

AGENDA

Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission
121 E. Maple Street, P.O. Box 178, Mason, MI 48854
Telephone: 517.676.2233; Fax: 517.244.7190

The packet is available on-line by going to www.ingham.org, choosing the "Monthly Calendar," and clicking on Monday, January 27, 2014

Monday, January 27, 2014

6:00pm

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Human Services Building
Conference Room A, Second Floor
5303 S. Cedar Street, Building #3
Lansing, Michigan

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes
[Minutes](#) of November 25, 2013 regular meeting will be considered
4. Limited Public Comment ~ *Limited to 3 minutes with no discussion*
5. Late Items / Deletions / Consent Items
6. Election of 2014 Officers
 - A. Chair
 - B. Vice-Chair
 - C. Secretary
7. PRESENTATION OF [2013 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR](#) – JOHN HESSE
8. ACTION ITEMS
 - A. [Resolution](#) to Comply with Provisions of the Open Meetings Act Setting Parks & Recreation Commission Meetings for January 2014 through December 2014
9. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. Millage Proposal (Materials Available at Meeting)
 - B. Interim 2013 Year End Report
10. Director's Report
 - A. Hawk Island Snow Park Status Report
 - B. Meridian Township [Deer Hunt](#) at Lake Lansing Park-North Update
11. [Correspondence & Citizen Comment](#)
12. Board Comments
13. Limited Public Comment ~ *Limited to 3 minutes with no discussion*

14. Upcoming Meetings

A. Date: February 18, 2014 (Tuesday); Time: 6:00pm
Planning & Community Outreach Committee Meeting

Date: February 19, 2014 (Wednesday); Time 6:00pm
Budget & Personnel Committee Meeting

Date: February 24, 2014 (Monday); Time: 6:00pm
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

15. Informational Items – *Distributed at Commission Meeting*

A. County Services, Finance Committee, and Board of Commissioner Meeting Minutes
(Items pertaining to the Parks Department)

B. Newspaper Articles

16. Adjournment

Official minutes are stored and available for inspection at the address noted at the top of this agenda. The Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting for the visually impaired, for individuals with disabilities a the meeting upon five (5) working days notice to the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission by writing to the Ingham County Parks Department, P.O. Box 178, Mason, Michigan 48854, or by calling 517.676.2233.

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING
INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
121 E. Maple Street, Suite 102, Mason, Michigan 48854
November 25, 2013

The Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission held a Public Hearing and Regularly Scheduled Meeting at the Human Services Building, Conference Room A, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Board Members

- Present:** Sarah Nicholls, Commissioner Tsernoglou, Matt Bennett, Commissioner Koenig, Ralph Monsma, John Czarnecki, Jonathan Schelke, Paul Pratt, Kevin Duffy, and Michael Rice
- Absent:** Ralph Monsma and Commissioner Koenig
- Also Present:** Director of Parks Willis Bennett; Park Manager Pat Witte; Financial Coordinator Karen Fraser; Soldan Dog Park Representative Carol Living
- Call to Order:** Chair Nicholls called the Regularly Scheduled Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting to order at 6:05pm
- Minutes:** **Moved by** Mr. Matt Bennett and **Supported by** Commissioner Tsernoglou to approve the October 28, 2013 minutes of the regular meeting as written. **YES-7; NO-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

Late Items / Deletions:

Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application to the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association for a Green Gift Program Grant on Behalf of the Greening Mid-Michigan Project.

Limited Public Comment:

Carol Living, a resident of Holt and frequent user of the Soldan Dog Park, introduced herself and passed out copies of Bark Magazines containing the article on the Soldan Dog Park. She stated this is a national magazine and the Soldan Dog Park has received national attention. She had been working on the article for 6 months to pull the information together and she is extremely proud of it. Ms. Living thanked Willis Bennett and Brian Collins for the help and cooperation. She indicated she is pleased with the park and its natural state where dogs can really run and be safe. Discussion ensued regarding other dog parks in the area, revenue, attendance, and ways to increase declining membership.

Mr. Pratt entered the meeting at 6:15pm.

PRESENTATION OF CHECK BY THE FRIENDS OF INGHAM

Ms. Fraser presented a \$13,000 check from the Friends of Ingham County Parks to the Parks Commission. She indicated some grants have not paid out and there should be another \$10,000 coming in. She stated this donation supported a variety of programs in the parks including day camp at Burchfield Park and the new cabana at Hawk Island Park. Discussion ensued regarding new officers and meeting dates. In addition, Ms. Fraser provided reports concerning the band shell and a summary of the Touch a Truck event. Chair Nicholls thanked all of the Friends Board members for their hard work.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Soldan Dog Park & Feasibility of a 3 Month Free Pass for Dog Adoptions – Willis Bennett provided background information regarding the dog park statistics in the packet. He indicated renewals are up a bit, but not to the level he would like to see. He suggested a free 3 month pass for the 700+ dogs Animal Control adopts out each year. He will continue looking for incentives for renewals to boost the numbers in the future. Ms. Fraser stated revenue is down about \$3,000 this year so far. Commissioner Tsernoglou stated this may be just a natural trend after the area is saturated and we need to reach out to new groups. Ms. Fraser reported since 2011 revenue is down by half indicating a steady decline. Ms. Living stated the weather may have been a factor this year with the exceedingly hot summer. Discussion ensued regarding the Friends group and marketing.

Millage Proposal ~ Willis Bennett and Commissioner Tsernoglou provided information regarding the discussion held at the November 5 County Services meeting and indicated Commissioner Koenig was able to assist with answering questions also. Commissioner Tsernoglou stated the subject of a millage would be taken up by the new committee after the first of the year and indicated Willis Bennett should speak with that committee chair. She further stated they are looking forward to future discussions and documents that would come out of the Planning Committee. Mr. Schelke stated the trails don't necessarily have to be paved; they could be mountain bike trails, etc. Mr. Czarnecki agreed and stated there are still options for the southern part of the county. Commissioner Tsernoglou stated it is important to stick to the message that this is a county millage and benefits will be countywide. She further stated the Parks Commission needs to determine what happens with the millage and come up with a FAQ document. Discussion ensued regarding how the process should proceed. Chair Nicholls suggested Mr. Monsma and the Planning Committee take the Grand Rapids FAQs and rewrite them for our parks millage. They are a good set of questions. Willis Bennett stated he had other millage information from four other agencies that passed trails mileages and were successful. Discussion ensued regarding the deadline for the millage and it was determined August would be when the Board of Commissioners would have to pass the resolution for the millage.

ACTION ITEMS

Willis Bennett stated the resolution authorizing the 2014 Parks Department Seasonal Employee Wage Schedule is a status quo resolution. In response to Matt Bennett's question, Willis Bennett responded the wages haven't increased from last year because of budget issues and the fact an adequate number of applications are still received. He further stated lifeguards are paid more because there aren't enough and we need to pay a higher wage to attract lifeguards.

RESOLUTION #28-13 ~ RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE 2014 PARKS DEPARTMENT SEASONAL EMPLOYEE WAGE SCHEDULE

WHEREAS, the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission periodically adjusts seasonal wage rates; and

WHEREAS, the last seasonal wage rate review was approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission on November 26, 2012 (Resolution #31-12); and

WHEREAS, Board of Commissioner Resolution #05-004 authorized the Ingham County Parks and Recreation Commission to establish seasonal wage rates, subject to restrictions established by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners through the adopted budget.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that seasonal wage rates remain as currently scheduled.

	2014 WAGE RATE	
	<u>1st year</u>	<u>2nd year</u>
Park Security Officers	10.37	11.60
Environmental Day Camp Coordinator	10.37	11.60
Lifeguard Supervisor	11.08	12.04
Lifeguard	8.96	10.10
Management Intern	11.08 to 16.14	
Chief Ranger	9.25	10.25
Clerk/Receptionist	8.65	9.59
Accounting Intern	8.65	9.59
Ranger, Boat Launch Attendant, Playground Supervisor, Boat Rental Operators, Parking Booth Attendant, Ski Rental Operators and Food Concession	7.75	8.00

Moved by Mr. Czarnecki and **Supported by** Commission Tsernoglou that Resolution #28-13 be approved. **Yes-8; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

Willis Bennett provided background information regarding the resolution honoring John Hesse as the 2013 Volunteer of the Year. He indicated the Bill Earl Fishing Program has been a part of the parks for the past four years. 150 children benefit from this educational program and receive a fishing pole and tackle box filled with tackle. Mr. Hesse pulls together volunteers for this remarkable program. A large share of the participants are single mothers learning how to fish alongside their children. The resolution will be presented in January and a video will be presented to show why Mr. Hesse deserves to be the 2013 Volunteer of the year.

RESOLUTION #29-13 ~ RESOLUTION HONORING JOHN HESSE AS THE 2013 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, Mr. Hesse has devoted himself to implementing the Dr. Bill Earl Youth Fishing Program sponsored by the Mid-Michigan Steelheaders; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hesse chairs the Youth Education Committee of the Mid-Michigan Steelheaders Club and has worked tirelessly to promote youth fishing and to engage as many youth across the state of Michigan as possible to participate in healthy outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hesse has engaged volunteers and solicited funding from the Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University, R.S.V.P., Clinton County Parks and Greenspace, Eaton County Parks, Ingham County Parks, Lansing Parks and Recreation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Project Fish, Fenner Nature Center, Trout Unlimited, Margaret Holtschlag's Big Lesson Programs as well as many area citizens and businesses; and

WHEREAS, over the past three years, the Dr. Bill Earl Youth Fishing Program has introduced nearly 500 children and their families to fishing through free educational activities and hands on fishing for children age five to sixteen by coordinating the locations and providing the equipment which includes a rod, reel, tackle box, and various tackle and bait items that may be taken home; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hesse’s efforts have contributed greatly to the Parks Departments ability to provide exceptional outdoor recreational activities to the citizens of Ingham County and shows what can be done through collaboration among numerous organizations and a commitment from those involved in helping youth learn new skills and sharing their love for the environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission, by adoption of this resolution, recognizes the impact and quality of John Hesse’s work and extends its sincere appreciation for his ongoing efforts in promoting youth fishing.

Moved by Mr. Matt Bennett and **Supported by** Mr. Czarniecki that Resolution #29-13 be approved. **Yes-8; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

Willis Bennett provided background information regarding the resolution authorizing a grant application to the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association for a Green Gift Program grant on behalf of the Greening Mid-Michigan Project. He further stated he would send commission members a link with details regarding the grant.

RESOLUTION #30-13 ~ RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION FOR A GREEN GIFT PROGRAM GRANT ON BEHALF OF THE GREENING MID-MICHIGAN PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Ingham County Parks Department works cooperatively with the Greening Mid-Michigan Project (GMMP), a collection of agencies and organizations working cooperatively with the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission to create a regional green infrastructure vision for the counties of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to promote public education regarding a green infrastructure and the Greening Mid-Michigan Project’s ongoing effort to create a regional green infrastructure vision for the tri-county area an educational video is being produced which will be aired on the Public Broadcasting System and used by the various partners; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) offers grant funding for projects of this nature called the “Green Gift Program Grant”; and

WHEREAS, being an MRPA Agency member, Ingham County Parks is the only member of the Greening Mid-Michigan Project eligible to apply for the grant; and

WHEREAS, if the grant is awarded, the funds would be transferred to the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission for the final payment due for the video production and distribution.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Ingham County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize Park staff to proceed with the Green Gift grant application to the Michigan Recreation and Park Association for funding of an educational video on behalf of the Greening Mid-Michigan Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all Ingham County policies regarding grant application, approval, and process will be followed.

Moved by Mr. Czarnecki and **Supported by** Mr. Pratt that Resolution #30-13 be approved.
Yes-8; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Hawk Island Snow Park Status – Willis Bennett reported staff began the snow making process on Saturday night. There was a little vibration in the new pump so a pump specialist will have to be brought in. He further indicated if the snow making process goes well the snow park should open earlier this year than last year. Discussion ensued regarding the MSU Rail Jam. Chair Nicholls reported she is working with Ryan Neptune and Jeff Deehan to present at the MRPA conference this year.

Baldwin Park – Onondaga Township Proposal – Mr. Czarnecki expressed his concern as to whether or not Onondaga would have the ability to sell the property in 20 years if they experience financial difficulties. He would like to know if the County could veto a sale like that or have first right of refusal. Willis Bennett stated the resolution says “during the 20 year term.” Mr. Czarnecki restated he is concerned about after the 20 year term. Willis Bennett indicated he would discuss it with the attorney and ensure the lease is written appropriately.

Lake Lansing Park-North Deer Hunt ~ Mr. Witte provided information regarding the current statistics. 20 deer have been harvested from Lake Lansing Park-North and currently 88 have been harvested in the whole Meridian Township program. He further stated no bucks have been harvested.

Tourism Ambassador Program ~ Chair Nicholls provided background information regarding the nationwide program to train communities to be welcoming and informative hosts. Lansing, Grand Rapids, and Kalamazoo have adopted the program. She indicated Parks Department personnel will train to be certified tourism ambassadors.

CORRESPONDENCE & CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

BOARD COMMENTS

None.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.

Minutes submitted by:
Deb Bavery, Recording Secretary

INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting of November 25, 2013
RESOLUTION #29-13

RESOLUTION HONORING JOHN HESSE AS THE 2013 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, Mr. Hesse has devoted himself to implementing the Dr. Bill Earl Youth Fishing Program sponsored by the Mid-Michigan Steelheaders; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hesse chairs the Youth Education Committee of the Mid-Michigan Steelheaders Club and has worked tirelessly to promote youth fishing and to engage as many youth across the state of Michigan as possible to participate in healthy outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hesse has engaged volunteers and solicited funding from the Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University, R.S.V.P., Clinton County Parks and Greenspace, Eaton County Parks, Ingham County Parks, Lansing Parks and Recreation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Project Fish, Fenner Nature Center, Trout Unlimited, Margaret Holtschlag's Big Lesson Programs as well as many area citizens and businesses; and

WHEREAS, over the past three years, the Dr. Bill Earl Youth Fishing Program has introduced nearly 500 children and their families to fishing through free educational activities and hands on fishing for children age five to sixteen by coordinating the locations and providing the equipment which includes a rod, reel, tackle box, and various tackle and bait items that may be taken home; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hesse's efforts have contributed greatly to the Parks Departments ability to provide exceptional outdoor recreational activities to the citizens of Ingham County and shows what can be done through collaboration among numerous organizations and a commitment from those involved in helping youth learn new skills and sharing their love for the environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission, by adoption of this resolution, recognizes the impact and quality of John Hesse's work and extends its sincere appreciation for his ongoing efforts in promoting youth fishing.

Moved by Mr. Matt Bennett and **Supported by** Mr. Czarnecki that Resolution #29-13 be approved. **Yes-8; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting of January 27, 2014

Resolution #01-13

**RESOLUTION TO COMPLY WITH PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT SETTING
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR
JANUARY 2014 THROUGH DECEMBER 2014**

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Parks & Recreation Commission to adopt an annual resolution to comply with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act of 1976, P.A. 267, as amended, and set dates, time, location and meeting rules and regulations of Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission meetings for 2014, pursuant to the provisions of said Act;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Parks & Recreation Commission adopts the following meeting dates for 2014, time, location and amended meeting rules and regulations, pursuant to provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended:

I. The Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission shall conduct meetings the fourth Monday of each month, except for the months of May and December of 2014. These meetings shall be conducted on the 3rd Monday of the month. Meetings commence at 6:00pm and are held at the Ingham County Human Services Building, Conference Room A, Second Floor, 5303 S. Cedar, Lansing, Michigan unless otherwise posted.

January 27, 2014
February 24, 2014
March 24, 2014
April 28, 2014
May 19, 2014 (3rd Monday)
June 23, 2014
July 28, 2014
August 25, 2014
September 22, 2014
October 27, 2014
November 24, 2014
December 15, 2014 (3rd Monday)

In the event of a special meeting, rescheduled meeting or cancellation of a regularly scheduled meeting, a notice of same will be posted at the offices of the Ingham County Parks Department, 121 E. Maple St., Suite 102, Mason, MI 48854 at least 18 hours prior to the time of the meeting or canceled meeting.

II. All regularly scheduled meetings shall be held at the Ingham County Human Services Building, Conference Room A, Second Floor, 5303 S. Cedar, Lansing, Michigan unless otherwise posted. Notice of meeting will be posted at the offices of the Ingham County Parks Department, 121 E. Maple St., Suite 102, Mason, MI 48854 at least 18 hours prior to the time of the meeting. Requests for information regarding meetings are to be directed to the Ingham County Parks Department, 121 E. Maple St., Suite 102, Mason, Michigan 48854; telephone (517) 676-2233.

III. All meetings of the Parks & Recreation Commission shall be open to the public and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting; except a closed meeting may be held in accordance with Sections (7) and (8), as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

IV. This Commission authorizes the Recording Secretary or his/her designee to post all required notices of regular, rescheduled or special meetings of this Commission, or any other postings, as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

V. The Recording Secretary or his/her designee shall be responsible for preparation, distribution and storage of all minutes of this Commission as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

VI. The minutes of open meetings shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Recording Secretary, Ingham County Parks Department, 121 E. Maple St., Suite 102, P.O. Box 178, Mason, Michigan 48854, and shall be available to the public at a reasonable copying cost, as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

VII. To provide the public its right to address this Commission during any regular or special meeting, any member of the public may address the Commission for up to three (3) minutes per individual as scheduled on the agenda at the beginning of each meeting, and up to three (3) minutes at the end of the meeting at the time scheduled on the agenda for public comment; except that comments on an item scheduled for a public hearing may be made at that time pursuant to Section VIII hereof. At the discretion of the President, this time may be extended by granting an additional one (1) minute. During an agenda item, members of the public may not address the Commission unless recognized by the President. To accommodate public comment, the Commission Chairperson, at his/her discretion, may combine an agenda item into the public comment portion of the meeting in order to facilitate input from the public.

VIII. To provide the public its right to address this Commission during scheduled public hearings, any member of the public may address the Commission for up to five (5) minutes per individual, when recognized by the President. All comments are to be directed to the Chairperson. Comments are to be specific and address only the subject of the public hearing, otherwise the speaker may be ruled out of order at the discretion of the Chairperson.

IX. The Chair may call to order any person who is ruled out of order or who otherwise disrupts the orderly conduct of business at meetings, including speaking without being recognized, interrupting speakers, the Chair, Commission members or staff, exceeding designated time limits, failure to be germane to the issue at hand, use of vulgarities, or otherwise being disruptive. A person may be prohibited from speaking again at the same meeting, may be asked to leave the premises or may be removed from the meeting at the discretion of the Chairperson and/or may be subject to arrest.

X. Members of the public desiring to speak to the Commission may be required to identify themselves before speaking, as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

XI. The Ingham County Parks Department will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at meetings to individuals with disabilities, at all public meetings and public hearings upon ten (10) days notice to the Ingham County Parks Department prior to the date set for the public hearing or meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the ADA Coordinator for the Ingham County Parks Department.

From: Nicholas Sanchez [sanchez@meridian.mi.us]
Sent: Tuesday, January 07, 2014 10:13 AM
Subject: Meridian Township Deer Management - Season Summary

Dear Meridian Township Resident,

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the 2013 Deer Management Program.

We are pleased to announce that a total of 127 deer were harvested this season.

Congratulations to Jeff Speer, who lead the program with 16 deer harvested.

Chuck Glumb harvested 8 deer.

Mick Reilly, Tom Cannon and Tom Taylor each harvested 7 deer.

**Per DNR requirement, please mail or return your leftover deer management assistance permits to:
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
Haslett, MI 48840**

Lake Lansing Park - North hunters please return your gate key along with your permits.

A drop-box is located at the entrance to the building for after hours; please enclose the tags in an envelope with your name on it.

Please follow the link to participate in our online survey, or send either Jane or I a request to have a copy of the survey mailed to you. Your feedback will be used to help guide the 2014 Deer Management Program.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8QKQK6Q>

Nicholas Sanchez
Assistant Park Naturalist
Charter Township of Meridian
Phone: (517) 853-4600
Cell: (517) 920-9258
Email: sanchez@meridian.mi.us

The total number of deer harvested at Lake Lansing Park North was 28 total, all does.

NorthWest Initiative

530 W. Ionia St., Suite D • Lansing • MI • 48933

Phone: (517) 999-2894 • Fax: (517) 999-2897 • www.nwlansing.org

Board of Directors

Tansay Carter
 Ronald Emery, Treasurer
 Margaret Groves
 Nick Lynch, Secretary
 Keesa Muhammad
 Carol Skillings, President
 Rudy Wilson, Vice-President

Staff

Terra Bogart
*FSP Manager & School
 Nutrition Educator*

Rick Bennett
ARRO Program Assistant

Heather Borden
FSP Nutrition Educator

Terry Borden
FSP Nutrition Educator

Carlos Cardenas
ARRO Lawn Program Leader

Karen Craige
Office Assistant

Elizabeth Collins-Jones
ARRO Program Assistant

Danyel Evans
Interim Outreach Manager

Aliza Ghaffari
FSP Nutrition Educator

Monica Jahner
*ARRO Coordinator &
 Legislative Advocate*

Randy Peeper
Garden & Program Assistant

Joyce Simpson
Office Assistant

Athalia Snyder
*AmeriCorps Food Access
 Specialist*

Rachel Urbis
Community Health Worker

Peggy Vaughn-Payne
Executive Director



November 20, 2013

NOV 27 2013

Ingham County Parks
 121 E. Maple Street
 Suite 102
 Mason, MI 48854

Dear Manager:

On behalf of NorthWest Initiative, we would like to thank you for your donation to our 4th Annual Decadent Dessert & Silent Auction Fundraiser held on November 15, 2013. Through the gracious donations of many individuals and businesses, we were able to raise \$2,000 in unrestricted funds to help support our programs!

This letter will serve as a receipt for your donation valued at \$ 40⁰⁰ for your 2013 income tax return. **Our 501(c)(3) tax exempt number is 06-1674223.**

Again, we wish to thank you for your continued support of the many programs and services provided by NorthWest Initiative to assist low and moderate income residents in the Lansing area.

We would also like to wish you and your family a very healthy, happy and safe holiday season!

Warmest Regards,

Peggy Vaughn-Payne
 Executive Director

STATE OF MICHIGAN



SPECIAL TRIBUTE

Willis Bennett

This document is signed in appreciation of your service to the Eaton County Parks Commission, and in recognition of being a recipient of the Second Annual Alvin Whitfield Community Service Award.

We applaud your dedication to community service, and extend sincere gratitude for the many positive contributions you have made, which will not soon be forgotten.

Therefore, we offer this special tribute in recognition of your hard work and commitment to the residents of Eaton County.



Theresa Abed, State Representative
The Seventy-First District



Mike Shirkey, State Representative
The Sixty-Fifth District



Rick Jones, State Senator
The Twenty-Fourth District



Rick Snyder
Governor

The Ninety-Sixth Legislature
At Lansing
November 2013





Certificate of Congressional Recognition

Presented on November 20, 2013 to

Willis Bennett



for outstanding contributions to Eaton County Parks and receiving
the 2013 Alvin Whitfield Community Service Award.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Debbie Stabenow".

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *113th* CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

House of Representatives

SPEECH OF
HON. TIM WALBERG
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013

Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the contributions made to Mid-Michigan by the folks of the Eaton County Parks and Recreation Commission and to recognize their recipients of the 2013 Alvin Whitfield Community Service Awards.

The Eaton County Parks and Recreation Commission has provided quality recreational activities to the citizens of Eaton County, Michigan since 1970, and are enabled by the help of many individuals, service clubs, and businesses.

The Parks Commission recently acknowledged the service of key contributors by awarding them with the Alvin Whitfield Community Service Award. These individuals exemplify the spirit of service displayed by Alvin Whitfield, a long time Parks Commissioner who has served Eaton County for many years. I am pleased to join the Parks Commission in recognizing the awardees:

Shelli Smith, Jill Sambour, Christine Heverly and Patrick Sustrich for their outstanding volunteer service and commitment to improving the quality of life in Eaton County;

Jill Russell, Joe Bristol, Chuck Pantera, John Hanieski and Rob Piercefield for their leadership role in support of Parks programs, special events and projects;

Aric Prudden, Jeff Smith, Wayne Curtis, Pat Harrington and Sherriff Tom Reich for their energy and leadership in sponsoring and administering unique participatory events to serve children of all ages;

And Valerie Glesnes-Anderson, Julie Powers, Terry VanDoren, Gerald Jaloszynski and Willis Bennett for providing valuable technical assistance, advice and financial support for the operation and management of the Parks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Alvin Whitfield 2013 Community Service Award nominees and thank them for their efforts that have greatly benefited Eaton County.

EATON COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Alvin Whitfield Community Service Awards

November 20, 2013

The Alvin Whitfield Community Service Awards are being presented for the third time since they were initiated in 2011, in honor of current Park Commissioner and Past President of the Friends of Eaton County Parks, Alvin Whitfield. Whitfield is a former executive with the Michigan Department of Corrections and active member of the Delta Township Lions Club. Mr. Whitfield is unable to attend due to health issues.

The Class of 2013 are recognized by their outstanding efforts to assist the Park and Recreation system, staff and citizens of Eaton County. Each recipient receives a resolution from the Parks Commission with additional recognition by a State Legislative Tribute sponsored by Senator Rick Jones, Representative Theresa Abed, Representative Mike Shirkey and signed by Governor Rick Snyder.

In addition to this tribute, 7th District Congressman Tim Walberg introduced a resolution into the Congressional Record on October 16, 2013. The honorees were further recognized with special accommodation by U.S Senator Debbie Stabenow. As the Eaton County Park system and programs continue to grow and prosper, the State and national recognition is very deserving.

Assisting in the presentations tonight is County Commission Chair Blake Mulder and Park Commission Chair Dr. L. Robert McConnell. Tonight's honorees were nominated for their assistance in a broad variety of support, which includes:

Sheriff Tom Reich for serving as honorary chair of our youth programs in football and baseball, and assisted by Pass, Punt and Kick Coordinator Coach Jeff Smith of Eaton Rapids, and Pitch, Hit and Run Coordinator Aric Prudden of Potterville. Special recognition is also given to Charlotte Non-Motorized Trail Committee Chair Patrick Sustrich, and Quiet Water Society representative Pat Harrington.

Community support has been outstanding from Jill Russell, Executive Director of the Grand Ledge Chamber of Commerce, Potterville Chamber of Commerce President Joe Bristol, Mulliken Village President Rob Piercefield, Thornapple Trail Association volunteer Wayne Curtis of Nashville and City of Charlotte Economic Development Director Bryan Myrkle.

Supplying technical assistance, mentoring advice and collaborative achievements includes Capitol Area Health Alliance Executive Director Valerie Glesnes-Anderson (Choosing Health programs), Mid Michigan Environmental Council Executive Director Julie Powers (HUD Planning Grant), Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority field representative Terry VanDoren, Delta Township Economic Development Committee Chair Dr. John Hanieski (pro-bono economic development analysis report), and Eaton County 4H Director Christine Hevarly.

Special programs, promotions and public policy changes were assisted by Barry-Eaton Health Department advocates Shelli Smith and Jill Sambaer, Sun Theatre owner Chuck Pantera (hosted special screening of Red Dawn movie), and Park Professionals and collaborating partners in Ingham County Director Willis Bennett and Clinton County Director Jerry Jaloszynski.

Copies of the resolutions will be framed and hung at the Lincoln Brick Park Lions Den/Museum Building in Grand Ledge.

JFG

CITIZEN CONTACT

When receiving comments or complaints from the public, complete as much of the following information as possible. This information will be passed along to the members of the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission.

Date: January 3, 2014
Name: Michael Taylor
Address: 4241 Bridgeport Drive, Lansing MI 48911
Phone: 517-930-3312
E-Mail: thetaylorclan@comcast.net

Contact by: phone

Nature of complaint or compliment: (Include park name, date, and park employee contact, if appropriate.)

Michael Taylor called to compliment park staff and the ski skating trails at Burchfield Park. He said the ski skating trails are the best trails he has been on in the last ten years. The staff does a great job of grooming and keeping up the trails. He said we have great rental equipment and his family enjoys ski skating at the park. He would like to suggest that Burchfield Park offer ski skating equipment for children – have at least 5-10 pairs for rental. He owns his own equipment, but would like to be able to have his kids rent the ski skating equipment. Overall, he is very impressed with the trails and the staff's hard work in keeping them maintained.

Contact information taken by: Nicole Wallace

Resolution of Citizen Contact Issue:

Nicole Wallace thanked the caller for his comments. Indicated that he would be added to our email newsletter list and his comments would be forwarded to board members, park manager and director.