

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
SCHEDULED MEETING  
August 5, 2020**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Huch, Commissioner Knopf, Commissioner Bob Murray,  
Commissioner Sue Sawyer and Commissioner Svensson

**ABSENT:** None.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Five interested parties.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Svensson called the meeting to order at 5:28p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**WELCOME GUESTS**

**AGENDA:** Motion by Bob Murray, second from Herb Huch, *ADOPTED*, to accept the August 5, 2020 agenda as written.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

**MINUTES:** Motion by Herb Huch, second from Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to approve the July 6, 2020 regular meeting minutes with an update/change.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Jessica Kidder, 1547 W. Duck Lake Road – asked questions regarding receiving the surveys of Township property, the Master Plan, and Duck Lake Road Park and Natural Area.

**RECEIPTS:**

Chairperson Svensson reported receipts activity as pavilion rentals in the amount of \$75.00 for the month July 2020.

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Chairperson Svensson reported disbursements activity as \$190.00 to Kerkstra for the portable restroom, \$12.69 to Office Machines for the flyers for tax bills, \$63.57 to PNC/Meijer for paper for the flyer, and \$174.84 to PNC/Amazon Marketplace for shuffleboard equipment, for total disbursements of \$441.10.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Sue Sawyer, *ADOPTED*, to pay total disbursements of \$441.10.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

***Roll Call Vote: Knopf-Aye, Huch-Aye, Svensson-Aye, Murray-Aye, Sawyer-Aye***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:****1. Project update**

The commissioners discussed the different portions of the budget. There have been questions regarding the percentage of time the maintenance and office staff devotes to Parks and Recreation. The commissioners are going to look into specific expectations for the maintenance staff daily and weekly.

In terms of postage, the Commission discussed whether or not they had made the decision that their newsletters would have to be sent with the tax bills or if that was included for them.

Commissioner Sawyer reported that Jeremy Loyselle from the North Muskegon Youth Baseball Club contacted her regarding the baseball field. She added that he and five other men would like to come back with the kids to use the field and maintenance of the field would be included for the next five years. Commissioner Sawyer stated that the group wants to paint the backstop black and spray the weeds with a vinegar and Dawn mixture. She added that they will be using H&H for the infield dirt since the Township has an account with them. The Commission agreed to let the men start maintenance of the field immediately, but they would make a decision regarding the five-year maintenance and usage plan once Jeremy presents to the Commission at the September meeting and an agreement can be created.

Motion by Deb Svensson, second by Bob Murray, **ADOPTED**, to allow the North Muskegon Youth Baseball Club to start the volunteer prep work on the field and the Commission will formalize the commitment after the Club's proposal in September.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

Commissioner Knopf will be reaching out to Shawna Meyer to discuss the Educational Community Event.

In terms of printing and publishing, Chairperson Svensson questioned whether it's okay for the Township Supervisor to edit the Parks and Recreation Commission newsletters. There was also a question as to whether or not the pavilions have been sprayed.

Commissioner Huch will be ordering the grill.

Commissioner Murray stated that the new shuffleboard equipment is ready for usage. The Commission agreed that it would be a good idea to get information about the shuffleboard equipment and usage out in the next newsletter. Commissioner Murray added that the horseshoe pits haven't been completed yet because treated lumber is still unavailable. He also stated that the tennis net is installed but he is looking into a gear mechanism for tightening the nets.

Commissioner Knopf stated that she is getting additional quotes for painting on the courts. The repairs to the court are complete.

The signs will be discussed at the September meeting, as the Commission received the ordinance information just prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Murray and Commissioner Sawyer will be looking at the trees to determine which ones need to be trimmed/removed for safety purposes. Commissioner Murray stated that the cement pads will be removed very soon, and he added that the group also offered to help dispose of the playground equipment currently at Nestrom Road Park.

Motion by Bob Murray, second by Sue Saywer, **ADOPTED**, to allow the volunteers that are removing the cement pads to remove and dispose of the playground equipment.

**4 AYES, 1 NAY (Huch)**

The surveys will be discussed at the September meeting, as the commissioners just received them at the meeting.

Commissioner Murray stated that he sent information to Clerk Karolyn Rillema for ordering or picnic tables.

The commissioners will come to the October meeting with ideas for the next budget.

## **2. Playground equipment**

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Deb Svensson, **ADOPTED**, to suspend Robert's Rules of Order.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

Carl from Penchura presented information to the Commission regarding their playground equipment. He shared information regarding parts, warranties and the timeframe for ordering and installation.

Commissioner Knopf stated that she didn't know that Penchura would be doing a sales pitch and added that she would've told Jeremy from Game Time to do the same thing had she known.

Jeremy from Game Time presented information to the Commission regarding Game Time's regarding their equipment. He also shared information regarding parts, warranties, and the timeframe for ordering and installation.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Sue Sawyer, **ADOPTED**, to reinstate Robert's Rules of Order.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

Commissioner Huch stated that the Commission needs to stop and do a site plan before moving forward with the ordering and installation of the new playground equipment. Chairperson Svensson said that the Commission never agreed to that, adding that they've done walk throughs of the park and have had discussions of where the playground equipment would go.

Motion by Huch, to have a work session to see how it will fit and determine where the playground equipment will go and go from there. Motion failed due to no second.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Sue Sawyer, **ADOPTED**, to approve and purchase the Penchura Treetop playground in the amount of \$56,699.50.

**3 AYES, 2 NAYS (Huch and Knopf)**

**3. Park signage**

Discussed during project updates.

**4. Meeting with the Township Board**

Chairperson Svensson stated that the Township Board is refusing to meet with the Commission, adding that Supervisor Jeske is going to re-approach members of the board to get a quorum. She added that she is going to email the other commissioners regarding agenda items and input for the joint meeting, should it take place.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Sawyer stated that the Commission just needs to keep doing their best.

Commissioner Murray stated that there are issues in the park. He reported that there is a grill that is completely down. He also stated that the gate has been removed and replaced with a single chain, adding that it must've been Maintenance Supervisor Arron Ferris. The commissioners agreed that it needs to be determined how to fix it and a chain is not going to work. Commissioner Murray also stated that an ATV has been going through the park, but that he was able to connect with the individuals and let them know they aren't supposed to be in the park. He also added that the new soccer nets the Commission purchased last year have disappeared.

Chairperson Svensson stated that the playground equipment was not an easy decision. She added that she appreciates all of the work and thought put in by all of the commissioners.

Commissioner Huch thanked everyone in attendance for coming.

Commissioner Knopf stated that she is very disappointed that the Commission is okay with turning down \$33,000 in free playground equipment. She added that it is a loss to not have the structure by Game Time.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Sue Sawyer, **ADOPTED** to adjourn the August 5, 2020 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:36 PM.

**5 AYES, 0 NAYS**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary