

Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Commission  
**Veronica Valley Park Committee Meeting Minutes**  
February 5, 2024 | 3:00 p.m.  
Leelanau County Government Center – Commissioners Meeting Room  
8527 E. Government Center Dr. Suttons Bay MI 49682

CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

- Keith Beduhn
- Steve Christensen
- John Popa (3:15 Arrival)
- F. Jon Walter

STAFF PRESENT:

- W. Scott Bradley, Maintenance Worker
- Lori Eubanks, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Dave Barrons, former committee member.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Ayes: 3 (Beduhn, Christensen; Walter)

No: 0 Absent: 1 (Popa)

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

STAFF COMMENTS: None.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 13, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

**Motion by Christensen to approve the minutes, as submitted. Seconded by Walter.**

Ayes: 3 (Beduhn, Christensen; Walter)

No: 0 Absent: 1 (Popa)

Motion passed.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Invasive Plant Treatment

Dave Barrons updated the group on past treatment of invasive plants in the ponds at the park under a contract with Savon Lake Services.

**Motion by Christensen to recommend to the Parks and Recreation Commission to approve a contract with Savon Lake Services for the Standard Pond Maintenance Program in an amount not to exceed \$2,425, which includes the cost of the permit application. Seconded by Walter.**

Ayes: 3 (Beduhn, Christensen; Walter)

No: 0 Absent: 1 (Popa)

Motion passed.

There was discussion regarding posting signage that would educate the public about cross-contamination of the ponds via bait and tackle. Barrons said he would create the signs.

(Popa joined meeting here.)

2. Wind Barrier for Portable Toilet

Beduhn discussed constructing a wind barrier/privacy fence in front of the portable toilet. (Beduhn discovered a snow drift in the portable toilet.) Christensen suggested researching designs before moving forward. Walter volunteered to draw the design. Popa did not feel a fence was necessary, but was okay with researching the effort.

3. ADA Compliant Pathways

Beduhn led a discussion regarding Universal Access (UA) requirements for trails at the park. Christensen

discussed the Five-Year Plan for the park and how it aligns with the County's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

4. Miscellaneous

Popa reminded the group that the safety ladder for the fishing pond that was approved last year (2023) needs to be purchased. Popa also mentioned that the park sign needs to be re-installed. The group decided to let Bradley decide the best placement for the sign. Christensen said two, full-time workers are needed for the parks for the summer months and said that, by consensus, they can add that discussion to the Parks and Recreation's next agenda (Wednesday, February 7, 2024). Popa discussed Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority's (MMRMA) recommendation regarding fixing the gap on the railing of the park's bridge. Walter said he would research the code requirement. Regarding Kids Fish Day, Popa said he would contact Allen Campbell, Co-Chair of the Fish Committee, and ask him to contact Heather Hettinger, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Management Biologist regarding the logistics around preparing for this year's stocking of the ponds in preparation for Kid's Fish Day in June.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

STAFF COMMENTS: None.

MEMBER COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned to the call of Chair Beduhn at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Lori Eubanks, Recording Secretary