

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE  
PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING**

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

2840 Fisher Avenue

Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

**CALL TO ORDER:** William Petsch, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: William Petsch, Chairperson  
Barbara Garbutt, Vice Chairperson  
Michelle Holmes, Secretary  
Tim Wichert  
Marvin Lee

Excused Robert Long  
Mary Ston

Also Present: Emily England, Director of Senior/Parks and Recreation

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION** by Holmes, supported by Garbutt, to approve the April 23, 2007 Parks and Receptions Meeting Minutes with the following corrections: Page two, **Item 4: Township Board Report**, 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet, add, "**Reed Lake**"; **Item 5: Dodge Park/Grant Update**, change to read, "**Emily England reports they are working with the DEQ and Road Commission and waiting for final permits. They are hoping to get started and go up for bid within the next two to three weeks.**"; Page 3, **Item 6: RCC Rental Report**, add, "**and expenditures**"; **Item 7: League and Field Schedules**, first line, add "**from the Commerce Little League**"; second line, change, "**Gordon Glennie reports that the Interlakes Girls Softball League has not reported their schedule**" to "**Gordon Glennie reports that the Interlakes Girls Softball League will submit his schedule at a later date**"; Page 4, in **Item 10: RCC Sign Update**, fifth comment, change to read, "**Michelle Holmes comments that a policy needs to be written now. If the Township chooses to use the sign for rental purposes, it needs to be brought before the committee**"; and in **Item 12: Other Matters**, 2<sup>nd</sup> comment add, "**and address the maintenance issues for these waste bags**".

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

May 14, 2007

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Ryan Krol of 6147 Carey, Commerce, is present along with Genia Giudici, a Commerce resident to suggest an idea for Dodge Park. As a township resident and an avid player, Ryan requests that the committee consider putting in a disc golf course in Dodge Park or any one of the township's park. He presents a written cost estimate and informs the committee that disc golf is a very economical outdoor sport. It is actually very affordable. Any income level can play. It is a great alternative for outdoor sports. Much less cost than playground equipment. The sport is growing widely and becoming more and more popular. Because it is an inexpensive sport, anyone can play. I have to drive to Milford to play, when I could be playing in my own area parks. The courses do not have to be big. An estimate cost for a basic 9-hole course is approximately \$3375.00.

William Petsch suggests that Ryan walk the Bicentennial Park to see if disc golf would be appropriate there. He suggests that he could walk through all of Commerce parks to see if they could accommodate a course. The timing for Dodge Park is a bit in the future, but it may be feasible in one of our other parks sooner.

Barbara Garbutt comments that this idea has been brought up several times. I think it is something we should look into again. It may be feasible at Maple Glen.

Tim Wichert comments that this sport sounds like something good to have in our parks.

Michelle Holmes comments that we are currently re-doing our Master Plan and this is the time to plan for this.

## **ITEM 1: LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORT**

Charlie Cosgrove is present and reports the following:

- They had opening day a couple weeks ago.
- He mentions the nice story covered in the Detroit Free Press.
- They are holding a fund raiser on May 21, 2007,
- We are hosting the 10-year old District State Tournament in July with 18 teams from all over the State in attendance. It is reported that 800 hotel rooms are ready for these teams. We are considering donations for parking. We are restricted by some things. We can't make money from the Tournament but we can charge for concessions and a donated parking fee.
- Dick's Sporting Goods is donating \$10,000.00 worth of coach ball bags, in sponsorship. We will be doing a fund-raiser as well. Last year Red Robin came to grill hamburgers as a concession and they donated 50% of that revenue.
- We are hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Tournament with the Commerce Little League, held July 29-31, 2007.
- It has been reported that teenagers and young adults are drinking alcohol at the Coliseum Field. The Committee noted that the Sheriff's Department needs to be award of the issue.
- We would like to improve three of our dugouts by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. I'd like your recommendation to proceed forward with this.

May 14, 2007

## **LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORT (Continued)**

### **Discussion**

William Petsch –

We want to make sure all things are in order and done correctly for the State Tournament.

The committee needs to be informed about sponsorships and donations so it can be noted in our meeting Minutes.

Barbara Garbutt –

The Red Robin Restaurant has been very generous to this township. They are very active in our community and we welcome their help

**MOTION** by Holmes, supported by Wichert to recommend the improvements to three of the dugouts, by the guidelines of Emily England and the Building Department.

### **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Gordon Glennie of the Girls Softball League reports they will be hosting the Walled Lake Northern Tournament and expecting as many as 1500 people in attendance.

Gordon also reports that he has had problems with an outside group causing \$1,500.00 of damage to their pitching machine. We had to replace half of the backstop. I have sent a letter to that group requesting they do not use our facilities.

### **ITEM 2: PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Emily England reports that she will be excused for a maternity leave in August and that her assistant, Nicole Parent, will be assuming her duties during that absence.

There may also be a young lady from Western Michigan University working with us in an internship position.

### **ITEM 3: TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT**

No report given

**ITEM 4: DODGE PARK AMENDMENT FOR PHASE ONE**

Emily England presents two letters explaining the need for additional monies for the Dodge Park budget.

**Discussion**

William Petsch –

These costs are not because of Beckett & Raeder or by any ordinance or mandates by the Road Commission or the Township?

Is it the need of larger trails, parking surface, turning lanes and by-pass lanes?

Emily England –

The Road Commission has changed the entrance requirement three times.

**MOTION** by Garbutt, supported by Holmes, to recommend that the Board of Trustees approves an additional \$100,000, but not to exceed 1.3 million dollars for Phase One Budget for Dodge Park 5.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 5: EAGLE SCOUT**

William Armstrong from Troop 229 was present to report the completion of his Emergency Signs on the non-motorized park trails. William thanks the committee for the opportunity and comments that all requirements are met to receive the Eagle Scout Award.

The committee commends William for the job well done. His work was excellent and truly appreciated. It was an outstanding job and can now be included in our parks brochures.

**ITEM 6: UPDATE ON DOG WASTE STATIONS**

Emily England reports that dog waste stations may cost between \$300 and \$400 each.

We had another resident complaint about dogs without leashes and that resident suggests we install bigger signs. The only sign we do have is one small sign at the trail head.

**ITEM 7: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT**

Emily England presents a written Revenue and Expenditure Report.

The Committee reviews and discusses the report.

### **ITEM 8: UPDATE ON MOUNTAIN BIKE KIOSK**

Emily England provides an update on the mountain bike kiosk. The Township wants to see a policy about this kind of sponsorship to insure that the Township has the ownership of the sign.

Michelle Holmes comments that Ordinance 36 may cover that issue.

William Petsch states that type of policy may address other issues in our parks as well.

### **ITEM 9: AGENDA REQUESTS**

The RFP for the Master Plan  
Mountain Bike Kiosk  
Dog Waste Stations

### **ITEM 10: OTHER MATTERS**

Jay James of Giffels and Webster Engineering is mapping out all the sidewalks and pathways in this community.

Gordon Glennie states that the Maple Glen Park is in desperate need of road gravel.

William Petsch states they are trying to get monies from our maintenance budget to get some gravel over there.

Michelle Holmes reports the following:

- The restroom facilities at Maple Glen are in very bad shape.
- A drinking fountain is falling down.
- There is one sign that reads; "Do not leave children unattended" is missing at the wetlands.
- There are two lights out and one rail down at the Byers Farm. Michelle Holmes reports there will be a re-zoning for a new development along the river near the Bubble and Squeak.
- The No-Haz Semi Annual Collection Day had 791 vehicles in attendance. Many donations were collected to offset the cost to the community.
- The Community Breakfast will be May 22, 2007.

Barbara Garbutt reports the following:

- June Byers passed away and her funeral was today. They are having a meeting of the Friends of Byers tonight.
- The Sister's Cycling Club will be riding through the community on Memorial Day weekend.

May 14, 2007

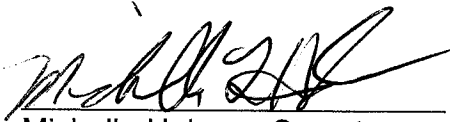
**MOTION** by Holmes supported by Wichert, to have regular, semi-annual maintenance inspections on the all the signs in all parks and pathways.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Petsch, supported by Wichert, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The next Parks and Recreation Meeting will be held on June 25, 2007 at the Township Hall.



Michelle Holmes, Secretary