

*MUSKEGON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS*  
*Community Development/Strategic Planning Committee*  
*AGENDA*

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May 14, 2020 – 3:30 PM

Via Zoom



Charles Nash, Chair  
Kenneth Mahoney, Vice-Chair

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- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call
- 3) Approval of the Minutes of April 9, 2020
- 4) Public Comment (on an agenda item)
- 5) Items for Consideration  
CD/SP20/05 – 06 (Parks) To authorize staff to hire Austin Carlson and Marlee Anderson as Interim Meinert Park Caretakers with all associated costs paid from Parks Department funds.
- 6) Old Business  
“Love Lives Here” Resolution
- 7) New Business
- 8) Public Comment
- 9) Final Board Comment
- 10) Adjournment

**Public Comment**

Persons may address the Commission during the time set aside for Public Comment or at any time by suspension of the rules. All persons must address the commission and state their name for the record. Comments shall be limited to **two (2) minutes** for each participant, unless time is extended prior to the public comment period by a vote of a majority of the commission.

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**Muskegon County  
Community Development/Strategic Planning Committee  
April 9, 2020  
3:30 p.m.  
WebEx**

**Charles Nash, Chair**

**Kenneth Mahoney, Vice-Chair**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Nash at 4:50 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Gary Foster, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Susie Hughes, Zach Lahring, Kenneth, Mahoney, Charles Nash, Robert Scolnik, I. John Snider, II, Rillastine Wilkins

Also Present: Mark Eisenbarth, County Administrator; Kathy Tharp, Administrative Coordinator

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Commissioner Hovey-Wright, supported by Commissioner Foster, to approve the minutes of March 12, 2020, as written.

Roll Call:

Yes: Robert Scolnik, I. John Snider, III, Rillastine Wilkins, Gary Foster, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Susie Hughes, Zach Lahring, Kenneth Mahoney, Charles Nash

No: None

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (On an agenda item)**

None.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

CD/SP20/04 – 04      It was moved by Chairman Hughes, supported by Commissioner Foster, to approve the adoption of the License Agreement with Unity Christian Events/Alive On The Lakeshore to provide a license for the use of Heritage Landing August 5-8, 2020 for the Unity Christian Music Festival, and to authorize the Chairperson of the County Board to execute the agreement

Roll Call:

Yes: I. John Snider, III, Rillastine Wilkins, Gary Foster, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Susie Hughes, Zach Lahring, Kenneth Mahoney, Robert Scolnik, Charles Nash

No: None

Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Hughes recommended as we move forward with WebEx that future Board meetings include only those people on the specific agenda be included on the video including Board members, Administration, Finance Director, Health Director, Corporate Counsel, and any other staff on the agenda. Once, the meeting moves to public comment, those people would also be added. Chairman Hughes also recommended to make the video feed available to all staff, directors, and the public and will work with IT Director Mr. Phillips to make this possible. Commissioner Nash and Commissioner Hovey-Wright agreed.

Commissioner Lahring inquired regarding the update from Administration regarding furloughs and layoffs of non-essential county employees. Administrator Eisenbarth advised that he would be addressing this at Full Board on Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

Commissioner Lahring made the motion to reduce all elected officials salaries by 50% until the COVID-19 issue is resolved. After discussion and corporate counsel input, the motion was not supported and failed.

Mr. Mark Eisenbarth, Muskegon County Administrator, addressed the building closure and Executive Order 2020-21 and recommended extending the closure through April 30, 2020. Administrator Eisenbarth will send a memorandum to staff regarding same.

CD/SP 20/04-05      It was moved by Chairman Hughes, supported by Commissioner Snider, to extend the building closures through April 30, 2020, and continue to pay employees until further order of the Board.

Roll Call:

Yes: Rillastine Wilkins, Gary Foster, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Susie Hughes, Kenneth Mahoney, Robert Scolnik, I. John Snider, III, Charles Nash

No: Zach Lahring

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Ann Derouin addressed the Board regarding Hackley Administration Building and WebEx.

### **FINAL BOARD COMMENT**

Chairman Hughes made the comment that she believes the Board is making good progress regarding WebEx and hopes we will continue to make good progress.

Commissioner Snider commented that he wishes for everyone to stay safe.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Community Development/Strategic Planning Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

# REQUEST FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION-COUNTY OF MUSKEGON

COMMITTEE Community Development		BUDGETED X	NON-BUDGETED	PARTIALLY BUDGETED
REQUESTING DEPARTMENT CVB/Parks		COMMITTEE DATE May 14, 2020		REQUESTOR SIGNATURE Bob Lukens
SUMMARY OF REQUEST (GENERAL DESCRIPTION, FINANCING, OTHER OPERATIONAL IMPACT, POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES)				
<p>The current caretakers of Meinert Park notified Parks management in early March that their last day as caretakers would be March 31, 2020. Parks staff needs to put a new caretaker in place before the upcoming camping season, which begins on May 15, 2020 or whenever camping is deemed safe to campers and staff.</p> <p>Without a caretaker, Parks staff will be limited in performing their regular daily camping season tasks, including: supervising 3 seasonal staff assigned to the park, check-ins/outs, accepting and processing payments via credit card, spring and fall clean-ups, winterizing bathrooms and the cabin, beach clean-ups, overall security, and snow plowing, grounds maintenance and lawn cutting, trash removal, restroom janitorial services, and other maintenance duties and services at Meinert Park.</p> <p>Meinert Park caretakers are 24/7/365 contracted employees who are paid through the Parks fund. They are compensated at \$1,000 per month, are provided full-time residence in the Park office/residence building, and are allocated an annual stipend of \$1,500 for gas and \$1,200 for electrical service.</p> <p>Because of the immediate need for a caretaker's presence at Meinert Park as the upcoming camping season nears, staff proposes to hire Austin Carlson and his fiancé Marlee Anderson as Interim Caretakers as soon as possible. Mr. Carlson's father was a former caretaker at Meinert Park, and Austin Carlson grew up at the park and is very familiar with Meinert and its layout and operations.</p> <p>Because of the immediate need for caretakers at Meinert Park, staff recommends hiring Austin Carlson and Marlee Anderson as Interim Meinert Park Caretakers.</p>				
SUGGESTED MOTION (STATE EXACTLY AS IT SHOULD APPEAR IN THE MINUTES)				
Move to authorize staff to hire Austin Carlson and Marlee Anderson as Interim Meinert Park Caretakers with all associated costs paid from Parks Department funds.				
ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYSIS (AS APPLICABLE)				
<u>HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYSIS:</u>		<u>FINANCE &amp; MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS:</u>		
				
<u>CORPORATE COUNSEL ANALYSIS:</u>		<u>ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION:</u>		
				
If motion originates from a Statutory Board, Authority or Advisory Committee, please provide the date the motion was approved by that Board/Authority/Committee				N/A
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# County of Muskegon



## RESOLUTION

### Statement of support

#### “Love Lives Here”

WHEREAS, we are so proud to live, work and play in this beautiful diverse community we call home. Sadly, for some members of our community, what others might view as isolated incidents represent a sentiment they experience in their daily lives and points to a disturbing realization that we are not as far along the path of reconciliation and unity as we had hoped. Acts by individuals acting in a hateful way or by hate groups must be rejected; they do not represent who we are in Muskegon.

WHEREAS, Edmund Burke’s words, “All that is necessary for evil to triumph is that good men do nothing,” move us to step forward. We realize that silence appears to be acceptance, and we also recognize that we can and must stand against those who seek to tear down our community through hatred and bigotry. We do not accept hate, and we will not be silent.

WHEREAS, we are speaking against hatred and bigotry—but, just as importantly, we are speaking for love and respect. **LOVE LIVES HERE.** Being silent when another is attacked verbally, physically, overtly or passively is not acceptable. We cannot, and we will not be silent.

WHEREAS, hatred and bigotry are not welcome in our neighborhoods, our schools, our workplaces or our community. Our economic wellbeing rests on our interconnectedness; we cannot thrive if anyone is excluded. It matters not your race, ethnicity, country of origin, faith, or sexual/affectional orientation—we are all here on this earth for a purpose, we all share our love for our families, we all want to live the American Dream, we all aspire to be the best that we can be. We must acknowledge that any differences we have with those that do not look or speak or love the way we do are greatly outweighed by what we do have in common.

WHEREAS, today and always we stand against hate and for each other. **LOVE LIVES HERE.** We commit ourselves to difficult conversations that bring better understanding and cohesiveness to our community. We commit to active listening that respects other viewpoints without belittling or degrading.

Whereas, we commit to not just one event or action, but to continuous respectful behavior, compassionate listening, and recognition of our individual and collective responsibility to harmony and justice in the Greater Muskegon community.

WHEREAS, we remember and affirm Elie Wiesel’s words: “We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.”

THEREFORE, we stand together renouncing hate and bigotry and affirming our interconnectedness. **We encourage all to be part of LOVE LIVES HERE, respecting a variety of conversations and cultures, where everyone feels welcome to share their contributions, making us all stronger together, and moving forward with hope and in peace.**