

Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission
Myles Kimmerly Park Committee
Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 2:30 p.m.
Leelanau County Government Center, Suttons Bay, Michigan
Tentative Minutes – Meeting Recorded
<https://www.leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2227>

The meeting of the Myles Kimmerly Park Committee was called to order by Committee Chairman Don Frerichs at 2:35 p.m.

Chairman Frerichs led the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

Roll Call: Steve Christensen
Don Frerichs, *Chairman*
Rick Robbins, *(2:41 p.m. arrival)*
Michael Smith

Staff Present: Laurel Evans, Executive Assistant
W. Scott Bradley, Maintenance Worker

Guests Present.

Approval of Agenda and Late Additions/Deletions

Motion by Christensen to approve the agenda, as presented. Seconded by Smith.

Ayes – 3 (Christensen, Frerichs, Smith)

No – 0 Absent – 1 (Robbins)

Motion Passes.

Action Items –

Approval of Minutes:

Deferred until next session.

Update on Removal of the Grub Shack:

Bradley reported that Tim Newman (Kasson Contracting, Inc.) has not removed the old grub shack. Committee Chairman Frerichs suggested selling the shack to someone else, adding that Commissioner Smith had expressed an interest in the shack. Evans said she would ask County Administrator Chet Janik to give Newman a call to check on the status of the shack’s removal. F. Jon Walter commented that it would be worthwhile to salvage the plywood floor of the old grub shack, given the current price of plywood. Christensen reported that there was now flexibility about where to relocate the new grub shack because the electrical and irrigation instrumentation had been installed on freestanding boards.

Robbins joined meeting at this point. Christensen discussed the area where the gazebo now resides as a potential location for the new grub shack and a potentially siting a new parking lot at the former grub shack site. Storage and office space would be addressed by constructing a lean-to on the backside of the maintenance building, rather than incorporating these elements into the new building. Walter reviewed a seven-page handout with Committee members that

included two site plans and side views for each plan. Bradley concurred with the idea of office space created by the construction of a lean-to. Christensen suggested that fill needed for the project could come from the upper parking lot; Robbins, however, was concerned this option would create a whole new project and an unanticipated expense. Discussion ensued about purchasing fill from Kasson Construction or from the County Road Commission. Christensen asked and Walter agreed to construct a cost estimate for the plans discussed.

Pave Loop Trail Discussion:

Robbins reported that he submitted as a priority from the Parks and Recreation Commission a request to the County Commissioners for \$250,000.00 for paving the (proposed) loop trail. (He thought the Commission instead wrote down \$260,000.) Robbins said he removed his Facebook post requesting input from the community about the loop trail because he was not receiving helpful comments. Frerichs wondered if the community would question the expense of paving the trail if only a small percentage of the population used it. Robbins added that Glen Lake Community Schools recently completed a project that is everything and more like the proposed Myles Kimmerly Park loop trail and wondered why the school did not make an effort to collaborate. Regardless, Robbins thought the proposed loop trail project at Myles Kimmerly should not be abandoned. Evans strongly urged the commissioners to create a plan before submitting anything to the County Board so that unexpected issues would be mitigated. Returning to the topic of the grub shack, Smith suggested getting the fill dirt in place before winter so it had a chance to settle. Evans reminded Smith if the expense of the fill dirt exceeded \$2,000.00, it needed approval by the County Board. Christensen said they should wait until costs are received from Walter before moving forward. Discussion ensued about how far \$250,000.00 would go towards paving the trail; where to place the trail in consideration of future plans for the park; whether to have the current park plan revised, and which to do first – create a plan for the trail or revise the park plan. Robbins commented that future expansion of the trail would gain more support from the County Board if the trail had high usage by the public.

Public Comment:

None.

Board Member Comment:

None.

Adjournment:

Motion by Christensen to adjourn. Seconded by Smith.

Ayes – 4 (Christensen, Frerichs, Smith)

No – 0 Absent – 1 (Robbins)

Motion Passes.

The meeting adjourned to the call of Chairman Frerichs at 3:20 p.m.

Lori Eubanks, Recording Secretary