

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
April 2, 2018**

PRESENT: Chairman Mark Williamson, Commissioner Greg Barrett, Commissioner Thomas Tisue and Commissioner Maribeth Picard

ABSENT: Commissioner Brian Mathiot.

ALSO PRESENT: A number of interested parties.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mark Williamson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS A number of interested parties.

AGENDA: Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Maribeth Picard, **ADOPTED**, to accept the April 2, 2018 agenda as written.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

MINUTES: Motion by Maribeth Picard, second from Greg Barrett, **ADOPTED**, to accept the March 5, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Robert Penny, 5830 Duck Lake Road – created petition to close the Disc Golf Course. Not a proponent of the Disc Golf Course being open.
2. Michael Shotwell, 6194 Whitehall Road – proponent of being proactive to keep the Disc Golf Course open.
3. Anthony Burmeister, 6696 Simonelli Road – proponent of keeping the Disc Golf Course open.
4. Tom Wiedrich, 3348 Nestrom Road – not a proponent of the Disc Golf Course. Stated it was rushed.
5. Lynn Wiedrich, 3348 Nestrom Road – not a proponent of the Disc Golf Course.
6. John Close, 802 Mills – not a proponent of the Disc Golf Course.
7. Terrie Hampel, 6171 Duck Lake Road – suggested taking action and make a decision.
8. Dave Pequet, 5650 Duck Lake Road – not a proponent of the Disc Golf Course.
9. Ferrel Mejeur, Muskegon County – willing to help preserve the beauty of the park. Wants everyone to come together for solutions.
10. Jan Deur, 2761 Scenic Drive – stated it's the Township's responsibility to mitigate the risk of Oak Wilt disease, but also mentioned some great things the course has done.
11. Amy Bedau, 607 Hanson Street – proponent of the Disc Golf Course.
12. Andrew Knoll, 2240 Riverwood Drive – questioned what was done to prevent oak wilt before the course was put in. For keeping the course, adding that money can be raised to help protect the trees and the park.
13. Hoyt Fonger, 5538 Duck Lake Road – not a proponent of the Disc Golf Course. Stated that course should have been put together and constructed by professionals.
14. Aaron Mitchell, 2269 Vine – proponent of the Disc Golf Course. Suggested leagues and tournaments to help raise funds to block trees and protect the park.

15. Steven Gullen, 3997 Lakewood Road – proponent of the Disc Golf Course.

RECEIPTS:

Chairman Williamson reported receipts activity as disc golf donations in the amount of \$9.60 for the month March 2018.

Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Tom Tisue, **ADOPTED**, to accept receipts for \$9.60 from Disc Golf donations for the month of March 2018.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

DISBURSEMENTS:

Chairman Williamson reported disbursements activity as \$560.99 to Lowe’s for baseball field capping.

Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Tom Tisue, **ADOPTED**, to pay total disbursements of \$560.99.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

Roll Call Vote for Receipts and Disbursements: Picard-Aye, Barrett-Aye, Tisue-Aye, Williamson-Aye.

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Motion by Greg Barrett, second from Maribeth Picard, **ADOPTED**, to nominate and elect Mark Williamson as Chairperson to the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

3 AYES, 1 NAY, 1 ABSENT

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

Motion by Maribeth Picard, second from Greg Barrett, **ADOPTED**, to nominate and elect Brian Mathiot as Vice Chairperson to the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

4 AYES, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF SECRETARY

Motion by Greg Barrett, second from Tom Tisue, **ADOPTED**, to nominate and elect Maribeth Picard as Secretary to the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**1. Stafford tree trimming**

Commissioner Barrett reported that he believes Stafford's work of trimming around the two pavilions, the baseball field and the Township Hall is complete. Commissioner Tisue questioned whether or not the trees around the tennis courts would be trimmed as that was part of the agreement, and Commissioner Barrett will be following up with Stafford's to find out about their progress and whether or not this will be complete.

2. Baseball field

Commissioner Picard stated that she spoke with an individual from North Muskegon Youth Baseball and that they are interested in using the Township field for practice and games. She added that they would also help maintain the field. Chairman Williamson stated that the Commissioners would just need a copy of their schedule to make sure there isn't any conflicts.

3. Natural resource survey

Commissioner Tisue stated that the Community Foundation of Muskegon is a good resource in terms of grant monies. He added that the survey would include all of the natural resources in Fruitland Township, not just Nestrom Road Park. Commissioner Tisue also stated that MSU Extension is a great resource because they put together a team depending on the needs of the township. He said that their quote was fairly high, but in retrospect, it's a steal with what they provide.

Chairman Williamson stated that this would not be something that would happen once and it would be done, but that it would be ongoing. He also suggested reaching out to Dallas Goldberg and Michael Pailing.

4. Nestrom Road Park Ordinance/park regulations

Chairperson Williamson stated that he would circulate the approved guidelines/regulations to the commissioners to compare to the suggestions from the Township Board. He added that this would be discussed at the May meeting.

5. Disc Golf Course – April 15th to July 15th

Chairman Williamson said that a meeting is being put together to include individuals from both sides of the Disc Golf Course issue, and that they will be discussing how to move forward and come up with solutions. Commissioner Picard stated that April 15th is quickly approaching, and that she doesn't want to see the park damaged. She questioned whether or not non-political experts will be on the committee. Chairman Williamson stated that the meeting is still being put together, and he is not sure who all will be involved.

Motion by Tom Tisue, second from Maribeth Picard, **FAILED**, to minimize the risk of oak wilt introduction, disc golf play be halted during the critical period of April 15th to July 15th.

2 AYES, 2 NAYS(Barrett, Williamson), 1 ABSENT

6. 2018-2019 budget

Commissioner Williamson reported that the budget was accepted.

NEW BUSINESS**1. Playground equipment**

Chairman Williamson reported that the Township Board put \$30,000 in the Parks and Recreation Specialty Fund for playground equipment. He asked the Commissioners to help him look further into playground equipment and grants, and Commissioner Barrett stated that he would help.

UPDATES:

None.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Greg Barrett, ***ADOPTED*** to adjourn the April 2, 2018 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:55 PM.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary