

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
SCHEDULED MEETING  
April 5, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Lynn Knopf, Commissioner Herb Huch, Commissioner Bob Murray, Commissioner Mark Beegle and Commissioner Carlet Mitenbuler.

**ABSENT:** None.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Two interested parties.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Huch called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**WELCOME GUESTS**

**AGENDA:** Motion by Bob Murray, second from Lynn Knopf, *ADOPTED*, to amend the agenda to add “Master Plan” under Unfinished Business to the April 5, 2021 agenda with no additional changes.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

**MINUTES:** Motion by Bob Murray, second from Lynn Knopf, *ADOPTED*, to amend the March 1, 2021 minutes to include two minor changes.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**RECEIPTS:**

None.

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Chairperson Huch reported disbursements activity as \$600.00 to H&H Lawn Service for stone dust, \$800.00 to Jelinek Tree Service for the removal of a beech tree and a leaning tree, and \$190.00 to Kerkstra for the ADA portable restroom, for total disbursements of \$1,590.00. Commissioner Mitenbuler questioned if the fee for the portable restroom is a monthly fee, and Commissioner Knopf stated that she believes it is. Commissioner Murray questioned how the H&H bill got approved before the new budget, so the group suggested discussing the matter with Supervisor Marcinkowski.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, seconded by Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to suspend Robert’s Rules of Order to ask Supervisor Marcinkowski questions regarding the budget.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

Supervisor Marcinkowski explained to the group how it got approved.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to pay total disbursements of \$2,200.16.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

**Roll Call Vote: Murray-Aye, Mitenbuler-Aye, Beegle-Aye, Knopf-Aye, Huch-Aye**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **1. Cleanup below hill**

The cleanup is finished and paid for.

### **2. Stumps**

Chairman Huch suggested using a mini excavator to remove stumps at the same time as pulling benches. He also suggested concentrating on the lower portion of the park. There was conversation about the upper portion of the park area getting a better trail and the Commission decided it might be made into something else like a possibly butterfly garden or something later on. Commissioner Murray explained the difference in grinding vs. excavation. Chairman Huch is going to seek quotes.

### **3. Baseball and soccer fields**

Chairman Huch talked about the work being done by the baseball teams and is seeking quotes for the soccer field renovation and irrigation. Everyone agreed that the baseball field is really looking nice and that the baseball group has done a nice job getting it ready. It was added that they are expecting a lot of games and tournaments. The baseball field volunteers notified that Commission that there needs to be an 8' opening in the dugout for emergency vehicles to access the field in emergencies. The Commission discussed the possibility of adding another portable restroom.

Chairman Huch received an over the phone estimate from Affordable Fencing for the soccer field for \$1,900.00. Commissioner Murray said that Muskegon Fencing would be another good company to get an estimate from. Fencing companies will be coming on April 19<sup>th</sup> to give an estimate for the work the Township needs, and Supervisor Marcinkowski will ask for a quote for the soccer field fencing to utilize time wisely.

### **4. Gypsy moths**

Everyone agreed that they would get with the Duck Lake Riparian Association to have all of the gypsy moth spraying done with them to save extra time with travel and effort. The cost is \$55.00 per acre the cost for the Commission would be around \$2,000.00.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to approve the gypsy moth spraying.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

### **5. Meeting time**

The Commission discussed the request to change the meeting time to 6:00p.m. to align with other Township meetings.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Bob Murray, **ADOPTED**, to change the Parks and Recreation meeting time to 6:00p.m.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

**6. Master Plan**

The Master Plan has a huge DNR checklist that was presented by Commissioner Knopf. Commissioner Mitenbuler and Commissioner Knopf will work on the checklist with an associate that Commissioner Knopf has found. Commissioner Mitenbuler asked why the checklist wasn't presented to the former board as to eliminate the hassle and it was stated that it's because there wasn't such an elaborate checklist available.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Supervisor Jeff Marcinkowski, 3767 Jay Road – suggested to have sunset views all year, which would include “thinking outside the box” and trimming trees for a view from the upper portion of the park. He offered the Commission to think about the Duck Lake Natural Area, with 5-6 acres being used by Fruitland Trails. Supervisor Marcinkowski also mentioned that Howmet might want to partner their 40 acres off Michillinda Road. He mentioned that Mr. Jordan might want to allow access off of Orshal road on the West. Supervisor Marcinkowski also explained that the Parks and Recreation Commission should take all of the money allowed to them, which would be .15% of the Township's allowed budget, and have it for when unexpected problems arise that have not been allowed for in the proposed budget. He explained how unused monies would be rolled over the following year and he requested that only one person work with Clerk Breann Fagen on these requests to lower the confusion. Chairman Huch volunteered that as his responsibility.

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Knopf spoke regarding positive playground activity at Nestrom Road Park, adding that the swings might need to be ~~raised~~ lowered and more wood chips raked under them to make it easier for younger children to swing easier. She also added that she would like to have positive information on Facebook and/or in the Whitehall News and Views page. Supervisor Marcinkowski stated that the E-Newsletter is always an option for them as well.

All commissioners thanked Supervisor Marcinkowski for his clarity on the budget issues.

Commissioner Murray mentioned the upcoming workday in Duck Creek Natural Area on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED** to adjourn the April 5, 2021 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 6:50 PM.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary