

LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

June 16, 2021
Regular meeting
6:00 p.m.

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Shuff called the regular Parks & Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dick Becker, Tom Shuff,
Karen Simmons, Jeremy Van Hoven (6:02 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Brett Grams – Parks maintenance
Jim Hayden – Recording secretary

ARTICLE II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Simmons, seconded by Becker, to approve May 19, 2021, minutes. Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

ARTICLE III. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Becker, seconded by Simmons, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Shuff called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

ARTICLE IV. TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORTS -- None

ARTICLE V. STAFF REPORTS –

Grams reported that work on the pickleball courts is underway and the architect plans are available to examine. The beach stairs were shoveled by a volunteer group from Macatawa Bank last month but are filling back in. Grams might need

to get bids on an observation platform that is sagging. The graffiti at Sanctuary Woods trestle has not yet been painted over.

ARTICLE VI. HUYSER CARETAKER REPORT -- None

The commission noted this item needs to be removed from the agenda.

ARTICLE VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. PARKS SIGNS: WELCOMING, DOGS AND OTHER

With the resignation of Parks Commissioner Kathleen Dearborn, someone else will need to take over the project. The issue will be addressed at the next meeting.

B. MEMORIAL BENCH

The commission agreed that the bench memorializing Ellen Fitch should be placed in the southwest corner of the milkweed field at Huyser Farm.

C. PARKS PUBLIC RELATIONS

The commission discussed priorities for parks. Each commissioner presented his/her list of priorities and discussed each park. The commission agreed the top five issues are

- Restrooms
- Trails
- Playgrounds
- Broadband service/security
- Beach access.

The commission will ask office staff to list these for a printed survey. Commissioners will hand out the survey at the Graafschap Fire Department July Fourth Pancake Breakfast from 6 to 10 a.m. Monday, July 5. The survey will ask people to mark the top five items from 1 to 5 for their interest in the future of the parks. Two blank lines will be included for residents to put in their suggestions. The survey will also ask if the person uses Laketown Township parks and where the person lives (if live in Laketown Township).

D. TRAIL MARKERS FOR HUYSER AND FARVIEW

Radar Hill Hiking Club will be putting trail markers at Huyser Farm and Farview Park. Simmons will meet with the club representative to mark those trails.

ARTICLE VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. With Dearborn's resignation, a new member needs to be found.

ARTICLE IX. CITIZENS COMMENTS -- None

ARTICLE X. ADJOURNMENT

Shuff adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.