

## MINUTES

### *Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee*

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

2:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Meeting / (248) 509-0316 | ID: 200 794 304#

#### **PRESENT FOR THE MSPAC**

Attending remotely:

Ann Conklin; Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan  
Julie Clark; Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, Michigan  
Jim Bradley; Ogden, Utah  
Bob Hoffmeyer; Fort Myers, Florida  
Chris Graham; Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, Michigan  
Shaun McKeon; Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan  
Mary Pitcher; Lake Township, Benzie County, Michigan

#### **ABSENT**

Dave Nyberg  
Mike Foote  
Mike McDonald

#### **PRD STAFF PRESENT**

Ron Olson, Chief  
Vicki McGhee  
Scott Pratt  
Barbara Graves

#### **OPENING COMMENTS**

**Committee member Ann Conklin** called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Committee member Ann Conklin** motioned for approval of the December 8, 2021, meeting minutes. The motion was moved by **Julie Clark**, supported by **Chris Graham**, and passed unanimously.

#### **GENERAL UPDATES**

##### **Ron Olson, Chief, PRD**

The governor will present the fiscal year 2023 budget tonight. Senate Bills 702, 703 and 704 regarding the Federal Cares funds have yet to be scheduled for hearings, but they have been told

that the official introduction may be in early March. Staff are preparing for a presentation to the legislative committee as an overview prior to introduction.

The Porkies and Silver Lake concessions summaries were provided to members that contain a context of the bids, in response to a lot of attention they have received.

Camping and Recreation Passport metrics are up. The Park system itself is still in the positive, particularly for the 2022 season.

### MSPAC Draft Restructure Plan

Chief Olson went over the final draft of the Restructure Plan.

**Committee member Conklin** would like to clarify the committee's purpose. **Committee member Clark** agreed and would also suggest adding a southwest Michigan member and remove one at-large member. **Committee member Graham** would like to add "public" in the bylaw statement "Serve as a public liaison and coordinate with other agencies to ensure a cooperative effort to provide the most effective and economical services possible at all Michigan state parks." **Chief Olson** suggested that after adopting the resolution and the changes, that after new committee members are brought on board to have a retreat to have robust conversation on goals and strategies. The process of reapplying and applying will be sent to the members.

### MOTION:

**Committee member Ann Conklin** asked for a motion of support to adopt Resolution 02-2022-01 with the suggested changes of adding a southwest Michigan member, removing one at-large member, and adding "public" to the second to the last bullet in the bylaws. The motion was moved by **Mary Pitcher**, supported by **Julie Clark**, and passed unanimously.

### House Proposed Bills Introduced to Amend the Recreation Passport Statutes: HBs 5408, 5409, 5410

Chief Olson gave a summary of HBs 5408, 5409, and 5410; One would enable a 50/30 Recreation Passport funding split be combined to 80 and would create flexibility in spending in order to efficiently operate the system. The second bill would provide a change to the vehicle registration form to include the Recreation Passport fee with the registration fee, a box for opting out of the Recreation Passport, and another new box that gives people the option to donate \$15 to support the state parks. A third bill would carve out a \$350K one-time payment to the Secretary of State, for their expenses to tee up their software and create and manage the form. These bills were drafted prior to the legislature adopting the two-year registration cycle. They will be amended to accommodate this cycle.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

# RESOLUTION NO. 02-2022-01

## MICHIGAN STATE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MSPAC)

### RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE MSPAC RESTRUCTURE PLAN AND REVISED BYLAWS

**ADOPTED: February 9, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee has been in existence since 2005;

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee's proposed draft restructure plan and bylaws were drafted with input by the Committee and the Department;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee recommends a resolution to adopt the restructure plan and revised bylaws:

Submitted by: Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee

**Motioned by: Mary Pitcher**

**Seconded by: Julie Clark**

**Yeas: 7**

**Nays: 0**

**Abstained: 0**

**Absent: 3**

*This Resolution was adopted by the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee at their regular meeting on February 9, 2022, as Resolution No. 02-2022-01*

**BYLAWS OF THE  
MICHIGAN STATE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee (MSPAC).

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Committee is to:

- Advise and make recommendations to the Chief of the Parks and Recreation Division of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on state parks policy and provide guidance on state park development, management, stewardship, funding, and planning issues.
- Seek the development of a broad variety of programs, facilities, and services for citizens utilizing Michigan state parks and recreation areas.
- Inform and educate the public about the importance of, and need for, Michigan's state parks.
- Strive to involve citizens in the planning and development of Michigan state parks, and to ensure that the facilities, programs, and projects are barrier-free and accessible to all citizens.
- Establish and maintain effective public relations regarding state parks, utilizing all appropriate communications media.
- Advise on financial planning and pursue adequate budget support for Michigan state parks.
- Serve as a public liaison and coordinate with other agencies to ensure a cooperative effort to provide the most effective and economical services possible at all Michigan state parks.
- Evaluate the state parks programs, facilities, services, and relationships periodically to assure that the committee's goals and objectives are being achieved.

**ARTICLE III - COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Composition

The Committee shall consist of 12 individuals appointed by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, with the recommendation from the Chief of Parks and Recreation.

The committee will have one ex-officio, non-voting member that is a current member of the Natural Resources Commission.

Goal – Retain a committee that represents diverse perspectives statewide to advise on the state park and recreation system. Direction, planning and policy considerations.

Makeup:

12-member committee

- 1 Michigan United Conservation Clubs
  - 1 Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance
  - 1 mParks
  - 1 Michigan Environmental Council
  - 1 U.P.
  - 1 Northwest Lower Peninsula
  - 1 Northeast Lower Peninsula
  - 1 Mid Michigan
  - 1 Southeast Michigan
  - 1 Southwest Michigan
  - 1 At Large member that may include representation from other mission related groups.
- 
- 1 The committee will have one ex-officio, non-voting member that is a current member of the Natural Resources Commission

Qualifications:

- 1) Geographic location
- 2) Experience using the state park system
- 3) Outdoor recreation organizational involvement
- 4) Assessment of their reason for serving

Section 2: Compensation

Members shall serve without pay. Members of the committee may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the committee pursuant to established guidelines.

Section 3: Terms

Committee members shall serve:

- 4 positions will be 2-year appointments
- 4 positions will be 3-year appointments
- 3 positions will be 4-year appointments
- The ex-officio is appointed by the Natural Resource Commission

**ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS**

Section 1: Title and Number

The elective officers of the committee shall be a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Stewardship Committee Chair, and Finance and Resource Committee Chair.

## Section 2: Election

Every other year, at the first meeting of the year, the Chief of Parks and Recreation will recommend to the DNR Director the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Officers will serve for a three-year term.

## Section 3: Chairperson

The Chairperson shall preside at meetings of the committee, appoint sub-committees, and perform all duties generally pertaining to the office of the Chairperson.

## Section 4: Vice-Chairperson

The Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in their absence.

## Section 5: Removal

Committee officers may be removed from office by a vote of the majority of the members of the committee.

## Section 6: Vacancy

The Director of the DNR and Chief of Parks and Recreation will select a member to fill a committee vacancy. A person so appointed shall serve for the remainder of the term.

# **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

## Section 1: Number

The committee shall meet a minimum of six times per year that coincide, if possible, with regularly scheduled NRC meetings.

## Section 2: Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson.

## Section 3: Quorum

Six members of the committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the committee. A majority of the members constituting a quorum and serving are required for official action of the committee.

## Section 4: Policy Position

All proposed policy positions shall be sent to the committee members at least one week in advance of the next scheduled meeting. Electronic mailings are acceptable.

### Section 5: Emergency Resolutions

The adoption of emergency resolutions - those not sent out one week prior to a scheduled meeting shall require the approval of three-fourths of those constituting a quorum.

### Section 6: Official Records

The official records of the committee shall be kept by and at the offices of the Department of Natural Resources. A writing prepared, owned, used in the possession of or retained by the committee in the performance of an official function is subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

### Section 7: Notice

Notice of all meetings of the committee shall follow the notification procedures consistent with those of the Natural Resources Commission. Minutes of the previous meeting shall be submitted to the committee members prior to the next meeting.

### Section 8: Open Meetings

The business of the committee shall be conducted at a public meeting of the committee, and may be held, with proper notice, electronically.

### Section 9: Conduct

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the committee, except as provided in the adopted bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VI - REMOVAL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### Section 1: Removal

The committee or the DNR may remove a member of the committee for incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause upon a majority vote of the members.

### Section 2: Non-Attendance at Meetings

An individual shall be removed from the committee if he or she does not attend four consecutive meetings of the committee.

## **ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Committee at a meeting at which a quorum is present, provided that the proposed amendment is circulated to the members at least ten days in advance of the regular or special meeting at which the members are to vote.