

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
April 1, 2024**

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Katy Bradford.

ALSO PRESENT: Three interested parties.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Murray called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS

AGENDA: Motion by Carlet Mitenbuler, second from Lynn Knopf, *ADOPTED*, to amend the agenda to include nomination/election of chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary on the April 1, 2024 agenda.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

MINUTES: Motion by Bob Murray, second from Lynn Knopf, *ADOPTED*, to accept the March 4, 2024 minutes with a few small changes.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

RECEIPTS:

There were no receipts for the month of March 2024.

DISBURSEMENTS:

There were no disbursements for the month of March 2024.

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Bob Murray nominated by Carlet Mitenbuler, seconded by Lynn Knopf

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

Lynn Knopf nominated by Bob Murray, seconded by Carlet Mitenbuler

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF SECRETARY

Carlet Mitenbuler nominated by Lynn Knopf, seconded by Bob Murray

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

NEW BUSINESS:**1. Pollinator Paradise Garden – presentation by Sarah Filley**

Motion by Bob Murray, second by Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to suspend Robert's Rules of Order to discuss the presentation with Sarah Filley.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

Ms. Sarah Filley did a presentation on a pollinator garden, explaining how they work and their importance. The commissioners asked many questions, and decided that they would like to look into the option of a potential pollinator garden within the park. Supervisor Marcinkowski commented that he is also interested and has reached out about this possibility.

Motion by Bob Murray, second by Lynn Knopf, **ADOPTED**, to resume Robert's Rules of Order.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

2. Muskegon County Conservation District seedling planting grant

Chairman Murray stated that the conservation district offered some seedlings to plant, and he took the opportunity for some new trees within the park. He said that he has taken a few different kinds for down below the park in the trail area, adding that some would be placed along the fence line to help with that.

3. Catholic Heart Work Camp

Chairman Murray stated that he would like the Commission to put together a work order for the group. He said one item would be dead limbs in the trail to be mulched and placed around the trails. He asked that the commissioners think of other ideas for the group.

4. Temporary Construction Roadway

Chairman Murray stated that the Commission needs to look at putting in a temporary construction roadway with the work that will be being completed in the park. He said that they might want to consider putting it toward the north entrance where cars typically park. Commissioner Beegle stated that the Commission might want to consider a permanent one near the exit of the park.

5. Kevin Even – park usage agreement

Chairman Murray said that Attorney Kevin Even suggested creating a park usage agreement for groups that come in to use the park. The commissioners discussed whether there would be a fee for doing so. Chairman Murray reminded that individuals using the park can't turn away the public from using it while they are here. Commissioner Knopf suggested asking Attorney Even to attend a meeting to discuss the creation of an agreement and what it should entail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**1. Marcus Park update**

Chairman Murray said that he received a complaint regarding the portable restroom at Marcus Park. He stated that while removing the restroom isn't an option, he looked into ways to make it more palatable for others. Chairman Murray said that there will now be a green restroom placed at the park rather than a brighter color that will draw attention to it. He also added that the restroom will be placed between the two signs at the park in an effort to somewhat hide it.

Chairman Murray reported that he was also approached about a possible kayak ramp at the park. Commissioner Beegle stated that it might not be a great idea for Marcus Park with the limited parking available.

2. 2024-2025 budget

Chairman Murray stated that the Commission was given everything they requested in the new budget. He expressed his happiness, adding that he is looking forward to all that will be completed this year.

3. Eggstravaganza and future programs

Chairman Murray explained the reasoning behind canceling the Eggstravaganza event. The commissioners also discussed ideas for future programming, including pickleball lessons, a fun run, movie night, and Christmas tree event.

4. North Muskegon baseball agreement

Chairman Murray stated that the North Muskegon High School baseball team is practicing at the field after all. He presented a draft version of an agreement to the commissioners, and it was agreed that something should be added to the agreement that the Township is not liable for any injuries. Chairman Murray stated that the program will also be paying \$500.00 to help assist with things within the park. He added that the other teams that use the baseball field will also be contributing.

5. Tennis/pickleball court

Chairman Murray stated that he received three quotes for the fencing work. Only one quote came in under what was allowed in the budget, and that quote was from Oasis Fence for \$27,680.00.

Motion by Bob Murray, second by Lynn Knopf, **ADOPTED**, to recommend Oasis Fence for the fencing work.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

Chairman Murray stated that he was approached about possibly adding lines on the tennis court for pickleball as well. The commissioners discussed the idea and decided that they would like to leave the new tennis court as is without the lines and that they would address things again in a year.

6. Roadway and parking lot

Chairman Murray stated that the same company is completing the tennis court and the ring road. The company is Asphalt Paving Incorporated. The ring road will be widened to eleven feet and the parking lot will include sixteen spaces.

7. Restrooms

Chairman Murray stated that \$80,000.00 was approved for flush restrooms in the park. He added that it will be tight, but he is looking forward to the addition in the park. Chairman Murray said that the restroom is still in the design phase, adding that it was suggested to include a multiuse restroom as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Jeff Marcinkowski, 3767 Jay Road – stated that if the restrooms go over the \$80,000.00 budgeted amount, the Township has specialty funds they can pull from to cover any additional. He added that he agrees with Commissioner Beegle about a permanent construction road at the South end of the park. Supervisor Marcinkowski said that he likes the idea of the pollinator gardens and will be looking into them near the Township Hall as well. In terms of Marcus Park, he said that he is moving forward with the land swap. Supervisor Marcinkowski stated that if there is a problem with adding parking to the land from the State Park, the commissioners could potentially look into moving things already on Marcus Park to the new land and putting parking on the Marcus Park portion of the property.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Beegle said that he is very happy that the Commission got what they needed for the budget. He also added that he would do a walk through of the park with Chairman Murray to look at a possible location for the construction road. Chairman Murray thanked him and said he would definitely like to do so.

Commissioner Knopf stated that it was a good meeting. She also thanked Chairman Murray for all the work he has done and continues to do.

Commissioner Mitenbuler thanked Sarah Filley for the presentation and information she provided, adding that she learned a lot. She also thanked Chairman Murray for all the work he has done and continues to do.

Chairman Murray stated that Catholic Heart Work Camp could help with the pollinator garden.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Bob Murray, **ADOPTED** to adjourn the April 1, 2024 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:53 PM.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary