

Kalkaska County Board of Commissioners  
Special Meeting Minutes  
June 26, 2017  
(UNAPPROVED)

Meeting called to order by Chair McKinnon at 6:00 PM. Commissioner Chambers, Administration Building, 605 N Birch Street, Kalkaska, MI. Present Commissioners Michael Buchanan, David Comai, Patty Cox, Craig Crambell, Kohn Fisher, Stuart McKinnon and County Clerk Deborah Hill. Absent Commissioner James Sweet. Pledge of Allegiance by all.

**Public Input:** Chair called for Public Input other than Aquatic Swim class. None.

**Purpose of Meeting:**

Chair McKinnon called for review, discussion and/or approval of fees for the Aqua Fitness Swim Class, asking Commissioner Comai to report. Comai noted he communicated with a number of class participants who are present; request for Public Input regarding matter.

**Public Input:**

Mary Cerngul: Cerngul addressed Board noting she is a self-taught instructor for the Aqua Fitness Swim class; concern with notification/communication of class being discontinued; importance of class for medical follow-up with surgeries and other medical issues; need for program to be continued; concern with request for instructor certification and liability insurance.

Barb Hooper: Hooper addressed Board advising her membership was purchased with the understanding that it included Aqua Fitness and Pickelball; that if there are additional fees she requests a refund.

Lori Forbes: Forbes addressed the Board; noted she is an instructor, noted Board may not be aware of what occurs in the pool with the Aqua Fitness class; noted why the class inhibits the use of the pool to open swim; noted 20-30 per class. Forbes noted class has provided several thousand dollars of equipment to Kaliseum; noted need for class participant's medical follow-up; noted few people during lap swimming; concern the largest volume of users will leave; noted All Seasons will provide lockers and have welcomed them. Forbes noted notice should have been given with recognition of current agreements. Forbes noted no current instructors are interested in being certified or insured; noted instructors should be provided free memberships for volunteering. Forbes advised many people do not return due to conditions of lockers rooms and noted appreciation for Board and communication.

Matt McDermott: McDermott addressed concern with inability to use facility as they have in the past; noted tax-payer funded and classes should continue as previous; noted Martial Arts now held at local church; support for swim group. (Commissioner Comai noted

Gail Clark: Clark provided a handout with fee amounts from surrounding county facilities for comparison; noted concern with communication of changes at Kaliseum.

Sharon Byers: Byers addressed Board noting support of community and Kaliseum; noted necessity of fitness classes at Kaliseum.

Pat Nyland: Nyland advised Board of appreciation for Commissioners meeting with swim group; met with Kaliseum Director who advised of changes with payment for pool time of \$70.00 per hour for class; Nyland advised instructors are not interested in fees, certification and insurance. Nyland noted concern facility will be managed for hockey, not for other sports. Nyland advised refunds should be considered, matter was handled abruptly; request decision within 1 to 2 weeks if possible.

Ruby Geiseek: Geiseek advised Board she paid a senior membership for pool use and need for facility for health issues. (Geiseek noted cleanliness of Kaliseum is a major issue.)

Rachael White: White advised Board of support for Kaliseum; noted she was advised that a membership was allowed for all classes; need for health of community; concern facility has become a tax paid hockey arena; grateful hotel was offered; concern for loss of memberships.

Marsha Peebles: Peebles addressed Board noting money that the swim group brings will be a loss of revenue; advised request for refund of membership; noted need for wellbeing; noted anyone is able to lead or instruct classes.

Jodi Willison: Willison addressed Board noting as previous Director of Kaliseum there was no certification for instructing required; noted requesting certifications may be appropriate under Director and Board decisions; noted pool has not been money maker but the ice has always been the major revenue; noted importance of fitness classes at Kaliseum and work toward an agreement.

Diane Watson: Watson addressed Board noting importance of swim classes following medical needs.

Lori Forbes: Forbes noted unlikely to have open or lap swimmers at the early hours being discussed.

Rachael White: White noted observation of users who were not able to produce current memberships and questionable oversight.

Discussion regarding who is sponsor/responsible for the Aqua Fitness; noted past exchange of membership for in-kind services. Board noted inconsistency with fee schedule and authority to waive or exchange fees. Board noted new Director is following existing county policies and approved fee schedules; noted prior Director oversight was inconsistent with county policies and failed to inform Board of issues. Board noted that the new Director was advised by the Board to follow the approved fees and policies which are not new; noted Board did not have knowledge of discrepancies and inconsistencies occurring at the Kaliseum. Discussion, Board noted the policies and fees being enforced are not new; they have been in place for several years. Board discussion regarding possible options county oversight of classes, instructors and certifications.

**Public:** Multiple comments regarding concern with communication; desire to remain at Kaliseum.

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Commissioner Fisher noted multiple items of concern have surfaced regarding the Kaliseum with the change of oversight; necessity for oversight to follow Board policies and approved fees.

Dennis Soper: Soper requested review of open swim and lap swim in conjunction with Aqua class.

Lori Forbes: Forbes noted inability to do open or lap swim during Aqua Fitness. Board discussion regarding review of inconsistencies has led to many issues to resolve, and issues continue to surface.

**Public**: Comments regarding changes, communication, health and pool needs; recognized poor condition and cleanliness of facility; noted complaints were made to prior staff; requested other solutions.

Board discussion regarding repairs and maintenance issues; noted two million dollar bond remains due along with significant upcoming expense to be done with repairs; Board noted the operation and repair costs have to be addressed or the building will fail; noted prior failure to follow the policies and fees; noted new Director was directed by the Board. Discussion regarding review of membership fees, services provided, etc; Board noted matters, concerns and solutions continue to be reviewed with Director.

**Motion** by Buchanan to authorize the Aqua Fitness to continue to use the Kaliseum as prior with current memberships for use until further review. Supported by Comai. Discussion, concern of need to meet with the Director before further decisions; consensus to schedule a meeting to review with Director. **Motion and support withdrawn.** (Contact person to be notified Pat Nyland.)

Discussion regarding misuse of Kaliseum kitchen, noting health code violation concerns.

**Public Input:** None

**Motion** to adjourn by Crambell at 7:48 PM. Supported by Buchanan. 6 yeas. 0 nays. 1 absent. **Carried.**

Respectfully submitted:

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Deborah Hill, Kalkaska County Clerk and  
Clerk of Board of Commissioners

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Stuart McKinnon, Chair of  
Kalkaska Board of Commissioners

These minutes are not official until they are approved at the next Regular Board of Commissioners meeting.