

PROPOSED MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
AT
TOWNSHIP HALL

September 17, 2014

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chuck Strabbing, Michelle Sall,
Bill Snyder, Karen Simmons
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. CITIZEN COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Karen Simmons stated that she had received an inquiry regarding the total amount of expenditure for the Felt Mansion restoration since the beginning of the project. She will follow up with Al Meshkin.

Michelle Sall stated that she received a communication regarding a student doing an ECO System study project at Wolters Woods.

ARTICLE III. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Minutes

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Bill Snyder and seconded by Michelle Sall to approve the August 20, 2014 minutes as written. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

b. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Bill Snyder reviewed the bills to be paid as of August 2014. Maintenance: Veldhof Septic - \$480.00, Advantage Building - \$110.00, Heavener - \$235.00, Menards of Holland -

\$443.00; Salaries: Robert Jerow - \$155.00; Township Hall Park: M.C. Smith Associates - \$1,022.01, Dan Hoe Excavating - \$53,172.89; Electricity: \$22.61.

Bill Snyder stated the majority of the expenses this past month had been for Dan Hoe Excavating and M.C. Smith. Bill also noted the need for grading at the Recreation Hall project. He asked if the M.C. Smith drawing reflected accurate grade levels on the ball field. Al stated it is per drawing and a 3-foot drop on a portion of the baseline. Bill stated he would like to see the drawing before determining if it is the excavator or the architect's original elevation. The Commissioners reviewed the original drawings. Bill Snyder will measure with a laser elevation instrument and email the Commissioners with his findings.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Chuck Strabbing and seconded by Bill Snyder to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted.**

ARTICLE V. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORTS

Linda Howell stated that Michelle Sall presented a wonderful Parks update at the Board meeting. The rest of the Board meeting focused on the S.A.D. which was voted down. The Board will now determine if the one deputy can be retained.

ARTICLE VI. TOWNSHIP STAFF REPORTS

Dan Williams will be facilitating the Day of Caring team at Wolters Woods Park. He spent a lot of time in preparation of the event cutting down trees utilizing a chain saw not to be used during the event. Lumber has been purchased for miscellaneous projects. Dan inspected and cleaned up all parks prior to the Labor Day week-end. All dog signs have been installed. Dan reported he has completed the first bridge at Huyser Farm and will work on the next one with the help of Heavener to level the bridge. He is will start to work on staircases at Sanctuary Woods.

ARTICLE VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. DAY OF CARING

Michelle Sall provided project sheets for each site which includes the number of volunteers and contact information. Michelle asked if the tool trailer will be available at Huyser Farm. Dan will drop it off on his way to Farview Park. Michelle will have a large group at Huyser Farm. Dan suggested pruning and cleaning up the bushes, particularly the deadwood. Dan noted that there are also a lot of blackberry bushes within the blueberries. Bill Snyder stated that he has a lot of strawberry plants that he would like to transplant at Huyser Farm if that is feasible.

ARTICLE VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. WOLTERS WOODS ZIP LINE

Bill Snyder stated there is a zip line at a park in Kalamazoo. He thinks it might be a great addition to the park. Is there liability? Cost? Al Meshkin asked who would staff and inspect the equipment. Meshkin stated that if there is staff to support it, it would be great but that is not something that we can provide. Karen Simmons agreed that there would be liability involved and responsibility for the equipment.

B. FALL NEWSLETTER

Michelle Sall asked if the Commissioners have anything for the newsletter. She will take pictures of the Day of Caring events. She will also provide an update on the Township Hall recreation park and include discussion of the ball park. Bill Snyder suggested mentioning the good work that Dan Williams is doing. Michelle stated she would mention dogs in the parks. Should we mention having a designated dog park? Dan Williams commented on the Ottawa County Fair Grounds dog park and Michelle noted the one in Saugatuck. Linda Howell spoke to Mayor Dykstra regarding the Lakeview School property but that is not available at this time. Al Meshkin asked if the City of Holland owns the property or if the school district would consider it. Karen Simmons commented that Harrington School property would be a good site but that is Park Township. Chuck Strabbing suggested looking for a donor to provide the funding for dog park property.

C. HUYSER HUNT

Karen Simmons stated the drawing will take place on September 26th. The office staff and Graafschap Hardware store are helping to facilitate.

D. PRESSURE WASHER

Bill Snyder asked if we have a pressure washer in the tool trailer. Dan stated that we do have one but it is not working at this time. Bill asked if there is an ATV and Dan stated that we have an electric golf cart. Bill has found a power washer water tank that is powered by a battery that could potentially be pulled behind a golf cart. Al stated that he is hoping to purchase a good used pick-up truck in the future to be used for the Township parks and maintenance projects which would include power washer capabilities.

ARTICLE XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M.

Assignments:

Bill Snyder – Measure the Township Recreation Park ball field with a laser elevation instrument to determine if the grading is accurate per the original plan.