Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission
May 20, 2026 3:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Agenda
Public Access is provided via YouTube at:
https://www.youtube.com/@OttawaCountyParks/streams

Mission Statement:
The mission of the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission is to enhance well-being by stewarding a connected system of natural communities and promoting outdoor experiences.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call: Bush
   Greenlee
   Harris
   Hill
   Kuyers
   Longstreet
   McAffrey
   Reichardt
   Rice
   Sachs

3. Absences (excused/unexcused)

4. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
   a) Approve the minutes of the Commission's April 22, 2026 regular meeting.

6. Communications: None

7. Public Comment (Public comments limited to 3 minutes)

8. Staff Reports
   a) Director's Report
   b) Park Operations Report – Introduce Ethan
   c) Planning and Development Report
   d) Community Engagement Report
   e) Natural Resources Management Report
   f) Development Report
   g) Visitor and Business Services Report
   h) Visitation Report

9. Committee Reports
   a) Executive Committee – May 11, 2026 Meeting Report (verbal)
   b) Planning Committee – May 5, 2026 Meeting Report
   c) Finance & Policy Committee – May 12, 2026 Meeting Report
   d) Ottawa County Parks Foundation Update (*verbal*)

10. Old Business: none

11. New Business:
    a) Annual Distribution from Ottawa County Parks Nature Education Center Endowment Fund at GHCAF
    Suggested Motion: *To approve a request for the allowable annual grant distribution from the Ottawa County Parks Nature Education Endowment Fund at Grand Haven Area Community Foundation (GHACF) in the amount of $5,167.00 to the Ottawa County Parks Foundation. Further, the Director is instructed to take any actions necessary to implement the intent of the Commission in these matters.*

    b) Designation of Undesignated Macatawa Greenway Property as Part of Hawthorn Park
    Suggested Motion: *To formally designate the ODC Property and the E&B Property as part of Hawthorn Park, and to authorize the Parks Director to take all actions necessary to implement the intent of the Commission in this matter.*

    c) Middle Macatawa Connector Trail Naming
    Suggested Motion: *To formally designate the trail segment extending from the eastern edge of Hawthorn Pond to the Adams Street Pathway as the "Middle Macatawa Connector Trail," and to authorize the Parks Director to take all actions necessary implement the intent of the Commission in this matter.*

    d) Idema Explorers Trail Allendale Segment Easement
    Suggested Motion: *To approve & forward to the Board of Commissioners the easement agreement for the Stam Property in Allendale Township in the amount of $2,100.00, and to authorize the Parks Director to take all actions necessary to implement the intent of the Commission in this matter.*

    e) Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Facility Use Plan
    Suggested Motion: *To approve the Ottawa County Parks Facility Use Plan as presented, cost recovery classifications for reservable facilities within the Ottawa County Parks system, and to authorize staff to continue development of future business plans and operational strategies consistent with the intent of the approved framework.*

    f) Idema Explorers Camp Business Plan
    Suggested Motion: *To approve the revised Idema Explorers Camp (IEC) Business Plan, Campground Rules and Conditions of Use, and associated operational documents, as presented, and to authorize the Parks Director to take all actions necessary to implement the intent of the Commission in this matter.*

    g) Tri-Cities YMCA Memorandum of Understanding
    Suggested Motion: *Authorize the Parks Director to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission and the Tri-Cities YMCA, or a substantially similar agreement, contingent upon final review and approval by Corporation Counsel, and to authorize the Parks Director to take all actions necessary to implement the intent of the Commission in this matter.*

h) Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association Image Sales Agreement
Suggested Motion: *To approve the agreement between Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association (SAAA) and Ottawa County Parks and Recreation for the sale of astronomical photographs at Hemlock Crossing Nature Education Center and approve the Director to execute the agreement.*

12. Public Comment (Public comments limited to 3 minutes)

13. Commissioners Prerogative

14. Closed Session to discuss property acquisition Pursuant to the OMA Section 8d (not enclosed).

15. Upcoming meeting date:
    June 17, 2026
    Time: 3:00 p.m.
    Fillmore Complex, Board Room

16. Adjournment