

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
August 6, 2025**

PRESENT: Commissioner Lynn Knopf, Commissioner Mark Beegle and Commissioner Ellie Rae VanTongeren.

ABSENT: Commissioner Bob Murray and Commissioner Carlet Mitenbuler.

ALSO PRESENT: One interested party.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Knopf called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS

AGENDA: Motion Lynn Knopf, second from Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to accept the August 6, 2025 agenda as written.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

MINUTES: Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Ellie Rae VanTongeren, *ADOPTED*, to accept the July 7, 2025 minutes with one small change.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Jeff Marcinkowski, 3744 Jay Road – handed out a document to the commissioners regarding the possibility of budgets being cut at the State level and how it may affect the Township level. He told the commissioners that the Township Board will be discussing this topic at the work session. Marcinkowski mentioned that while the Township Board approved the restrooms and budget for them, it might come to the point that the budget for the restrooms might need to be used and the job put on hold.

RECEIPTS:

Commissioner Knopf reported receipt activity as pavilion rentals in the amount of \$150.00 for the month of July 2025.

DISBURSEMENTS:

Commissioner Knopf reported disbursements activity as \$975.00 to Kerkstra for portable restrooms and Nestrom Road and Marcus Parks for total disbursements of \$975.00.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second by Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to accept receipts in the amount of \$150.00 and to pay disbursements in the amount of \$975.00.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Roll Call Vote: Beegle-Aye, Knopf-Aye, VanTongeren-Aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Restrooms/container restrooms

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second by Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to suspend Robert's Rules of Order to discuss the container restrooms with Supervisor Jeff Marcinkowski.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Supervisor Marcinkowski presented the commissioners with the container restroom and what they could potentially look like. In terms of costs, Supervisor Marcinkowski said the savings would be about \$100,000.00 less for the container restroom than the conventional restroom. He reminded the commissioners that approximately \$580,000.00 will be available to be utilized, but reminded them of the potential budget cuts.

Commissioner Beegle said that a container restroom is essentially a glorified portable restroom that isn't a permanent structure like a conventional restroom. He asked if the Commission could shoot high and if the budget cuts do happen, if they could settle for the container restroom. Commissioner Beegle said that he's worried about settling for a lesser product with the container restroom. He added that it would be in the Commission's best interest to have everyone present to vote on this important decision. Commissioner VanTongeren said that Commissioner Beegle had a point, and the commissioners discussed having a representative from Blox come in to discuss the container restrooms to get a better idea if this is something the Commission would like to consider.

With the commissioners being in open discussion with Supervisor Marcinkowski, Commissioner Knopf said that she would like to discuss the property request that the Township Board brought to the Commission. In the discussion, Supervisor Marcinkowski said that if the Township Board chooses, they can still take the land from the Commission unless they have an alternative location, which they do. Commissioner Beegle asked why the Township Board was asking for three acres, and Supervisor Marcinkowski said that it was just a number that was given.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED**, to resume Robert's Rules of Order.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

The commissioners agreed to have a representative attend the September meeting to present the container restrooms so they are able to discuss them before making a decision.

2. Park fencing

Commissioner Knopf stated that she got a quote for fencing from Oasis Fence for around the tennis and pickleball courts. She said that there are issues with the pickleball courts and play, adding that they will drop the fence to take care of the problem. The quote for this is \$1,450.00. Since the funds

are available in the budget, the commissioners approved the quote and will have the work completed by Oasis Fencing for \$1,450.00.

3. Program committee updates

Commissioner Knopf said that the outdoor movie took place on Saturday, August 2nd, but that it was not well attended. She said she wondered if it was due to the movie that was chosen and that she isn't sure it's a good thing moving forward. Recording Secretary Mary Mansfield mentioned that from the residents she spoke with regarding the movie night, all of them suggested a more child/family friendly movie.

Commissioner Knopf said that she is working on a letter for the individuals that participated in past trunk or treat events, adding that she is going to bring them to the Township so they can send them out.

Commissioner Knopf suggested "Science Saturdays" in the park for residents. She mentioned low cost art projects. Commissioner VanTongeren also suggested an art project using mushrooms within the park. The commissioners are going to look further into these ideas and what it would entail.

4. Future park projects/budget items

Commissioner Knopf stated that many of the larger budget items that the Commission has looked into have already been completed or are being worked on. She suggested that the upcoming budget will likely be maintenance of these items. She suggested that the commissioners be thinking of items for the upcoming budget.

Commissioner Knopf also suggested foam on the lakes from PFAS. She suggested the possibility of adding signs at the lakes for residents to be more aware.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

The commissioners all agreed that they are looking forward to a representative coming in to get more information about a possible container bathroom.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Ellie Rae VanTongeren, ***ADOPTED*** to adjourn the August 6, 2025 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 6:55 PM.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary