

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
March 2, 2026**

PRESENT: Commissioner Mark Beegle, Commissioner Lynn Knopf and Commissioner Doug Potts.

ABSENT: Commissioner Bob Murray and Commissioner Carlet Mitenbuler.

ALSO PRESENT: One interested party.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Lynn Knopf called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS

AGENDA: Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Doug Potts, *ADOPTED*, to amend the March 2, 2026 agenda to remove the zoon presentation and add lighthouse fence discussion under “New Business.”

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

MINUTES: Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Mark Beegle, *ADOPTED*, to accept the February 2, 2026, minutes as written.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Jeff Marcinkowski, 3744 Jay Road – forwarded information to the commissioners regarding an appropriation request through Senator Slotkin for the ring road lights, WiFi and camera options. He stated that it would be approximately \$150,000.00 - \$175,000.00. Stated he is going to do so based on the quote from Comcast for the work.

RECEIPTS:

None.

DISBURSEMENTS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:**1. Ring road lights, WiFi, and camera options**

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Doug Potts, **ADOPTED**, to suspend Robert's Rules of Order.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Supervisor Jeff Marcinkowski informed the commissioners that the cameras could be directed to whomever they want, even the PINS officer. He said that everything will be on WiFi, so it'll be easily accessible. He also stated that if gates are installed, they will have the capabilities of closing them right from their phones.

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

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

2. Lighthouse fence

Commissioner Potts stated that the Friends of Fruitland Trails group said that they would love to help replace the fence at the White River Light Station, adding that it's in need of repair. He said that he was approached to ask the Commission to see if they would like the group's help. Recording Secretary Mary Mansfield stated that it would need to be brought to the Township Board, as the Commission doesn't have jurisdiction over the lighthouse. Commissioner Knopf mentioned the possibility of the volunteer group that comes in taking the reigns and helping.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**1. Future park projects/budget items**

Commissioner Knopf stated that the attorney is looking into the legalities surrounding events. She said that Commissioner Mitenbuler is in charge of setting up pickleball lessons.

Commissioner Knopf mentioned the posts at the pavilion and wondered if they've been looked at for replacement. The commissioners reminded her that the Building Official, Val Jensen, will be looking at them. She mentioned concerns in the budget regarding the replacement, and Commissioner Beegle stated that he doesn't believe the Commission will use the entire budget for trees, so they could request the leftover be used on the posts.

The commissioners discussed the fence, and Commissioner Knopf stated that Oasis fence said they could complete the work this month.

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

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Supervisor Jeff Marcinkowski stated that if the commissioners have the fence completed this month, they won't have to include the fencing amount in the upcoming budget and it would come out of the current budget.

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

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

2. Program committee updates/future events

Commissioner Knopf stated that she is trying to get the Peeps contest going, adding that the library won't be able to participate. She said that she talked to the Chamber of Commerce and they gave the idea of doing favorite places around Whitehall. Commissioner Knopf is going to continue working on this.

Commissioner Knopf mentioned the playground and that there aren't things for each age group. The commission will look into this idea.

Commissioner Beegle will be taking the lead on the planning of the car show.

3. Grant update

Commissioner Knopf stated that the restrooms are moving forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Jeff Marcinkowski, 3744 Jay Road – informed the commissioners that he reached out regarding the fence on the baseball field and having it moved back. He stated he will get contact info for the volunteers. Mentioned the option of going smoke-free in the park and will ask about the idea. Suggested that refreshments at events are always a good idea. There are rec mats in the basement that he requested the commissioners look at. Requested that budget items be sent to his email.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Knopf mentioned the reservation software and possibly capabilities for reserving the fields and pavilions. Recording Secretary Mary Mansfield reminded the commissioners that the pavilions are currently only available for residents to reserve, adding that everyone has to fill out paperwork and pay the fee at the Township Hall before the pavilion is reserved.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Mark Beegle, **ADOPTED** to adjourn the March 2, 2026, scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 6:52 PM.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary