

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
March 6, 2023**

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

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: None.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Murray called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS

AGENDA: Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to accept the March 6, 2023 agenda with amendments to include gypsy moth and future project discussions.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 VACANCY

MINUTES: Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to accept the February 6, 2023 regular meeting minutes as written.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 VACANCY

PUBLIC COMMENT:
None.

RECEIPTS:
None.

DISBURSEMENTS:
Chairman Murray reported disbursements activity as \$1,300.00 to Viridis Design Group for the site plan of Nestrom Road Park for total disbursements of \$1,300.00.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Carlet Mitenbuler,
ADOPTED, to pay total disbursements in the amount of \$1,300.00.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 VACANCY

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Grant update

Chairman Murray stated that he spoke with Gina Houtteman, a local physical therapist, and she said she thinks the addition of an outdoor activity center is a fantastic idea. She also added that she would send her clients here as well. Ms. Houtteman will be writing a letter of support for the Commission. Chairman Murray said that he and Supervisor Marcinkowski will be meeting with American Athletix to discuss potential equipment for the park.

Chairman Murray also stated that the Township will have an engineer of record, so the site plan of the park will be going to them and then they will move forward with getting prices for the new items within the park for the grant.

Chairman Murray reported that the grant has been submitted for the White Lake Community grant to install one sand volleyball court.

The open house took place, and Chairman Murray stated that not many people were in attendance due to bad weather. He reported that resident Mary Ann Bard question the addition of flush toilets to the park, adding that they would be a target for vandalism. Chairman Murray stated that vandalism is always a possibility, but that flush toilets in the park have always been one of the most requested items from the community in all surveys.

2. Duck Lake Road Park property swap

Chairman Murray mentioned to the commissioners that the Township Board is willing to potentially do a property swap in exchange for the Duck Lake Road Park property. He mentioned that in area 26 of the Township, there is an approximate 40 acre parcel owned by the Township that the Township Board is considering a location for a potential multi-use community building in the future, and they are considering possibly swapping ten acres for a potential park in exchange for Duck Lake Road Park. Chairman Murray added that if the community building comes to fruition, the Commission could also share the parking lot with the building as well. He added that there is a potential for other recreation within the building. Commissioner Mitenbuler stated that she has an issue with a new community building since the Township sold the fire barn on Duck Lake Road. She added that could've been a great location for a community building. Chairman Murray stated that the fire barn would be much too small for such a building that's being proposed. He also added that there are other Township owned properties that the Commission could look at as a possibility. The commissioners agreed that they would look at these potential properties before making a decision.

3. 2023/2024 budget

Chairman Murray stated that he has already giving the budget to the Township Board and will be presenting at the work session on the 13th.

4. Gypsy moths

Chairman Murray stated that he received a letter from Dave Pequet of the Duck Lake Riparian Association regarding gypsy moths. They are expected to be a problem again this year, and Chairman Murray stated that the pricing will be the same for the Township this year if they choose to spray.

The commissioners discussed the spraying and all agreed it is in their best interest to do so again this year.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to complete a third year of spraying to be paid for out of the Specialty Fund.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 VACANCY

5. Future projects

Chairman Murray proposed a potential shed for a portable restroom for Marcus Park for a future project. He also proposed the idea of a few covered picnic tables and the potential of adding a few gravel parking spots to their property along the bike path. He encouraged the other commissioners to bring ideas in for future projects as well.

Chairman Murray stated that the commissioners should get moving on the trunk or treat event to make sure that there will be enough volunteers for the event.

Chairman Murray also mentioned the parking at Marcus Park, adding that there is a possibility of offering a land swap with the State Park in order to acquire enough of their property by Marcus Park in order to install it.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Beegle stated that he likes the idea of parking at Marcus Park and the idea of adding tables to the property near the bike trail.

Commissioner Knopf stated that it was a good meeting.

Commissioner Mitebuler stated that she is glad she attended.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED** to adjourn the March 6, 2023 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:03 PM.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 VACANCY

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary