

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, March 16, 2015.

**A MEETING OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Will Be Held at
5:30pm
Monday, March 16, 2015
Human Services Building
Conference Room B, Second Floor ~ 5303 S. Cedar, Building #3
Lansing, Michigan**

1. Call to Order
2. Limited Public Comment
3. Late Items / Deletions
4. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. [Highland River Adventures Proposal](#)
 - B. Ranger II Reorganization
 - C. Friends Meetings
 - D. Park Commission Agenda Items
5. Limited Public Comment
6. Adjournment

From: Paul Malewski [<mailto:paulmalewski@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:58 PM
To: Morgan, Timothy
Cc: Scott Fraser; Paul Malewski
Subject: Re: Meeting on 2-20-15

Mr. Timothy Morgan
Director, Ingham County Parks
121 E. Maple St.
suite 102
Mason, Mi. 48854

Dear Mr. Morgan,
Let this serve as confirmation of the verbal proposal that was presented to you on 2/20/15

Highland River Adventures agrees to perform all maintenance at the Mill St. canoe launch and adjoining park. Currently the Ingham County Parks Department is obligated to do so under an agreement with the City of Eaton Rapids in a lease agreement dated September 27th, 1982.

In exchange, Highland River Adventures wishes to utilize the ICPD landings at Bunker Rd., McNamara Landing and Burchfield Park to retrieve watercraft that are launched from the City of Eaton Rapids location. Highland River Adventures further agrees to place the ICPD on it's insurance, to aid and assist ICPD employees with launching boats at the Eaton Rapids launch and to provide free instruction to ICPD employees based on the guidelines established by the American Canoe Association.

Highland River Adventures also agrees to seek input from the ICPD on applicable safety and recreational programs that are sponsored by Highland River Adventures that will be mutually beneficial to both organizations.

It is our hope that through this agreement the Grand River will provide expanded recreational opportunities to all of the citizens of our state.

Respectfully,

Paul O. Malewski
Lead Instructor
ACA Certified in Kayak Instruction and Adaptive Paddling for the Disabled
Highland River Adventures
114 Mill St.
Eaton Rapids, Mi. 48827

To: Tim Morgan
From: Jeff Gehl
Date: February 23, 2015

RE: Recommendations from meeting with Highland Adventures

On Friday February 20th we had a meeting with Paul Malewski of Highland River Adventures based out of Eaton Rapids. Willis Bennett and myself have been working with this group for the past two years and came up with a solution that would allow them access to Bunker Landing. We discussed a document that described our rights to use the Eaton Rapids boat launching facility. In the document it states that we would be responsible for the maintenance of the Eaton Rapids boat launch. Mr. Malewski made a recommendation they would take over the maintenance of the Launch in exchange for us allowing them full access to the McNamara Landing and Burchfield Park rental landing.

When I first started working here twenty eight years ago we would mow the access at Eaton Rapids. At that time it consisted of a few lay down posts and a small gravel parking lot. A couple of years later I was contacted by Director Robert Moore and informed that I was no longer required to do maintenance at the Eaton Rapids facility because the City of Eaton Rapids was taking over that responsibility. It was evident this was the case in our most recent visit where we saw improvements to the area in the form of a sidewalk, paved parking lot, rip/rap on river, benches, and landscaping.

The canoe access at Burchfield Park was built for the sole purpose providing a landing area for our rental boats. It was never intended to provide the public with a launching or landing area. With over 70 rental boats available in 2015 and a limited amount of access it is not feasible to allow another vendor access to this area. One of the concern for the McNamara landing area site as stated by previous Director Willis Bennett is the availability of parking. This site is heavily used by hikers as well as mountain bikers for access to the south end of Burchfield Park. We have already seen a parking issue at the Bunker road landing where we have cars parking on the grass and at times limited maneuverability with the other trailers there.

I do not agree with Mr. Malewski they are not in direct competition with our rental program. I do not support the proposal by Highland River Adventures as was proposed at our Friday meeting. I am in favor of working with this group on occasion as they do perform many worthwhile activities. Some examples are a kayak trip for blind individuals or trips for handicapped and military personnel. We could look at allowing access to McNamara Landing for those types of special occasions provided they are not on a frequent basis. They would need to fill out a special event application and provide the parks department with the proper insurance. We may be available to work with this group in the future as additional developments to the landings become feasible.

Jeffrey T. Gehl

Section 14. Commercial Activities and Advertising. No person or organization shall advertise, vend, sell, post or distribute any service, food, beverage, merchandise, commercial leaflet, or poster within any park, except by prior written permit from the County or its designated representatives.