

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
April 3, 2023**

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Lynn Knopf.

ALSO PRESENT: One interested party.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS

AGENDA: Motion by Carlet Mitenbuler, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to accept the April 3, 2023 agenda with amendments to include gypsy moth and future project discussions.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

MINUTES: Motion by Carlet Mitenbuler, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to accept the March 6, 2023 regular meeting minutes with a few changes.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Katy Bradford, 3775 W. White Lake Drive – introduced herself and told the commissioners that Supervisor Jeff Marcinkowski contacted her regarding the vacancy on the Commission and this was her first meeting. Mentioned events she helped with at the municipality she used to live in.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to suspend Robert's Rules of Order to talk with Katy Bradford.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

The commissioners discussed Katy Bradford's previous experience and events she took part in with the previous municipality.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to resume Robert's Rules of Order.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

RECEIPTS:

None.

DISBURSEMENTS:

Chairman Murray reported disbursements activity as \$810.90 to Ludington Daily News for the public input meeting notice, \$59.00 to Shelby State Bank for supplies needed for the public meeting, and \$1,520.00 to Signs by Brian Homfeld LLC for the signs for the baseball field, for total disbursements of \$2,389.90.

Motion by Carlet Mitenbuler, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to pay total disbursements in the amount of \$2,389.90.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

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

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Bob Murray nominated by Mark Beegle, seconded by Carlet Mitenbuler
3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

Lynn Knopf nominated by Carlet Mitenbuler, seconded by Bob Murray
3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF SECRETARY

Carlet Mitenbuler nominated by Mark Beegle, seconded by Bob Murray
3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Baseball field

Chairman Murray reported that the signs for the field are completed. He added that one of the signs are off center due to damage to the fence on the backstop, and the other sign was placed under the scoreboard. Chairman Murray said that he had sent photos to the family and they questioned putting a plaque up near the field so that people will know more about who the field is dedicated to. The commissioners also discussed having the dedication on the night of a meeting so that everyone could attend, and they will also be inviting the Beacon to attend. The commissioners also agreed to have the youth baseball teams involved.

Chairman Murray said that the dugouts still need to be painted, and the commissioners are going to complete the painting themselves.

Chairman Murray also reported that the safety inspection was completed on the bleachers and many areas of concern were mentioned. He added that the total for all the repairs is \$962.60 plus shipping for all of the parts needed to fix the bleachers.

2. Spark Grant update

Chairman Murray reported that the Commission was a bit aggressive with their ideas for the grant and it came in at approximately \$2 million when the grant maximum is \$1 million. He added that he thinks it's best for the Commission to first look at items that require heavy equipment first, such as the cement work that they agreed to do within the park. Chairman Murray said that it is important to do the ADA work and the sidewalks are a good place to start. He also added that putting in the flushable restrooms should be one of the items included for the grant proposal as well. Chairman Murray showed the group ideas for the restrooms, adding that he would like to do stainless steel for the fixtures and have everything as touch free and maintenance friendly as possible. He also mentioned the idea of a water fountain or bottle filling station. Chairman Murray added that he thinks the small pavilion between the pickleball courts and sand volleyball should be included, as well as the pickleball courts. He also said that he thinks it would be best to go down to four courts rather than the six courts discussed.

Commissioner Beegle asked about lighting in the park, and Chairman Murray said that nothing has been ruled out quite yet, adding that the lights, cameras, WiFi and other such items could be achieved through other grant opportunities as well. Chairman Murray also questioned whether it was prudent to carve areas out for gravel before concrete is put in for the parking lot, and Commissioner Beegle said that it would be a good idea to do now.

In terms of the outdoor fitness center, Chairman Murray stated that he met with a group to discuss the potential of adding it to the park. He added that the fitness center isn't the top of the list to be completed, but that it is unique. Chairman Murray also said that it would have to be scaled back some as it came in at about \$200,000.00 for the equipment.

3. Future projects

Chairman Murray stated that it's important to always keep the future in mind. He added that one item that the Commission should consider looking at would be the backstop that needs work. He said it might be a good idea to possibly even replace fencing in the future. Chairman Murray also said that the fencing needs new ties and that the job isn't difficult to complete.

Chairman Murray asked the commissioners if they're all in agreement regarding Marcus Park parking and looking into swapping land with the State Park in order to do the parking lot. He added that Supervisor Jeff Marcinkowski had been in discussions with the State Park about possibly swapping a portion of the Wabaningo property for a small portion of the land by Marcus Park. The commissioners agreed to have Supervisor Marcinkowski move forward with these discussions.

Commissioner Beegle said that he likes the idea of the plaque and asked about installing a pole for it, and Chairman Murray said that he would prefer that it be mounted on a dugout where most people can see it. He said he spoke with Brian from Signs by Brian Homfeld, LLC and he also does plaques.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Boot cleaning station proposal

Chairman Murray stated that Lori Rummer, a teacher at Whitehall District Schools, reached out regarding her class installing boot cleaning stations in the park as part of a class project. He added that he thinks the Commission should approve it and have it placed near the top of the steps. Commissioner Beegle asked if they will need any electricity or water to them, and Chairman Murray stated that they will be manual.

Motion by Bob Murray, second by Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to give Lori the okay to put in a boot cleaning station at Nestrom Road Park.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Katy Bradford, 3775 W. White Lake Drive – suggested the addition of a cleaning station for dogs as well.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Beegle stated that he likes the idea including a plaque at the baseball field and the flush bathrooms that the Commission is looking into.

Commissioner Mitebuler stated that she likes the idea of including a foot station for dogs as well.

Chairman Murray said that he's excited to have a new member on the Commission. The other commissioners agreed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Carlet Mitenbuler, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED** to adjourn the April 3, 2023 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:09 PM.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT, 1 VACANCY

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary