

PROPOSED MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
AT
TOWNSHIP HALL

May 18, 2016

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Michelle Sall called the regular Parks & Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michelle Sall, Jan Lozon, Bill Snyder, Jim Johnson
MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Simmons
STAFF PRESENT: Dan Williams – Township Maintenance
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. CITIZEN COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Ryan Bosscher of 967 Laketown Drive discussed the letter and map he submitted in regards to the reuse of the Old Township Hall. He feels it would be best located at the Township Hall Recreation Park on the north side of the park. The second option would be by the parking lot where the fence ends near the ball diamonds. Another consideration is how far it would be from the septic site. He feels it should be in a central location. Snyder commented that a lift station would probably have to be put in at either location.

Sall stated that she received an email from Ashley Kammeraad Zuidema (granddaughter of Pat and Herb Kammeraad) asking for approval to plant daffodils in Farview Park. Sall responded with approval stating she felt it would be a nice tribute.

An email was received from Karen Vocke expressing concerns regarding the second bridge on the hiking trail at Farview Park stating that it was leaning and unstable. Williams stated it has been looked at but no decision has been made due to the terrain involved. He with further discuss with Meshkin to consider a feasible solution.

ARTICLE III. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Johnson and seconded by Lozon to approve the May 18, 2016 minutes as written. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IV. APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT

Snyder reviewed the bills to be paid as of May, 2016. Maintenance: Veldhof – \$485.00; Supplies: Robert Jerow - \$9.00; Salaries: Robert Jerow - \$150.00; Taxes: \$11.47; Contracted Services: Outdoor Discovery Ctr/Mac Greenway - \$1,100.00, John Kunkel - \$150.00; Electricity: Consumers Energy - \$22.59. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Lozon and seconded by Johnson to approve the Treasurer’s Report as submitted. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

Snyder stated the only expense out of the ordinary was the \$1,100.00 for the ODC programming.

ARTICLE V. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT – SALL

Sall stated that residents commented on the Fiber Optic Project noting that there is a special interest group, Friends of the Fiber Optic that continue to meet to discuss options. The group is not associated to the township. Snyder asked if the group intends to do a petition and Sall responded that is unknown at this time. Lozon stated that people are not interested in paying the extra taxes for the project. Snyder stated he also heard that no real definitive service provider cost was available. Johnson stated there were a fair amount of unknowns at the point the vote was put forth. Snyder stated putting the specifications together for service provider bids was estimated at \$65,000. Sall stated there was also discussion regarding the potential development near the Saugatuck Dunes State Park. The Township Manager’s contract was reviewed and approved and an announcement was made for the 4th of July Pancake Breakfast which will take place at the Graafschap Fire Station on Saturday, July 2.

ARTICLE VI. TOWNSHIP STAFF REPORTS – WILLIAMS

Dan Williams stated he has been working primarily at the mansion preparing for the upcoming concert series and also working on the Carriage House. He has spent some time in the parks to take care of the trash and minor repairs. Johnson asked about cleaning paint off the concrete pads on the restrooms at Wolters Woods. Williams said we don’t have a pressure washer or water to clean at the parks where there is no water but he could try to use something else. Johnson suggested renting the appropriate equipment for a project day to address the needs in all of the parks where water and electricity is not available. Williams suggested adding air fresheners to all park restrooms along with the fly catchers which are replaced on a monthly basis.

Johnson said he purchased gray flat primer paint to paint over the graffiti at the restroom at Laketown Beach. The darker paint seemed to cover well and blend with the other paint. Williams said he wasn't sure who was supposed to paint the port'o'pottys. Johnson said we rent the units but they are so old that the vendor shouldn't mind. Williams said he is willing to paint the units at Shore Acres. Williams stated he ordered parts for the restroom at Farview Park.

Johnson gave an update on the Laketown Beach and noticed the cameras are up with signs posted accordingly. He said some of the stairs were cleaner but a big portion remained covered. Further discussion took place on options for keeping the stairs free of sand or putting a structure in place that would alleviate the issue. Johnson suggested meeting with Jason Schrottenboer on site to discuss future options.

ARTICLE VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. PARKS SURVEY

Sall will bring the results to the July meeting for discussion.

B. ADOPT-A-PARK – No update

C. ADAPTIVE REUSE OF OLD TOWNSHIP HALL

As noted above, Ryan Bosscher presented and reviewed the plan that he submitted. No further report at this time.

ARTICLE VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. HUYSER FARM CLEAN-UP

Sall stated she has a work crew scheduled for June 22 from 10am – 2pm (rain date is June 23) that will weed the gazebo and clear a loop in the trail from the farm house down to the proposed trail. Sall said there used to be a trail but it has become overgrown. Williams commented that if the white house is renovated, the trail should be moved away from the house and barns. Williams also noted that the blueberries should not be disturbed. Sall asked Williams to contact Meshkin to have Heavener clear the blueberry fields. Williams stated it would be beneficial to have a weed wacker to be used in the parks and Sall said she will contact Meshkin regarding that request. Williams gave further comment on the renovation of the farmhouse.

B. INVASIVE SPECIES REVIEW

Lozon reported that she spoke to the volunteer that will be walking the parks to locate the invasive species. Lozon will be joining the volunteer to learn more on the subject.

ARTICLE IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.