

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
June 3, 2013**

PRESENT: Chairperson Laura Shields, Commissioner Mary Nagengast, Commissioner Mary Josephson and Commissioner Lynn Knopf

ABSENT: Commissioner Steve Urban

ALSO PRESENT: Township Liaison Terrie Hampel

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Laura Shields called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS

AGENDA: Motion by Mary Nagengast, second from Lynn Knopf, **ADOPTED**, to accept the June 3, 2013 regular meeting agenda as written.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

MINUTES: Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Mary Nagengast, **ADOPTED**, to accept the May 6, 2013 regular meeting as written with two minor changes.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

RECEIPTS:

Chairperson Shields reported receipts activity as Township Park pavilion rental for \$20.00, for total receipts of \$80.00 for the month of May 2013.

Motion by Laura Shields, second from Mary Nagengast, **ADOPTED**, to accept receipts for \$80.00 for the month of May 2013.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

Roll Call Vote: Nagengast-Aye, Knopf-Aye, Shields-Aye

DISBURSEMENTS:

Motion by Laura Shields, second from Lynn Knopf, **ADOPTED**, to pay A-1 Excavation in the amount of \$750.00 for the removal of the pit toilets at Nestrom Road Park, Hunts Hardware in the amount of \$27.98 for miscellaneous plumbing for Nestrom Road Park, Kerkstra Portable Restroom Service Inc. in the amount of \$170.00 for portable restroom and handicap portable restroom rentals, and McCormick's in the amount of \$26.00 for gas for a tractor for spreading stone dust on the baseball field at Nestrom Road Park.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

Roll Call Vote: Nagengast-Aye, Knopf-Aye, Shields-Aye

Commissioner Mary Josephson arrived at 7:13p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of Duck Lake Road Park Trail System

Chairperson Shields stated that she had met with Jan Deur regarding the ideas of the Parks and Recreation Commission and their thoughts for a trail system at Duck Lake Road Park. Shields informed the group that she feels they should not move forward with anything in regards to the trail system and applying for a grant until the Township Board supports the whole project and that they give jurisdiction over all of the property at the park. She also stated that other ground work needs to be completed before moving forward with the project.

2. Parks and Recreation Commission Master Plan

Chairperson Shields stated that one major component that needs addressing before moving forward with the trail system is the Master Plan. Shields stated that in order to receive a grant, the Parks and Recreation Commission Master Plan needs to be approved by the DNR. Shields stated that Jan did speak to a woman, she believes her name is April Schultz, and he gave her a copy of the Master Plan to review. Shields believes that the Master Plan has very outdated information, and that the commission should look at amending the it in order for it to thoroughly accurate. She asked that everyone should go through the Master Plan and look at changes they see fit to make. Shields also stated that it is very time consuming and a lot of work, and that if they are going to do amendments, the commission might as well make all pertinent changes. She also stated that the commission would need extra meetings, and the budget would have to be adjusted to reflect the costs of publishing meetings. Shields stated that she would further look into approximate costs beforehand so that it can be added to the budget for next year.

Commissioner Mary Nagengast questioned as to whether there is still concern that the Township Board will not turn the remainder of the property over to the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission since they had refused in the past. Shields stated that she wasn't going to jump to conclusions, but that she wanted to be clear that she does not want to waste any other professionals' time or the time of the commissioners if this is not going to happen. She stated

that before moving forward, the Parks and Recreation Commission would have to have full support of the entire Township Board, and have full jurisdiction over the land. Commissioner Nagengast also questioned as to whether the commissioners were trying to come up with a goal or ideal plan on what they would like to accomplish with the grant and trail system, and Chairperson Shields stated that she wanted to have everything ready and a plan set so that she can bring it to the Township Board and say “this is it!”

In regards to amending the Master Plan, Chairperson Shields wants everyone to get thoughts written down and things they would like to see happen. Shields stated that she and Jan are going to speak with certain individuals in regards to what they have done with their trails and what can be done, and they will present it to the Township Board. She also stated that it would be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission before going forward to the board.

Commissioner Nagengast stated that in her opinion, it isn't clear to her as to what amendments to make and what not. She questioned if they are amending the data or rewriting the plan. Chairperson Shields stated that they would be physically changing the pages in the plan and then inserting an attachment in the back that states in the index the amendments made with reasoning behind it.

The discussion came about as to when the Master Plan has to be updated per Township Regulations, and Chairperson Shields reported that it happens again in 2015. She stated that what she believes the commission should do is just amend what is needed for the Master Plan to be approved by the DNR. Shields also stated that she would still like the commission to go through the entire plan in sections so that it could be determined exactly what they would like to amend and change, and that they would be ready in 2015 for these changes and for all necessary meetings. If changes don't need to be made to the Master Plan per DNR standards, Shields said that they would leave the plan as is, and still go through each section at upcoming meetings to review and make changes as the commission sees fit.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2013-14 Budget Item Schedule

In regards to benches and a swing for the parks, Commissioner Knopf reported that she accidentally got a quote for the incorrect bench size. She questioned as to whether she should get a new quote for the correct benches and send it to everyone via email prior to the next meeting to approve. Chairperson Shields stated that it should be okay to do it this way so that they can be ordered and here as quickly as possible.

The swing set move to Marcus Park had not yet happened, and Commissioner Nagengast said that she was told it would be one of two weekends in May, and it was not completed. Chairperson Shields stated that she had spoken with Mike Thomas of A-1 Excavation, the company doing the project, and he stated that the individual who was removing the swing set from the church and placing at the park had been injured, so they could not get to the job. Mike agreed to contact the commissioners in advance to set up a new move and installation date, and that it would be soon.

UPDATES:

None

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Chairperson Shields had questioned the work that had been completed by the volunteers to the front flower area, and Commissioner Josephson stated that the boys had separated all of the bulbs and planted them to fill up the area that had no plants. She also stated that the very front area had been weeded and cleaned out completely. The commissioners agreed that this is a project that will need to be taken care of more frequently to keep it looking as it had when it was weeded. Chairperson Shields had stated that the individual that inquired about community service had not contacted her back, and her hope was that she and her family could take care of the area.

Commissioner Knopf questioned if it would be possible to contact schools in advance to see about volunteers, and that it could be something that the students could complete for the following school year. Commissioner Josephson said she would even contact the boys who did the work to see if they would be interested in coming back again. The commissioners also agreed to having a few of them meet to start to gain control of the area until volunteers are found to do the work. After further discussion of volunteer help, the commission decided to contact Supervisor Sam St. Amour to possibly post something in the community newsletter to see if volunteers may arise that way, and Commissioner Josephson was put in charge of writing something up for the volunteer work to get to Supervisor Sam St. Amour.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mary Nagengast, second from Lynn Knopf, **ADOPTED** to adjourn the June 3, 2013 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:54p.m.

4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary