

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION
SCHEDULED MEETING
May 4, 2026**

PRESENT: Commissioner Lynn Knopf, Commissioner Carlet Mitenbuler, and Commissioner Doug Potts.

ABSENT: Commissioner Mark Beegle and Commissioner Bob Murray.

ALSO PRESENT: None.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Lynn Knopf called the meeting to order at 5:57p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOME GUESTS

AGENDA: Motion by Doug Potts, second from Carlet Mitenbuler, *ADOPTED*, to accept the May 4, 2026 agenda as written
3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

MINUTES: Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Doug Potts, *ADOPTED*, to accept the March 2, 2026, minutes as written.
3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT:
None.

RECEIPTS:
Commissioner Knopf reported receipt activity as pavilion rentals in the amount of \$800.00 for the months of March and April, 2026.

DISBURSEMENTS:
Commissioner Knopf reported disbursements activity as \$1,450.00 to Oasis Fence for fixing the fence around the tennis and pickleball courts, and \$189.34 to TruGreen for baseball field lawn service, for total disbursements of \$1,639.34.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second by Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to accept receipts in the amount of \$800.00 and to pay disbursements in the amount of \$1,639.34.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Roll Call Vote: Potts-Aye, Knopf-Aye, Mitenbuler-Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Memorial bench

Commissioner Lynn Knopf stated that a resident reached out regarding placing a memorial bench at Nestrom Road Park. The commissioners discussed the specifics, and Commissioner Knopf stated that she will reach out to her again for further details. The commissioners agreed to allow the placement of a bench.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Park signage

Commissioner Knopf stated that Supervisor Jeff Marcinkowski mentioned to her that the Commission might want to consider updating signage throughout the park to be consistent with other signage throughout the Township. The commissioners agreed to place similar signage at both pavilions. They also discussed placing signage at the entrance of the park and at the dugouts. The commissioners are going to reach out to the company that created the signage throughout the Township.

Commissioner Knopf also stated that Supervisor Marcinkowski mentioned the idea of prohibiting smoking in the park. Commissioner Mitenbuler stated that she's not sure how it would be enforced, adding that it's ultimately up to the Township Board. Commissioner Potts stated that it's not a bad idea to prohibit all smoking throughout the park to eliminate everything. The commissioners agreed that they were okay no longer allowing smoking of any kind and they would send their recommendation to the Township Board.

2. Reservation software

Commissioner Knopf stated that the presentation for the software will take place at the June meeting. She stated that she will send a link to Recording Secretary Mary Mansfield to send to each commissioner to watch a video before the meeting so that they can come to the June meeting with any questions.

3. Duck Lake Road Park

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second by Carlet Mitenbuler, **ADOPTED**, to convey what remains of Duck Lake Road Park to the Township to be used as part of the Duck Creek Natural Area property.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

4. Future park projects/budget items

Commissioner Knopf stated that there were individuals that came out to look at the baseball field. She mentioned that two groups are using the soccer fields, adding that the fields aren't in the shape to be used for games. The commissioners discussed adding sprinklers to the fields and plan to put them on next year's budget.

Commissioner Mitenbuler mentioned hosting the pickleball lessons again, and she will talk to the gentleman that did them last year. The commissioners discussed the possibility of leagues, and they will discuss this possibility with him as well.

The commissioners discussed the trail markers that Chairman Bob Murray created for the trails at Nestrom Road Park. They agreed to do one on each side of the posts, and they will talk to Maintenance Supervisor Arron Ferris to install them.

Commissioner Knopf reported that the portable restrooms will be placed this week in Nestrom Road Park and they will be placed June 1st at Marcus Park. She mentioned that while visiting Marcus Park, she noticed that the boards on the picnic tables are in rough shape. Commissioner Knopf stated that the underside is in good shape, so she is going to ask Arron to flip the boards. Commissioner Knopf mentioned the water hazard of a fence or dock that is on the shore of Marcus Park. Commissioner Mitenbuler is going to take care of it. The commissioners also discussed the parking lot needing to be flattened at Marcus Park.

5. Program committee updates/future events

No updates.

6. Baseball and soccer fields

Commissioner Knopf stated that previous care of the field was completed by North Muskegon when they were using the field. She said that All In Property Services was doing the work before, adding that they are coming out to the field to give a quote for the work. Commissioner Knopf stated that the grass clippings left on the field are causing issues. Preferred Lawn Care also came to the field to give a quote. They shared with Commissioner Knopf that TruGreen is heavy on nitrogen usage. The commissioners agreed that they like the idea of the baseball teams using the field having full control over the care and what is used.

Commissioner Knopf mentioned the chalking on the field, adding that it needs to be completed before each game. She said that she is going to ask Arron if he can complete this, and the commissioners agreed that providing the chalk for the field should be the Commission's responsibility.

Commissioner Knopf reported that a section of the fence capping is missing, so the Commission will need to replace it.

7. Fence repair

Commissioner Knopf mentioned that Clerk Alexa Steffes said that the Commission should be getting three quotes for the work in the parks. She added that Affordable fence came to the park today and Superior is coming this week to give a quote as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Knopf mentioned that the Commission was turned down for the grant that was applied for to make the park handicap accessible. The commissioners discussed this and agreed to ask the Township Board to consider this project for a capital expense.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Doug Potts, ***ADOPTED*** to adjourn the May 4, 2026, scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 6:57 PM.

3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary

DRAFT