

Final
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE
PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING
Monday, June 23, 2008
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
Michelle Holmes, Vice Chairperson
Marvin Lee, Secretary
Barbara Garbutt
Tim Wichert
Dave Schultz
Robert Long

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

COMMUNICATIONS:
None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Holmes, supported by Garbutt, to approve the Parks and Recreations Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2008, and June 10, 2008.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENTS:
None

ITEM 1: Waiver request – Commerce Co-op Preschool, Saturday, November 8, 2008

MOTION by Wichert, second by Schultz, to approve the use of the Senior Center on November 8, 2008, for Commerce Co-op Preschool, providing they follow procedures.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 2: Waiver request – Treyborne Cove Condo Assoc., Sunday, August 10, 2008

MOTION by Wichert, second by Lee, to approve the use of the Senior Center on August 10, 2008, for Treyborne Cove Condo Association.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 3: LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORT

Mike Snyder was present representing the baseball program.

Construction is being completed on all the dugouts. 4th of July tournament is coming up and all the covers will be complete by then. There are 65 teams registered and the program is at full capacity. Fall leagues will start September 6th and run through October 11th. There will be double headers on Saturday and Sundays. There is space available for 400 kids.

The league can't do anything with the concession building this year but hope to have it open next year. Mr. Snyder expressed his concern and confusion in the delay.

Emily stated that the sponsorship policy is in the attorney's office and that is the hold up. Once she has the policy, it will go to the Township Board for approval.

Brief discussion regarding the policy followed.

MOTION by Holmes, second by Lee, to recommend to the Township Board to proceed to allow the Commerce Little League to build a concession stand at Maple Glenn Park by 2009.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CW3 Extreme Soccer Club

John Varcie was present representing CW3 Extreme Soccer Club.

Mr. Varcie thanked the Board for allowing them to post on the Richardson Center sign. There was a 30% increase in tryouts this year.

The organization was allowed to use Hawks football field for practice and the kids loved it.

George Janovich has been hired for the director of coaching of Lakes Soccer Association. He brought 4 teams with him and has hired professional coaches. Mr. Janovich is in charge of what direction the coaches' take and their training. Soccer has become very competitive.

A director of Premiere Teams was hired promoting for college recruitment.

Working with Walled Lake Schools for practice areas as the program has grown so fast.

Mr. Varcie questioned the status of Dodge Park related to the soccer fields. Emily stated that irrigation is going in now and the fields will be ready next year.

A booster club was formed this year and as a result, an 8-year-old pays about ½ of their dues because of the sponsorships. Polices regarding field usage needs to be done.

Mr. Varcie asked when a good time would be to discuss the future of CW3. Chairperson Petsch stated that the Board will be discussing the Master Plan with Wade & Trim and that would be a good time to discuss future plans.

Ms. Holmes suggested Mr. Varcie get league and field information to Emily ASAP.

Brief discussion followed.

ITEM 4: Parks & Recreation Department Report

Emily England is present and reports that Seniors Unlimited went out of business. They are currently meeting with other travel companies in order to book more trips.

Additionally, she has left 3 messages for the forestry department at the County and has not heard back yet.

There is a meeting on June 23rd at 3:00 PM with Ron Campbell, from Oakland County, at the Byers Park.

ITEM 5: Township Board Report

Robert Long reported on the following items from the June Township Board Meeting:

- The Board had appointed a Property Maintenance Board of Appeals. Mike Powell, David Byron and Ed Bourne are members.
- The Board acted on the recommendation of Wade Trim per the Parks and Recreation Committee's recommendation.
- Water rate charges were raised.
- Cemetery Ordinance
- Library construction has been put on hold. The building may not be there 3-4 years from now.

Discussion regarding possible future plans for the Library followed.

ITEM 6: MAINTENANCE REPORT

Emily England discussed items the Maintenance Department has been working on:

- Ongoing tree clean up
- Taking care of 104 daylilies left over in Dodge Park. They were not planted per specs and will now be planted throughout the park.
- Doors ordered for Richardson Center.
- Woodchips/mulch put down at RCC and Fire Stations
- Fixed eroding trail at Long Park
- Dug and filled trenches at Dodge Park
- Removed well house from the links of Pinewood and installed at Dodge Park over fire hydrant for the Dodge Park irrigation.

The Committee discussed the well with Mr. Jeff Bowdell. The original well was 186'.

Mr. Lee asked if there was any notable damage to the parks after the recent storms. Emily reported there was not.

ITEM 7: Byers Duck Barn

Ellen Smith and Cindy Sawyer were in attendance.

Emily stated that she had spoke with Dan Kolbe regarding Byers Duck Barn. The insurance adjuster will decide if the building should be repaired or rebuilt. A settlement has not yet been determined. At the request of the insurance adjuster, pictures of the barn before the fire are trying to be located.

Ms. Garbutt suggested that it would be nice to see the barn rebuilt as it was. Ms. Smith and Ms. Sawyer agreed that the general consensus was that everyone would like to see the barn rebuilt as close to original as possible.

Ms. Smith explained that friends of Byers confirmed the by-laws with the IRS. 501C3 They do have to turn over unused assets per dissolution of the group.

They are looking for an organization to designate. If they dissolve, the money and assets will go to them.

ITEM 8: Byers Barn

No action taken. Awaiting insurance information.

ITEM 9: Byers Historical Sign

Laura Ashley could not attend the meeting. She would be willing to do a conference call, but feels that all questions should be answered in an email she had previously sent to Ellen Smith.

Chairperson Petsch explained that to obtain a historical sign, the information for the sign has to be supported by Primary Source Documents.

Emily added that there was a March 31st deadline but she has not heard anything yet. Glen Ruggles will try to be contacted.

ITEM 10: Dodge Park Update

The Committee members, Jeff Bowdell and Emily England discussed the 2 retention ponds in detail.

One of the retention ponds had a clay bottom which will not allow the water to perk. Beckett & Raeder proposed running a drain pipe to the northwest retention pond that would work as a French drain and allow for the water to run off in more areas.

At the last Dodge Park progress meeting in which Dave Smith attended as well as Tom Zoner, Emily England, Jeff Bowdell, B & V, and Beckett & Raeder the decision was made to install two culverts instead of the proposed drain pipe. The culverts would allow the overflow from the ponds to run in the current creek that runs through the park.

Emily will contact Jay to find out the status. Thursday at 3:00 pm there is a progress meeting at Dodge Park.

ITEM 11: Byers Preservation

Ellen, Ron Campbell, Emily, and Tom Zoner are going through the property on Wednesday June 23rd, at 3:00 pm.

ITEM 12: Park and Recreation Master Plan

Keep on agenda. There will be a meeting soon.

ITEM 13: Wild Corners

Ms. Garbutt gave a presentation on Wild Corners that included the Committee looking at a plan of possible restoration sites.

Emily explained that the County offered to survey for free. If there is something the Township would like done, the County will do its best to accommodate the request.

ITEM 14: Revenue & Expenditure Report

The Committee reviewed the Revenue & Expenditure Report

ITEM 15: Agenda Requests

Wild Corners
League agreements
Sponsorship Policy

ITEM 16: Other Matters

Ms. Garbutt expressed concern about the goose droppings. Geese are chasing people. There is an overpopulation of birds and is causing water problems.

Algae at Long Park

Mr. Holmes discussed water quality and maintenance.

The water quality of the lakes in the area – past history of lakes

Dock maintenance

Long Park erosion

Graffiti on bridge

Mr. Bowdell discussed the sign issue for the parks and requested some direction on how to proceed.

MOTION by Petsch, supported by Wichert, to give Jeff Bowdell approval to meet with Bill to find out what signs are needed and then to purchase signs needed for the parks.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Schultz, supported by Wichert, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Marvin Lee, Secretary