, or the East side of the building. Bunek added that they will need to let the Board of Commissioners know what they recommend as well as the other options. Commissioner Rushton asked and Culman confirmed Miss-Dig would be called before digging.

Consensus was made to schedule the next meeting for Thursday, March 5, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned by Committee Chairman Bunek at 11:05 a.m.

William J. Bunek, Chairman
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Alison Middleton, Deputy County Clerk for
Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk

**LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE – March 5, 2020**

Tentative Minutes.

Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded (audio and video) and are not the official record of the meeting; the formally approved/accepted written copy of the minutes will be the official record of the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Committee Chairman Bunek. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

Roll Call: District #2 Debra L. Rushton PRESENT
 #3 William J. Bunek PRESENT

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Committee Chairman Bunek, followed by a moment of silence.

County Administrator Chet Janik and Maintenance Director Jerry Culman II were present.

Approval of Agenda and Late Additions/Deletions:

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 2 (Rushton, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment:

None.

Action Items –

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 31, 2020, BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 2 (Rushton, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO MOVE THE APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 2020, BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FORWARD TO THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 2 (Rushton, Bunek)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Review of Request Procedure Memo:

Administrator Janik asked if there were any changes that they wished to make to the procedure memo regarding placement of non-government items on County property (on file in the Clerk's office). Committee Chairman Bunek stated this was the procedure they had agreed on and Janik said he had just outlined it in the memo and added comments from legal counsel.

Committee Chairman Bunek moved to bring the item forward to the Board of Commissioners with support from this Committee, to which Janik stated that this item has already been added to the March 10, 2020, Executive Board of Commissioners agenda.

Review of Government Center Campus Landscaping Plan:

Committee Chairman Bunek asked if Administrative Assistant Laurel Evans had provided a list of suggested trees from MSU and Janik said she did and distributed to members as well as a copy of the native plant gardens map (https://www.leelanau.cc/downloads/03052020_bag_pkt.pdf). Commissioner Rushton said they have determined that there is really no space in the garden areas.

Commissioner Rushton said she has been thinking about this and is wondering if it would not better serve the community by having the tree planted at Old Settlers Park, for a number of reasons. One reason being they have lost several trees there already and the other being that she anticipates that eventually there may be events held around the tree. Rushton said when talking about putting the tree along the driveway as part of a canopy it just competes with parking on campus adding she thought she doesn't see a lot of people coming here to see the tree and plaque. It would have more visibility at the park and she wants to put it out there as an option.

Administrator Janik said they had lost about 58 trees at Old Settlers Park several years ago and it has really opened it up a little more and looks very natural. There is no talk of replacing those trees that were lost. Commissioner Rushton said to place a tree there for donation purpose, it might be seen by more public than here on this campus. Culman added that before losing the trees during the storm it was always difficult trying to grow any grass there due to the soil being very sandy. Currently they are able to grow grass and the sunlight is good and grass is not fighting for light. Rushton said they are looking at a small tree that would take years to get over 40' and during those years there will most likely be additional tree loss due to age. Discussion continued. Rushton said if they refuse the tree on the campus Old Settlers Park could be looked at as an alternative.

Committee Chairman Bunek said they are looking at the review of the Governmental Campus landscaping plan. Bunek said the front gardens of building have more than enough plants already and are not a place to add a tree. So, if looking at someplace on the campus they would be looking at the Northeast side, or along the roadway, or near

the Veterans' Memorial. Those would be the places that they have determined it could go on this campus and can now add Old Settler's Park. Discussion continued regarding those options as well as irrigation issues. Options for placement were narrowed down to either side of the road near the Veterans' Memorial, add to the canopy line, or placed at Old Settlers Park.

Tree/Plaque Donation Request, League of Women Voters:

Commissioner Rushton asked about what plaques/markers are currently outside. Janik stated there are smaller markers that identify plant types and a bit larger brass plaque at the Gallagher tree. Culman went outdoors to measure the plaque/marker sizes.

Committee Chairman Bunek said he had talked with Greg Mikowski, Jeff LaCross, Kelly LaCross, and Ken Plamondon who are all Veterans and involved with the VFW. He did not hear back from David McCulloch. Bunek said all of the people he had talked to about adding a tree/plaque donation near the Veterans' Memorial had said they felt it would be fine and didn't see a problem with it. Bunek said one Veteran he had spoken to did say why do we have to start separating out one from the other to give recognition. If everyone needs it then it will just become a memorial area over there. Commissioner Rushton said that is why she likes the idea of having it at the park and it's open to more people and thinks a park setting is a better place.

Janik said in order to keep focus at next Tuesday's meeting they should make a recommendation of do you want the tree, and if you don't want the tree, make that recommendation. Janik said it is their job as the Committee to make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. Committee Chairman Bunek said he thought they would end up with one option, but could recommend all three placement options. Janik said there are two specific requests, one from the League of Women Voters and the other for the pinwheel garden from the Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center. Janik said the Committee has spent a lot of time on this and he thinks the Board of Commissioners is expecting them to come back with a recommendation. Bunek said he feels they need to recommend in favor for it otherwise it creates too much of a controversy. Commissioner Rushton said the other side of the argument is maybe there should be a policy pertaining to the campus and then look at these requests for the parks. She then said the campus would be closed to tree donations or any other donations but open up the parks as an option and the Board of Commissioners would have the final decision over how many donations (bench, tree, plaques, etc.) they would like to have in the parks.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO NOT ALLOW ANY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON THE GOVERNMENT CENTER CAMPUS. SECONDED BY BUNEK.

Discussion – Janik reviewed by saying, so any requests coming in regarding this campus would be told the campus is closed by Board motion, but can be considered at the parks.

AYES – 2 (Rushton, Bunek)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION CARRIED.

Commissioner Rushton asked to discuss the types of plaques that would be allowed. Janik said that again would need to go through the exact same process. Committee Chairman Bunek said if Parks and Recreation decided they want it, then it would come to the Building and Grounds Committee and to the Board of Commissioners.

Pinwheel Garden Request, Traverse Bay Children’s Advocacy Center:

Administrator Janik just confirmed that they had already recommended against the pinwheel request but the recommendation today of not adding anything to the campus would also take care of this item.

Committee Chairman Bunek said that Administrative Assistant Laurel Evans sent him three different form options they could ask to have filled out if someone is wanting to place items at parks. Bunek said he wanted people to know there would be a possible cost involved as well as other specifics. Janik suggested not providing a form and leave it up to the individual/group to do the detailed work and look at it on a case-by-case basis. Commissioner Rushton concurred.

Discussion Items:

None.

Board Member Comments:

None.

Public Comment:

●Maintenance Director Jerry Culman. Culman spoke about parking issues and areas near the Veterans’ Memorial for Labor Day. Administrator Janik suggested using the golf cart that day to assist anyone needing help to or from the parking areas.

●Culman also mentioned getting ready to go out for bids for resealing of the asphalt on the entire campus.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned by Committee Chairman Bunek at 10:37 a.m.

William J. Bunek, Chairman
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Alison Middleton, Deputy County Clerk for
Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk

Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission

Veronica Valley Park Committee

Wednesday, March 15, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.

Via Zoom and at the Leelanau County Government Center, Suttons Bay, Michigan

Tentative Minutes – Meeting Recorded

<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2105>

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Dave Barrons at 1:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was by Committee Chairman Barrons.

Roll Call: Dave Barrons, *Committee Chairman*
Steve Christensen
F. Jon Walter
John Popa

Guest present.

Approval of Agenda and Late Additions/Deletions:

Committee Chairman Barrons asked that Action Items #4 and #7 be moved up as #1 and #2.

Motion by Christensen to accept the agenda amended. Seconded by Popa.

Discussion – none.

Ayes – 4 (Christensen, Popa, Walter, Barrons)

No – 0

Motion Carried.

Public Comment:

The Clerk provided the number to call in for public comment – no comment received.

Action Items –

Donation Policy:

Committee Chairman Barrons said the Kids Fishing Committee of the Lake Leelanau Lake Association wishes to place a commemorative bench honoring the late Pete Taylor on the bank of the kids fishing pond at the park. At the last meeting, the minutes show a suggestion had been made to discuss the issue with County Administrator Chet Janik relative to the County Board donation policy. Janik had noted donations to the County are considered on a case-by-case basis (by a separate Commissioner Committee). We will need to have the placement of this bench approved by the full Board of Commissioners. There is no policy, due to a legal opinion from Counsel.

Motion by Christensen to recommend to the Parks and Recreation Commission to accept the donation of a bench at Veronica Valley Park from the Lake Leelanau Lake Association, in honor of Pete Taylor. Seconded by Popa.

Discussion – none.

Ayes – 4 (Christensen, Popa, Walter, Barrons)

No – 0

Recommendation Passes.

To be added to the full Parks Commission Regular Session agenda for Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

Grand Traverse Band 2% Allocation Application, First Cycle, 2021 –

Bill Watson, YouthWork Director, Invasive Species Eradication Proposal Review:

Committee Chairman Barrons said Watson wants to submit another Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% allocation application through Parks and Recreation for invasive species removal at Veronica Valley Park. (If approved, the funds would) pay for some of the crew, and the “City Girls Farm”, which earns money by farming out their goats; they set up the paddocks, and move the goats throughout the park as indicated, for invasive species removal. The goats eat knapweed, autumn olive, buckthorn, and other weeds. Watson will put together the documentation. He has a solid reputation with the Tribe. Barrons said he will be conversing with Watson more on the subject and bring it to the next session. Discussion followed on deadlines.

Motion by Christensen to recommend to the Parks and Recreation Commission to move forward with allowing YouthWork Director Bill Watson write an application for a Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% allocation request on behalf of Child and Family Services, for the eradication of invasive species at Veronica Valley Park. Seconded by Popa.

Discussion ensued on specifics, including the amount requested and dates. Committee Chairman Barrons to follow up with Watson; to be added to the next Committee meeting agenda.

Ayes – 4 (Christensen, Popa, Walter, Barrons)

No – 0

Recommendation Passes.

Approval of January 15, 2021, Minutes:

Motion by Popa to approve the minutes of January 15, 2021, as presented. Seconded by Barrons.

Discussion – none.

Ayes – 4 (Popa, Walter, Barrons, Christensen)

No – 0

Motion Carried.

Approval of February 11, 2021, Minutes:

Motion by Popa to approve the minutes of February 11, 2021, as presented. Seconded by Barrons.

Discussion – none.

Ayes – 4 (Popa, Walter, Barrons, Christensen)

No – 0

Motion Carried.

Committee Chairman Barrons asked and Evans responded a temporary office assistant position bump in pay had been approved by the County Board, and the posting will be scheduled soon.

Schools Park Usage:

Christensen said Eastern Elementary fifth grade Science Teacher Tom Cooper, of the Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS), would love to use the park as an outdoor science lab. Cooper had stated in his email he has taken his children to Veronica Valley to fish. He wants to expand that into a “science lab”, and conduct field trips on a regular basis. Christensen commented this is a perfect use for what this Park is there for; a lot of Leelanau County kids attend TCAPS schools. We do not have Leelanau County schools making this same request. We have always pitched Veronica Valley Park as a “regional” park. Christensen said Cooper has also asked about the timing of trips. Committee Chairman Barrons said he can follow up on the timing. Barrons asked Christensen, has the Conservation District scheduled or conducted a fifth-grade outdoor day? Christensen responded with Covid, no, and deferred any questions to Conservation District Director Buzz Long for the answer. Discussion ensued. Popa remarked we do not really have action to take – keep us informed. Committee Chairman Barrons remarked it’s a wonderful thing; it is what the park is for. Barrons to follow up with Cooper.

Proposed Park Rules Revisions:

Christensen said we had run into a situation, where a park user was walking his dog off leash at the park, which is against Park rules. The Animal Control (AC) Deputy, Wayne Kalchik, issued the person a ticket. Kalchik later revoked the ticket, because he found out he did not have standing due to State law. If you are on a piece of property open to hunting, and declare you are hunting, your dog does not have to be on leash, you do not have to have a license, or wear orange, or have a weapon; you just have to declare you are hunting. The State is extraordinarily flexible if you have declared you are hunting.

Christensen said he drafted a short statement of the facts, which was then forwarded on to Administration to send on to corporate counsel. He remarked it had always been his understanding that was the intent, to allow hunting within the park. Within that grant (agreement between Leelanau County and the State), there is no statement that the park has to be or was intended to be used for hunting. Counsel then reviewed the grant application, and although there is a line with a check box for hunting, the box was unchecked on the application. Neither the application or the grant agreement mentions hunting. Christensen continued; the question then becomes what to do. He got back with Kalchik, and also called former parks member Greg Julian, who had accompanied Christensen on the visit to the DNR to pitch the grant. Christensen said both he and Julian distinctly recall hunting was meant to be included; it was just never added to the (application and subsequent agreement). More comments followed. Christensen said Julian wasn’t excited to hear that, as he is an active hunter. Julian spends lots of time advocating for hunting. Christensen said he thinks Julian would be okay if we “limited” the hunting somewhat. More comments followed. Evans suggested any further questions of limiting hunting should go through Counsel.

Committee Chairman Barrons asked are we allowed to delineate a hunting area within this park? Popa said we shouldn't even be talking about an area. He questioned if there were any deed restrictions. Popa noted he has friends that work bird dogs in that park. Christensen said for general consumption, the real issue is a safety issue; we have people that have complained to the AC officer and it has become a safety issue. We need to review how the park is used. To limit the (use of hunting) to a smaller area of the park may be the way to go. Barrons said either we close the whole park (to hunting), or we do not change at all. Christensen said when counsel comes back, we will have some direction as to where this goes. Barrons said his opinion is to split the park. Evans to follow up, and forward the Counsel's statement to all members. Popa said he wants to see the original deed. Barrons said as part of the application, the deed should be part of that. Discussion followed.

Parking Lot – Lot Redesign, Entrance Culvert Replacement:

Popa asked if everyone received a copy of Walter's renderings (https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/vvp_entrance_upgrade_draft_c_03152021.pdf), and then reviewed it with the group. Popa said this rendering has 25 parking spots with the overflow. We are looking at adding this to the 2022 Parks budget. This doesn't have to be the final design; however, it is a pretty good estimate of what it will look like. If we need a parking lot, this is what it should look like and it fits our plan. Popa continued his review of the document. He said the Leelanau County Road Commission Engineer doesn't recommend plantings as noted in the middle (of the entrance). Popa continued to review the document with suggested revisions. He and Walter both sought a few quotes to come up with an estimate of expenses for the project. Evans asked for clarification, that the quotes were obtained in order to develop a scope of service for the project. Popa affirmed, he was just getting estimates.

Popa said he would like to propose this to the full Commission for next year's (budget). More comments followed on potential changes to the parking lot. Christensen remarked on the overflow parking; we will probably leave some of that gravel in place, so the overflow is reinforced. Popa said that's a good point, we just don't want people parking there all the time. Walter cautioned we don't want to impinge on the turning radius of the buses. Are the 18 parking spaces on the paved area adequate for most uses? Popa affirmed. Bradley noted there are two times during the year when there is not enough parking. Barrons remarked we do have designated overflow parking in two other places. Christensen said there is a possibility we won't skim too much gravel out. That is an amazing overflow and it is already supported. We could put up cones across that area for most of the year, so people do not park there. Popa suggested barricade fencing. Discussion followed on plow patterns, Port-a-potty use, asphalt and striping, and poured pads.

Christensen said he knows we will have a better area for the Port-a-potties. When we think about how winter use impacts their use, we should consider a "portable" Port-a-potty. Walter remarked at one time, the Port-a-potties were at the end of the drive, which isn't as nice in appearance. We have discussed moving them around the side. Committee Chairman Barrons said the potties are used throughout the winter, so we want the availability. This is great work.

Christensen affirmed, “Nicely done.” Barrons said we are in a position of asking the full Commission for permission to keep moving forward.

Popa asked if a motion is needed. Barrons remarked he will be reporting on the status to the full Commission. Christensen said we are at the point that we do not know an estimate of cost. Popa said relative to the culvert, he had talked with Road Commission staff and the Road Commission’s attorney, that defines the law that lets road commissions do work for public entities. He would like to go to the full Parks Commission and suggest that an agreement could be written by the County. Popa continued to describe the state of repair with the culvert. Barrons asked if the Road Commission had given Popa any idea on cost. Discussion ensued, with Popa relaying the personnel and equipment needed to complete the work. Walter said he had been quoted it would cost approximately \$50.00/foot, for an approximate 110-foot culvert. Popa continued to comment on potential costs. Discussion ensued. Evans stated a dollar figure will need to be determined prior to any request being forwarded to the County Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Christensen to recommend to the Parks and Recreation Commission to move forward on entering into an agreement with the County Road Commission to replace the main entrance culvert at Veronica Valley Park at a cost not to exceed “X” (cost to be determined). Seconded by Barrons.

Discussion – Evans stressed this cannot go before County Commissioners until a cost has been determined; Popa to follow up with the Road Commission.

Ayes – 4 (Christensen, Popa, Walter, Barrons)

No – 0

Recommendation Passes.

Popa quoted from MCL (Michigan Compiled Laws) 45.85 relative to intergovernmental agreement rules. Committee Chairman Barrons said we will take this to the full Commission, once we know that number. He also noted that after the culvert gets replaced, he would like to “toy around” to get the front entryway done with curbs and paving yet this year. Discussion ensued. Popa said he wants to bring this up at the next Regular Session of the Parks and Recreation Commission, to get bids to do the entryway. Christensen noted the bid opening (for the debris cleanup at Myles Kimmerly Park) is in April.

Administrator Janik was present. Evans read back the draft motion just passed for the culvert. Janik confirmed a cost estimate is needed prior to going before the County Board. Committee Chairman Barrons said at this point, they are only seeking approval from the Parks and Recreation Commission. Janik said you might not need the estimate for the Parks Board, but you will for the County Board of Commissioners. Christensen said if Walter or Popa speak with the Road Commission, they should get something in writing from them. Popa asked and Janik responded the County Board has the right to go out for bids or waive its policy on bid requirements on anything.

Janik also relayed to Committee members the upcoming changes to the Open Meetings Act (OMA), which as of April 1, include:

- All Commission (or Committee) members must be present in person for any meetings, unless they meet one of the three requirements –
 - Military exemption
 - Health reasons
 - The member is a health care provider for someone

Members of any board or commission can no longer just state they wish to participate remotely and the majority of members need to be physically present. You do not have to broadcast the meeting on YouTube; however, if you have more audience members than what are legally allowed, you have to have a plan as to where to put them so they can view the meeting. The Government Center has that ability, as a PolyCom has been installed in the community meeting room located in the lower level. We currently allow 25 total persons total to a large meeting room. Discussion ensued.

Discussion ensued on the parking lot materials. Committee Chairman Barrons asked Popa, what you are saying is it wouldn't be too early to (complete the culvert project) this year, that you (don't think it will) cost... Popa said we could get it done, but we would need to get \$15,000.00. Discussion followed on splitting up the project into segments. Walter remarked he had worked with a contact at Elmer's, who noted we could break up the entrance project into separate parts, and there might be an option to eliminate curbing.

Revised Drawings of Shoreline Fishing Surface:

Walter reviewed the draft shoreline proposal

(https://www.leelanau.gov/downloads/vvpc_draft_renderings_03152021.pdf). Walter said his interest is partially from the perspective of a grandparent, for the general safety of kids on water. He stated there is 5,000 feet of shoreline within this park. To increase the enjoyment of fishing, the drawings show an objective to create a flat fishing area for children to fish. He continued to review the draft with his proposal, outlining the added safety features. Committee Chairman Barrons asked and Walter responded he has not received estimates back on the project as proposed. Discussion followed on path materials, Universally Accessible (UA) requirements, the current pathway configurations, and wheelchair accessibility.

Walter pointed out that the current slope of the main bridge is within the ADA range, so the bridge itself can serve as a handicap fishing area; you still have to get to it, so that is a problem. Christensen said the ultimate goal will be for an ADA visitor to be able to exit their vehicle in the parking lot and take their wheelchair down to the water, and it will be UA the entire way. If we do not do UA the whole way, we will reduce our ability to obtain future grants. Committee Chairman Barrons said when we go out for grants, the extra leg that Walter doesn't have in his drawing from the parking lot to both sides of the horseshoe, will have to be in the plan. We cannot go for any sort of grant funding for the "horseshoe only". The accessibility will have to be part of any initial grant work. If we are looking at costs, let's view the cost of having a UA

path down from the parking lot to each side of the horseshoe. Christensen commented on grant-eligible projects. Discussion followed. Barrons asked do we make the effort to go forward with some sort of grant for this project, or do we start working on this piecemeal and look for grant-support for work later on? He is not advocating we go for a grant. Popa relayed the history of this particular project, in eliminate the safety hazard at the fishing pond.

Popa said he had previously designed a lot of this and brought it before the Commission. It was designed to get rid of the safety hazard if kids fall off the edge. He outlined his previous proposal, which included railings and docks, which he later dropped. He continued to comment, adding he has some engineering numbers coming. He thinks we can complete this project for \$30,000.00. We need to get rid of the safety hazard, install stone, remove the hump, and prepare a picnic area. He commented unfavorably on guardrails and cement. If one or two people need (a UA fishing spot), let's give them a small spot to fish. We want to pursue and go ahead and place a nice barrier here. The renderings aren't (designed) for going out for bid.

Committee Chairman Barrons said he likes where we have landed ourselves on a five-foot wide packed surface around the horseshoe. We are headed in the right direction. Is there anything we can do this year? Christensen asked Popa, you have a ballpark coming? Walter and Popa both affirmed they each have figures coming. Christensen suggested adding this on the "middle burner" for the next committee meeting. This is exactly where we need to go. Discussion ensued on pathways materials.

Walter to follow up with Popa.

Public Comment:

Clerk announced the number to call in – none received.

Board Member Comment:

- Popa stated he is totally against banning hunting of any sort in any area in that park. Committee Chairman Barrons said we will have to have that debate at some time.

Motion by Christensen to adjourn. Seconded by Walter.

Ayes – 4 (Christensen, Popa, Walter, Barrons)

No – 0

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned to the call of the Chairman at 2:33 p.m.

Laurel S. Evans, Secretary Pro Tem

Committee Reports and Recommendations –

Veronica Valley Park Committee:

- Park Bench Donation Recommendation. Barrons said the Kids Fishing Committee of the Lake Leelanau Lake Association wants to pay for and place a bench in memoriam of Pete Taylor. Barrons stated the recommendation passed by the Committee: “To recommend to the Parks and Recreation Commission to accept the donation of a bench at Veronica Valley Park.” Barrons said for backstory, the Lake Leelanau Lake Association wants to donate a bench (at Veronica Valley) in commemoration of Pete Taylor’s work in the first 15 years of this event. Barrons said he thinks we have already voted on this issue as a Commission; however, the County Board has a different donation process, which is on a case-by-case basis. When this comes to be, and we get the bench, and places a plaque on it, we will take this motion for acceptance to the full Commission. It doesn’t require any action right now by this group.