

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, October 17, 2011.

A MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE OF THE INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION Will Be Held at

6:00pm
Monday, October 17, 2011

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

1. Call to Order
2. Limited Public Comment
3. Discussion Items
 - A. Low Income Park Vehicle Fee "Draft" Policy
 - B. Hawk Island Snow Board/Snow Tube Hill Status
 - C. [Sponsorship Opportunities](#) in the Parks Report
 - i. Shelters
 - ii. Trike Track
 - iii. Newsletter
 - D. Volunteer of the Year
4. Action Item
 - A. [Amendment of Resolution #40-11](#) Approving a Special Deer Hunt at Lake Lansing Park-North
 - B. [Resolution](#) Recommending Approval of Amendment #4 with the Department of Natural Resources to Develop a Snow Tubing Hill at Hawk Island Park
5. Director's Report
 - A. Monthly Grant Status Report
 - B. [Resolution](#) Appointing Potter Park Zoological Society Executive Director Sherrie Graham as Interim Director of the Potter Park Zoo - FYI
6. Limited Public Comment
7. Adjournment

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 Department. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Ingham County Parks Department in writing or by calling the Ingham County Parks Office at P.O. Box 178, Mason, Michigan 48854 ~ Phone: (517) 676-2233.

A QUORUM OF PARK COMMISSION MEMBERS MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING

INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

DRAFT

Meeting of September 26, 2011

RESOLUTION # -11

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE AMENDMENT OF THE LOW INCOME PARK VEHICLE FEE POLICY AND THE "FREE MONDAY" RESOLUTIONS FOR VEHICLE ENTRANCE FEES

WHEREAS, the Ingham County Board of Commissioners passed Resolution #02-285 Approving Implementation of a Low Income Park Vehicle Fee Policy; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 the Parks Department issued 122 low income annual passes under the program and in 2010 issued 1,107 low income annual passes; and

WHEREAS, despite the \$2,400 cost of administering this program staff wishes to continue to make the parks available to all Ingham County residents regardless of income and have worked with members of the Parks & Recreation Commission to develop new low income park fee guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Commission will continue offering numerous complimentary recreational opportunities, such as free shelters for non-profit youth organizations, a safe swimming environment, free days at the individual parks, scholarships to Nature Day Camp, and free concerts for the residents of Ingham County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners passed Resolution #09-263 Restructuring the Revenue Collection of Parks Vehicle Entrance Fees and established seven day per week vehicle entrance fees and "Monday Free Days" at Lake Lansing Park South, Wm. Burchfield and Hawk Island Park; and

WHEREAS, staff has determined that as much as \$10,000 would be gained by changing the "Monday Free Days" to "Wednesday Free Days" with regard to the vehicle entrance fee due to increased park visitation on holidays throughout the year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Parks & Recreation Commission recommends the Board of Commissioners amend Resolution #02-285 to establish the following guidelines to continue to provide entrance into the parks for low income residents.




- A low income daily pass will be issued to a person who signs a form listing their name, address, and stating that paying the vehicle fee would be a hardship
- Park visitors requesting a Vehicle Entrance Fee Waiver would pay a \$1 administrative fee at the time the hardship form is submitted
- The park visitor requesting the Vehicle Entrance Fee Waiver would later provide to the Parks Office a copy of their, WIC, Medicaid, Bridge or SSI card, or a letter from SSI using directions provided at the time they submitted the hardship form
- Following receipt of the above documentation an annual pass will be mailed
- Daily passes will also continue to be made available free of charge through agencies recognized by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and the Ingham County Parks Commission as serving low-income residents

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Parks & Recreation Commission recommends the Board of Commissioners amend Resolution #09-263 and replace "Monday Free Day" with "Wednesday Free Day" each week with regard to vehicle entry fees at Burchfield Park, Lake Lansing Park-South, Hawk Island, and Lake Lansing Park-North if approved during the 2012 budget process.





BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Parks & Recreation Commission recommends the Board of Commissioners authorize free vehicle entrance fees and hardship passes be made available only to Ingham County Residents.




BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution will take effect on January 1, 2012.

**Hawk Island
Yearly Visitation 582,788**



<p>Kestrel Shelter Seats 60</p> <p>152 Shelter Reservations per year 6,835 Attendees First shelter on left driving into park, next to playground</p>	 A photograph of the Kestrel Shelter, a small wooden structure with a brown roof, situated on a grassy area next to a paved path. A sign in the foreground reads "KESTREL OPEN".
<p>Peregrine Shelter Seats 120</p> <p>151 Shelter Reservations per year 9,248 Attendees Second shelter on left driving into park</p>	 A photograph of the Peregrine Shelter, a larger wooden structure with a brown roof, situated on a grassy area next to a paved path.
<p>Red Tail Shelter Seats 375</p> <p>108 Shelter Reservations per year 18,870 Attendees Third shelter on left driving into park</p> <p>Used as registration site for 5k walk/runs</p>	 A photograph of the Red Tail Shelter, a large wooden structure with a brown roof, situated on a grassy area next to a paved path.

**Burchfield Park
Yearly Visitation 99,217**




<p align="center">Woodsong Shelter Seats 240</p> <p>39 Shelter Reservations per year 3,160 Attendees</p> <p>Drive straight to large parking lot on the left, right next to playground</p>	
<p align="center">North Bluff Shelter Seats 240</p> <p>51 Shelter Reservations per year 3,950 Attendees</p> <p>Drive straight to large parking lot on the left, right next to playground</p>	
<p align="center">Southridge Shelter Seats 60</p> <p>42 Shelter Reservations per year 1,1815 Attendees</p> <p>1st left, parking on right, overlooks softball diamond</p>	 <p align="center">View from shelter looking toward entrance road</p>
<p align="center">Overlook Shelter Seats 300</p> <p>28 Shelter Reservations per year 2,264 Attendees</p> <p>1st right to parking lot, near basketball court, secluded</p>	

<p style="text-align: center;">Pine Knoll Shelter Seats 60</p> <p>27 Shelter Reservations per year 981 Attendees</p> <p>1st right, then right again, secluded on hill along woods</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Deer Run Shelter Seats 60</p> <p>35 Shelter Reservations per year 1,343 Attendees</p> <p>1st left - follow to end of parking lot, in a shaded area</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Winter Sports Building Seats 100</p> <p>30 Reservations per year 369 Attendees</p> <p>Used as warming house during winter sports</p> <p>Used for summer day camp with 200 attendees from June-August</p>	


**Lake Lansing South
Yearly Visitation 207,362**

<p>Main Shelter Seats 300</p> <p>115 Shelter Reservations per year 13,516 Attendees</p> <p>Shelter next to band shell concert stage (12,680 attend free Friday night concerts in the summer)</p>	 A large, open-sided wooden shelter with a brown roof, situated on a grassy area. In the foreground, there are yellow and pink flowers. The shelter is surrounded by trees in the background.
<p>Lakeview Shelter Seats 60</p> <p>73 Shelter Reservations per year 3,100 Attendees</p> <p>Follow parking to left, in shaded area</p>	 A smaller, open-sided wooden shelter with a brown roof, located in a shaded area with large trees. The ground is covered with dark mulch and some yellow flowers.




**Lake Lansing North
Yearly Visitation 131,600**

<p style="text-align: center;">Main Shelter Seats 240</p> <p>54 Shelter Reservations per year 5,979 Attendees</p> <p>Drive into park, turn left to parking lot</p>	 A large, open-sided wooden shelter with a brown roof, situated in a wooded area with many trees and fallen leaves on the ground.
<p style="text-align: center;">Oak Knoll Shelter Seats 60</p> <p>38 Shelter Reservations per year 1,612 Attendees</p> <p>Drive into park, take right, first lot, secluded near trails</p>	 A smaller wooden shelter with a dark roof, located in a grassy area with a paved path leading to it and trees in the background.
<p style="text-align: center;">Sandhill Shelter Seats 60</p> <p>62 Shelter Reservations per year 2,860 Attendees</p> <p>Drive into park, take right to last lot, shaded area near playground</p>	 A wooden shelter with a brown roof, situated on a paved area with picnic tables and surrounded by trees.

Baldwin Park
Yearly Visitation 21,405

<p>Riverview Shelter Seats 40</p> <p>18 Shelter Reservations per year 755 Attendees</p>	
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Potter Park
Yearly Visitation 438,444

<p style="text-align: center;">Penguin Cove Shelter Seats 60</p> <p>47 Shelter Reservations per year 2,245 Attendees</p> <p>First shelter on left driving into park</p>	 A photograph of the Penguin Cove Shelter, a large, open-sided pavilion with a white metal roof and wooden support posts. It is situated on a grassy area with trees in the background.
<p style="text-align: center;">Tiger Den Shelter Seats 300</p> <p>44 Shelter Reservations per year 8,270 Attendees</p> <p>Second shelter on left driving into park</p>	 A photograph of the Tiger Den Shelter, a large, two-story brick building with a brown tiled roof. It has several large openings and is surrounded by trees and a paved area.
<p style="text-align: center;">Eagle Landing Shelter Seats 80</p> <p>66 Shelter Reservations per year 3,847 Attendees</p> <p>Third shelter on left driving into park, right next to playground</p>	 A photograph of the Eagle Landing Shelter, a large, open-sided pavilion with a dark metal roof and wooden support posts. It is situated on a grassy area with trees in the background.

INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting of October 24, 2011
RESOLUTION # -11

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION #40-11 APPROVING A SPECIAL DEER HUNT AT LAKE LANSING PARK-NORTH

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has requested Parks & Recreation Commission Resolution #40-11 be amended to include the following changes in wording:

~~WHEREAS, Michigan Department of Natural Resources states the square mile carrying capacity of deer should range between 15-20 and it has been determined the Lake Lansing Park North herd size is approaching 50; and~~

WHEREAS, Michigan Department of Natural Resources suggest that minimizing impacts to natural communities and associated wildlife may require managing herds at <20 deer per square miles and Ingham County Parks Staff estimates deer numbers in Lake Lansing Park-North to be approximately 50 deer per square mile; and

~~WHEREAS, State of Michigan Ecologists have recommended that deer control efforts are essential at Lake Lansing Park North due to overbrowsing of native plant species; and~~

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources states that an abundant deer population may lead to deer in poor physical condition which may increase their susceptibility to disease; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources states overbrowsing of plant life can lead to the deer population being susceptible to disease and starvation; and

WHEREAS, deer/car accidents have increased over the last five years especially on roads adjacent to Lake Lansing Park North; and

WHEREAS, out of 6,736 deer/car accidents in Ingham County in the past five years 745 (11%) took place in Meridian Township alone; and

WHEREAS, Ingham County Parks has been contacted by over 45 Lake Lansing area residents regarding continued deer damage to their own personal property; and

WHEREAS, all deer harvested will be donated to Sportsmen Against Hunger for processing and given to local charities designated by the Parks & Recreation Commission.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission recommends that the Board of Commissioners approve a special white tail deer hunt at Lake Lansing Park-North in January or February of 2012.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Ingham County Parks staff will work with Michigan Department of Natural Resources staff to develop a working deer management plan for the future which will include items such as education, fencing, and recommended landscape plantings.

~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that if the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Biologist's determine that the carrying capacity is not met during the 2012 hunt subsequent hunts may be recommended for 2013 and 2014.~~

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, local Michigan Department of Natural Resources biologists have stated that damage to vegetation, incidents of deer/vehicle accidents, and simple observations provide direct evidence and measures of the impacts of deer populations intended to be managed and suggest Park Staff monitor/survey the vegetation and car/vehicle accident rates and work in cooperation with the local Michigan Department of Natural Resources biologist to evaluate the success/failure of the Ingham County Parks deer management program in order to determine whether future hunts in 2013 and 2014 would be necessary.*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission will continue to work in cooperation with Meridian Township on solutions to deer overpopulation and will conduct public hearings prior to any scheduled hunts.

INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting of October 24, 2011

RESOLUTION # -11

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT #4
WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO DEVELOP
A SNOW TUBING HILL AT HAWK ISLAND PARK**

WHEREAS, Board of Commissioner Resolution #08-063 authorized the acceptance of a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant to fund a snow tubing hill at Hawk Island Park; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department has petitioned the Department of Natural Resources for an extension due to construction delays relating to the grading of the snow tubing hill; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department has requested an extension through December 15th, 2011 in order to complete the work and anticipates opening the snow tube hill to the public on December 17, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission desires to complete the project as proposed in order to continue to provide recreational opportunities to the residents of Ingham County.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Amendment #4 of the agreement with the Department of Natural Resources extending the project period completion deadline from October 31, 2011 to December 15, 2011 be recommended to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting of October 24, 2011
RESOLUTION # -11

RESOLUTION APPOINTING POTTER PARK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHERRIE GRAHAM AS INTERIM DIRECTOR OF THE POTTER PARK ZOO

WHEREAS, After 22 years of dedicated service to his profession and the Potter Park Zoo, Gerry Brady has announced he will be retiring from his position as Director of the Potter Park Zoo effective January 18, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Potter Park Zoo Board, Potter Park Zoological Society, and Ingham County wish to honor Gerry Brady's legacy by facilitating a smooth managerial transition while enabling him to focus his remaining County time ensuring the Zoo maintains its AZA accreditation; and

WHEREAS, Ingham County has entered into a contract with the City of Lansing for the operation and maintenance of 40 additional City of Lansing Parks to be managed by Ingham County Parks Director Willis Bennett, requiring a sacrifice of time and attention to the needs of the Potter Park Zoo; and

WHEREAS, within the last year, the Potter Park Zoological Society, a 501(C)(3) organization including staff and volunteers, has demonstrated sound fiscal responsibility and raised the quality and success of public relations, marketing and educational programs, all while fostering team partnership with, and providing additional assistance to, Ingham County to affect the seamless Zoo experience set as a goal by all involved; and

WHEREAS, said achievements have been made under the leadership and direction of the Potter Park Zoological Society Executive Director Sherrie Graham enabled through her extensive career experience in related capacities; and

WHEREAS, the Potter Park Zoo Board is recommending the Potter Park Zoological Society Executive Director Sherrie Graham expand her role and be appointed as the Interim Director of the Potter Park Zoo upon final passage of this resolution and until a permanent zoo director is appointed; and

WHEREAS, the appointment would need to be formalized through an amendment to the existing contract between the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and the Potter Park Zoological Society; and

WHEREAS, Interim Director Sherrie Graham will assume the operational and supervisory duties held by Gerry Brady and will represent the Zoo at the necessary Potter Park Zoo Board, Parks and Recreation Commission and Liaison Committee meetings of the Board of Commissioners.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Parks and Recreation Commission recommends the Board of Commissioners approve the negotiation of a contract amendment with the Potter Park Zoological Society for its Executive Director Sherrie Graham to also serve as the Interim Director of the Potter Park Zoo, under mutually agreeable terms and conditions to both parties, effective upon the approval of this resolution by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that mutually agreeable terms include the Interim Director must complete a needs assessment to determine the future staffing structure at the zoo.

