

**DAVISON TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
May 21, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Tim Elkins, Clerk Cindy Shields, Treasurer Pat Miller,
Trustee Travis Howell
Via phone: Matthew Karr
Parks & Rec. Director Casey Reed
Recording Secretary Rhonda Clark

OTHERS PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Davison Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 8:43 am at the Davison Township Municipal Building, 1280 N. Irish Road, Davison, MI 48423.

NEW BUSINESS

Summer 2020 Parks System Plan Discussion

Casey began with a slide presentation of the CDC Guidelines which outlines the State and Local Parks can open at their discretion as long as social distancing is practiced. The state parks are open with no amenities. At this time there is no evidence that Covid-19 can spread through the water, however playgrounds, water parks activities, and sport activities are prohibited. The Parks Department sent out a survey with 556 returned; 386 people responded and stated they are living with limited contact with the public and only leaving home when necessary. Two Hundred Twelve people would come to the lake if opened, some answered they would only come when the state was not restricting gatherings. Together over 50% of the respondents said they would come to the lake if opened this year. The consensus of our MParks Region members is they will not open any rental facilities, dog parks, restroom areas, or public gathering areas until at least June 1st. The Genesee County Parks will not be opening pools, but will be opening the beaches after next week's Stay Home, Stay Safe announcement. With this, Casey feels it is vital that we do everything we can to keep parks open and available to our community, however, safety is top priority when discussing how this will look. She gave a brief breakdown of the areas as follows:

- Black Creek Trail – display signs along trail with guidelines and that we will be regularly monitoring to determine if trails will continue to stay open.
- Dog Park- keep closed until Stay Home order are lifted and limit capacity to social distancing guidelines with signage stating use is at own risk.
- Kitchen School-keep closed, allow rentals once social distancing guidelines are lifted.

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- Lake Callis-open the beach and fishing areas only with a limit of 150 cars to maintain the social distancing.
- Williams Nature Center- keep the rental areas closed until Stay Home orders are lifted, trails are open with social distancing.

All of these openings will have to be prepared with staff, PPE equipment, cleaning solutions, patrolling and security. She suggested adding port-a-johns with signage about cleaning at each park. She also explained the virtual recreation programs that has started.

There was discussion about the different alternatives to opening each area, the restrooms, staffing, safety and not opening at all. It was suggested to open the gates to the public at Lake Callis, no charge, certain areas restricted, during working hours only, and proper signage. Once all signage has been posted, if restrictions are not followed then the Lake Callis park can be closed. The rest of the parks will operate as has been until the Stay Home orders are lifted, then they will be evaluated again.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 am.

Cindy K. Shields, Clerk

Timothy W. Elkins, Supervisor