

PROPOSED MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL

April 17, 2019

Regular Meeting
7:00 P.M. at Township Hall

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Tom Shuff called the regular Parks & Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Johnson, Karen Simmons, Tom Shuff,
Kathleen Dearborn, Ellen Fitch
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary

ARTICLE II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Simmons seconded by Dearborn to approve the March 20, 2019 minutes as written. Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE III. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The bills to be paid as of March 2019 were reviewed. Maintenance: Jon's to Go \$329.70; Contracted Services: John Kunkel - \$140.00, AAA Lead Inspections - \$720.00; Electricity - \$52.69; Salaries: Robert Jerow - \$165.00; Taxes: \$12.62.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dearborn and seconded by Fitch to approve the Treasurer's Reports as submitted for the month of March. Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IV. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORTS – Meshkin

- a. Meshkin reported that there was nothing discussed at the Township Board meeting that pertained to the parks. The new fireworks ordinance was passed aligning with the state law. There will be a significant increase in fines associated with violations and the local law enforcement will share in a portion of the proceeds of those dollars collected.
- b. Shuff reported the speaking to doctors regarding Parks Rx which is an effort to get patients outside for therapy. Shuff will provide updates as available.

ARTICLE V. STAFF REPORTS – Meshkin

- a. Meshkin reported stated that most of his report is reflected in the agenda items.

ARTICLE VI. HUYSER CARETAKER REPORT – Circo

Sherrie Circo reported a large tree came down on Sunday due to the winter storm.

ARTICLE VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. GRANT UPDATE

Meshkin reported there is nothing new to report on the beach grant and he continues to work with the owner of the property the township wishes to buy.

B. BLUE STAR NON-MOTORIZED UPDATE

Meshkin reported preliminary engineering work has been authorized. Letters of support will be requested from City of Holland and Fillmore Township regarding continuity of the route.

C. HUYSER GREEN HOUSE

Meshkin reported that it will not be burned but be demolished for a cost of \$7,000. There were too many shingles and asbestos was found. The house, foundation, septic system and all debris will be removed.

D. BEACH PROPOSAL

Johnson reported visiting the beach today and found issues that will require support to gain stair access. The dunes have moved again to cover the north south stairs completely. Some

of the snow fencing need to be reinforced. Schrotenboer said the dune grass that was planted is still in place. Johnson said there were bee nests buried in the sand. The boardwalk will be cleared off. Schrotenboer suggested an alternate small add-on to the boardwalk. Johnson is unsure where the King property interlocks.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Johnson and seconded by Fitch to approve the Schrotenboer revised beach maintenance proposal at the cost of \$3500 for services provided from April 15 to October 15, 2019.**

Schrotenboer recommended paying attention to the old stairs. Simmons would prefer to see the stairs go away completely.

Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UANANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

ARTICLE VIII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Park Evaluations

Johnson reported on Shore Acres Parks and asked about the large metal tank and electrical box toward the back of the disc park. Meshkin said that is the irrigation system of eight different wells that go to the beach. It used to supply the water to the prison but is now used for the mansion sprinkling system. Meshkin explained what the system was used for during the days of the prison. Johnson said there is an old electrical box and Meshkin said it would take approximately \$1,000 - \$2,000 to remove. Johnson said there is prickly pear cactus in the park and expressed concern. It is not an invasive but it is considered a native plant. Schrotenboer suggested planting it amongst the dune grass to deter the trespassers.

b. Invasive Species

Simmons expressed concern regarding the garlic mustard. Meshkin said there are a number of stakeholders from the county and ODC involved in treatment. A suggestion was made to contact Jan Lozon as a potential resource. Simmons will make the contact. Fitch asked if “Adopt-A-Park” is an optional resource. It was suggested that Holland Christian High School be contacted for service projects. Dearborn suggested the Allegan County Juvenile Center.

c. Wolters Woods

Johnson noted there appears to be a homeless person living in Wolters Woods. Meshkin stated that several deputies have spoken to him and he has been advised of available resources. Meshkin said plans are in place to install power in the park which could be used for a water pump in the future.

d. Handicap Access at Sanctuary Woods

Dearborn asked if it is possible to build a gradual ramp to allow for access. Meshkin suggested a lift on the stairs. The cost for ramping could be prohibitive and require permitting.

ARTICLE IX. CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

ARTICLE X. ADJOURNMENT

Shuff adjourned the meeting at 7:41pm.