

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
December 4, 2017**

PRESENT: Commissioner Greg Barrett, Commissioner Brian Mathiot, Commissioner Mark Williamson and Commissioner Thomas Tisue and Commissioner Maribeth Picard.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: A number of interested parties.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Mark Williamson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS A number of interested parties.

AGENDA: Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Maribeth Picard, **ADOPTED**, to approve the December 4, 2017 agenda as written.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

MINUTES: Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Brian Mathiot, **ADOPTED**, to accept the October 2, 2017 regular meeting minutes.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Bob Murray, 5582 Duck Lake Road – stated that he sent photos of the tree guards on the Disc Golf Course to Dr. Roberts. Dr. Roberts responded that the guards should not be tied to the trees, and the wood and ties that are being used could damage the trees. Mr. Murray stated that he is perplexed that the Parks and Recreation Commission has not looked into further expert advice.
2. Chris Murray, 5582 Duck Lake Road – revisited oak wilt and what causes it. Mrs. Murray asked the board if they are willing to damage the legacy of this area.
3. Carlet Mitenbuler, 4623 Nestrom Road – stated that the Township Board is adding a second Public Comment portion to the agenda and she urged the Parks and Recreation Commission to do the same. In regards to the meeting time change, Mitenbuler asked the Commission to reconsider, and to consider the residents and their ability to attend.
4. Lynn Knopf, 4328 Mystic Lane – questioned conflict of interest received by Commissioners Barrett and Williamson. Knopf also suggested that the Commission reconsider changing the time of the meeting.

RECEIPTS:

Chairman Williamson reported receipts activity as disc golf donations in the amount of \$3.00 for the months of October and November 2017.

Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Greg Barrett, **ADOPTED**, to accept receipts for \$3.00 for the months of October and November 2017.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

DISBURSEMENTS:

Chairman Williamson reported disbursements activity as \$42.50 to Holly's Irrigation, \$38.03 to Hunts Hardware, \$111.60 to Mark Williamson, \$39.87 to Menards, \$19.98 to PNC, \$215.00 to Source One, and \$30.98 to Weber Lumber for total disbursements of \$497.96.

Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Greg Barrett, **ADOPTED**, to pay total disbursements of \$497.96.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. NHS Volunteering

Commissioner Picard reported that she hasn't had any students contact her for volunteer hours, and the other commissioners said the same. She added that she would contact the director from Whitehall to question the reasoning, adding that it might be a good idea to contact other schools as well. Commissioner Barrett works at Orchard View frequently, so he stated that he would mention the volunteer opportunities to them.

2. Pavilion Door Replacement

Commissioner Mathiot stated that he has gone through a lengthy process trying to get quotes. He added that he contacted nine contractors, three actually coming out to quote the work. Commissioner Mathiot stated that two of the three bid themselves out of the work, while one bid themselves in, with their quote coming well within the budget.

Motion by Brian Mathiot, second from Greg Barrett, **ADOPTED**, to accept the quote from Forward Construction to complete the pavilion door replacement.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

Roll Call Vote: Picard-Aye, Barrett-Aye, Tisue-Aye, Mathiot-Aye, Williamson-Aye

3. Park Inspections

No inspections were completed for October and November 2017.

4. Tree Trimming

Commissioner Tisue reported that he has been trying to set up a meeting with Dallas Goldberg of the Muskegon Conservation District to discuss the tree trimming project, and that they should be able to meet before Christmas. Commissioner Barrett suggested that he would join. Commissioner Tisue

stated that Goldberg isn't going to second guess a contractor, so that it is probably okay for the Commission to go ahead with the trimming.

Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Greg Barrett, **ADOPTED**, to contact Stafford's regarding the tree trimming and move forward with the project.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

Roll Call Vote: Picard-Aye, Barrett-Aye, Tisue-Aye, Mathiot-Aye, Williamson-Aye

5. Baseball Fence Capping

Chairman Williamson stated that he spoke directly with Risk Management from the insurance company regarding the capping. They told him the Commission can use whatever product they would like to cap the fence. The commissioners stated that no dollar figure has been put in place for this project, and they agreed to do so. The commissioners agreed that purchasing the items needed this budget year is a good idea, and Commissioner Picard suggested purchasing and keeping it stored at Menards. Commissioner Tisue offered storage at his home. Chairman Williamson is going to investigate options and report back to the Commission.

6. Proposed Duck Creek Natural Area & Conservation Easement/potential conveyance of Duck Lake Road Park

Chairman Williamson stated that the letter regarding Duck Lake Road Park wasn't accurate. He said that not all of the Commission's 19.62 would need to be given to the White Lake Fire Authority, but that it would be 2.0 acres. The commissioners agreed that if, for some reason, the fire barn becomes abandoned by the White Lake Fire Authority, the land would come back to the Commission. During discussions, it was mentioned that Duck Lake Road Park is encompassed within the 2.0 acres that would be given, and the Commissioners agreed that the park isn't utilized, and isn't in good shape. The commissioners also agreed that partnering with the Township for the property and conservation easement would be a good idea.

Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Brian Mathiot, **ADOPTED**, to allow for the conveyance of 2.0 acres to the White Lake Fire Authority with the fire barn.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

Motion by Mark Williamson, second by Greg Barrett, **ADOPTED**, to partner with the Township for the proposed Duck Lake Natural Area and Conservation Easement.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

7. Disc Golf Card/Park Registration

Chairman Williamson questioned what the benefit would be for the Commission to require a registration. Commissioner Tisue suggested that is an interesting question, and something the Commission should look into. Commissioner Tisue also added that he would like to gauge the use due to the heavier traffic during some seasons.

8. Caution and quiet zone signs

Chairman Williamson reported that all signs have been installed.

9. Noise complaints/park rules and regulations

Chairman Williamson stated that he would like the Commission to look at the rules/regulations for the park, possibly considering a new name for them. He added that he has worked on them and will forward ideas to the other commissioners for review to give everyone an opportunity for input and changes.

10. 2018-19 Budget

Chairman Williamson discussed ideas that he has with the commissioners including the Sports N Shorts program, baseball field maintenance, soccer nets, tennis courts, painting/staining the stairways at Nestrom Road Park, benches on the Disc Golf Course, water to the South pavilion, playground equipment, marketing, Marcus Park, Nestrom Park Day, and a long-term maintenance/emergency fund. Commissioner Tisue stated that there needs to be a budget item for Disc Golf Course maintenance. The commissioners will continue to come up with ideas and final decisions will be made in upcoming meetings.

Commissioner Tisue stated that the Commission would do well to devote more effort to managing the natural resources whose protection is entrusted in us. He added that at present, the commission focuses instead almost exclusively on managing the Parks' facilities.

NEW BUSINESS:**1. Meeting Time Change**

Chairman Williamson stated that he would like to look into moving the meetings up from 7:00p.m. to 6:00-6:30p.m. Commissioner Tisue stated having an issue with this idea. No decision was made.

2. Future projects to present to the Board of Trustees

Chairman Williamson reported that he has a few ideas for future projects, including a youth soccer program, a Nestrom Road Park Community Day, playground equipment, and a possible outdoor fitness center on one of the tennis courts.

UPDATES:

None.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Barrett stated that he is not and has never been a board member of the Whitehall Disc Golf Club.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mark Williamson, second from Brian Mathiot, **ADOPTED** to adjourn the December 4, 2017 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 9:13 PM.

5 AYES, 0 NAYS

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary