

Allegan County Parks Advisory Board



Allegan County Parks, Recreation &
Tourism
3283 122nd Ave
Allegan, MI 49010
269-686-9088
parks@allegancounty.org
<http://www.allegancounty.org>

Chairperson: Pam Brown
Vice Chairperson: Joshua Driscoll

Pam Brown
616-490-1627
Allegan

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – AGENDA

Tuesday, April 15, 2025@ 8:30am

County Service Building – Board Room -3283 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010

Virtual Option: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82032598348>

John Clark III
269-274-2736
Allegan

CALL TO ORDER: Brown called to order at 8:30am

**Mark
DeYoung**
616-318-9612
Dorr

ROLL CALL: All present

Present: Pam Brown, Joshua Driscoll, Kevin Formsma, Jaclyn Hulst, John Clark III, Joisah Lampen, Tom Jessup, Mark DeYoung, Don Olendorf

Absent: None

**Joshua
Driscoll**
616-218-5797
Hamilton

Also Present: Brandy Gildea, Heather Stormzand

- Gildea introduced new member, Don Olendorf and then had everyone introduce themselves to the new member.

**Kevin
Formsma**
616-886-7030
Hamilton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Hulst, seconded by Driscoll, to approve the February 4, 2025 minutes. The motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

Jaclyn Hulst
616-834-2436
Zeeland

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS: None

Tom Jessup
269-637-3374
South Haven

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Hulst, seconded by Clark, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS: NONE

**Josiah
Lampen**
616-610-4646
Allegan

PARK ADMINISTRATION UPDATES:

- **Startup of Parks Season:**
 - Seasonal staff started on April 14th. They are currently cleaning the grounds and preparing for the upcoming season. Silver Creek is their first cleanup location in preparation for upcoming events, followed by Ely Lake and finally Littlejohn, in anticipation of the Disc Golf Course grand opening on May 10th.
 - Restrooms will be opened and maintained on a daily basis starting May 1st. Vault toilets remain open year-round.
- **Parks, Recreation & Newsletter:**
 - Within the first week, there were 30 people signed up for the newsletter.
 - A possible QR code linking to the park's newsletter or website could be posted throughout the park. QR codes will be created and displayed on park signage across all park locations.

Don Olendorf
269-208-9286
Fennville

- Clark asked to get speed limit signs on the maintenance road at Littlejohn.
 - DeYoung suggested a flashing sign that says you are speeding.
- **Tourist Council Update:**
 - The Tourist Council held its February meeting with full attendance. Discussions continue about whether to maintain or dissolve the group. They also expressed a desire not to meet jointly or be involved in meetings with the Parks Advisory Board
- **Littlejohn Lake Parks Disc Golf Course Update:**
 - Brown inquired about the brush piles left along the back driveway and when they would be removed. Driscoll said they are working to get equipment out that will chop this up.
 - Grand Opening is scheduled for May 10th at 10 a.m. Please invite everyone. The Parks Advisory Board is requested to attend and participate in the ribbon-cutting.
- **Park Ordinance 1010.1 – Internal review:**
 - Gildea has contacted the Park Rangers, and they are working to revise some language, with two potential major rule changes:
 - Allowing alcohol use during special events.
 - Permitting dogs on beaches during the off-season.
 - Hulst asked how the 6-foot leash rule applies to horseback riders. Brown noted that riders and their dogs are trained. Gildea explained that Michigan law specifically requires dogs to be on a 6-foot leash.
 - Gildea asked the Parks Advisory Board to review the current park rules and email her any suggested amendments. She will present those to the Board of Commissioners.
- **Shared external SharePoint site:**
 - Gildea explained the SharePoint site and what users can view.
 - Hulst asked about ranger information, but Gildea clarified that such information is not public. However, she will connect Hulst and Lampen to coordinate on the tree project.
 - Jessup provided Gildea with a business card for a DNR Representative as a contact for the tree project.
- **Recreation plan update:**
 - The recreation plan was submitted to the Board of Commissioners for review, but the Administration is waiting until a suggested funding solution can be approved along with it to ask for BOC approval
 - The national community survey, which included a question about support for a Parks millage, has been completed, and the Board of Commissioners will review this data at their next meeting on April 24, 2025. After reviewing the results, a discussion will occur about moving forward with a millage. If supported, the rec plan could be brought back for approval by May or early June.
 - Survey data will be shared with departments as soon as the Board of Commissioners reviews the data.
- **Gun Lake Pay Machine:**

- The current machine will become outdated and no longer accept credit cards in August as the company will no longer support dial-up internet, which is what we use to process credit cards now. It will need to be either upgraded or replaced. Gildea is preparing a scoping document for a capital project to address this.
 - Driscoll requested to see Q3 and Q4 revenue data to evaluate whether those funds could cover the cost. Gildea stated they will not.
 - Clark suggested exploring a donation option, possibly using a QR code. Gildea will need to coordinate with the Finance Department to develop a donation account.

REVIEW ITEMS:

Financial Statements

Review Quarter Revenue Comparisons:

- Gildea presented data showing that pavilion and campground rental revenues are on track.
- Olendorf inquired about West Side revenue, noting the pavilion is the only income source there

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION ITEMS:

- None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- None

NOTICE OF PARK ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

- Vacancy: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Parks Operation Plan
- Olendorf would like to discuss funding for the West Side and how to move projects forward. Possibly explore funding methods previously used by Pier Cove.

ROUND TABLE:

Lampen: None

Olendorf: None

Clark: None

Formsma: None

Jessup: None

Brown: Pleasure riders out at the park this weekend for clean-up days at Silver Creek

DeYoung: None

Driscoll: Their group will be at Littlejohn for disc golf course cleanup and maintenance. He expressed appreciation for the detailed minutes from last month.

Hulst: Asked if she could represent the Parks Advisory Board at the Trowbridge Township Superfund meeting. Gildea stated Hulst may attend and let them know she is a member of the Parks Advisory Board and plans to report back with information from the meeting. Also Hungry For Christ Food Ministry is doing a pancake breakfast April 26th from 8-10:30am

ADJOURNMENT: Next Meetings:

- Regularly Scheduled Parks Meeting: June 3, 2025 @ 8:30 am in County Service Building – Board Room -3283 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010

A motion was made by Driscoll, seconded by Hulst to adjourn the meeting at 9:56am. The motion carried.