

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
SCHEDULED MEETING  
March 6, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Lynn Knopf, Commissioner Greg Barrett, Commissioner Brian Mathiot, and Commissioner Thomas Tisue.

**ABSENT:** None.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Knopf called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**WELCOME GUESTS** Trustee Terrie Hampel and two interested parties.

**AGENDA:** Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Greg Barrett, *ADOPTED*, to accept the March 2017 agenda.

*4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT*

**MINUTES:** Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Brian Mathiot, *ADOPTED*, to accept the February 6, 2017 regular meeting minutes.

*4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Terrie Hampel commended the commissioners on their budget, and added that she thinks it's winnable and has good support.

Trustee Hampel also commented on the survey that is available regarding the property behind the fire barn on Duck Lake Road, and encouraged the commissioners to complete the survey as well so their voice can be heard about what they would like to see on the property.

Trustee Hampel also mentioned that Earth Week is the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup>. She added that she would like to have a volunteer event at Nestrom Road Park on April 27<sup>th</sup>, possibly followed with a potluck. Trustee Hampel said that she would like to see the trail at the park cleaned up, among other things. Commissioner Tisue argued that there is no trail and he doesn't see the need to create one, and Trustee Hampel stated that there is, in fact, a trail that has been at the park for 20+ years. She said that she won't be removing anything aside from leaves and debris.

Chairperson Knopf stated that Supervisor Jeske is on board with the idea of volunteers coming in, and added that it is important to not mask the resources at the park. She also added that the Township will want to check with Attorney Even regarding waivers for the volunteers. Chairperson Knopf added that there is a memorial down by the lake at Nestrom Road Park, and she wants to make sure it isn't disturbed by any of the volunteers on the cleanup day. Commissioner Tisue added that it should be suggested to make the park tidier, and that the trash bins should be emptied more frequently at the park.

Trustee Hampel mentioned that she jumped the gun with the Community Foundation, but that she wasn't giving up.

**RECEIPTS:**

No receipts for February 2017.

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

No disbursements for February 2017.

**OLD BUSINESS:****1. Patrick Bouman-Eagle Scout Projects**

Chairperson Knopf said that a few ideas for Patrick include helping with the disc golf course and fixing items at Nestrom Road Park. She asked Patrick what he would be interested in he said he is very interested in the disc golf course. Chairperson Knopf told Patrick that they commissioners would put together a list of ideas with more detail and decisions could be made after the budget is approved.

**2. 2017-2018 Budget**

Chairperson Knopf first mentioned the cut from twelve meetings to nine meetings. She stated that she feels that nine meetings are very difficult with the timeline of requirements for the commission. Commissioner Mathiot added that he feels as if it puts the commission behind and asked if maybe they should decrease pay in order to keep twelve meetings. Chairperson Knopf said that the cut is not about money, but rather about time. The commissioners agreed to go back to the board to request only cutting one meeting.

Another item cut from the budget is a restroom for Marcus Park. Chairperson Knopf added that she's not sure of the reasoning behind cutting it from the budget, but that there has been many comments about not having restroom facilities at the park. Commissioner Tisue added that he wonders what the argument is for not approving it, and added that what it comes down to is a sanitation issue. The commissioners agreed to go back to the board with this request. Chairperson Knopf added that parking at Marcus Park has also been cut from the budget, and said that it hasn't been touched in eight years.

Commissioner Mathiot asked what the board is trying to arrive at in terms of the budget, and asked if there is a reason behind particular cuts. Chairperson Knopf responded that she's not sure how to answer the question because she's not sure she knows.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Greg Barrett, **ADOPTED**, to suspend the Roberts Rule of Order for discussion with Trustee Terrie Hampel.

**4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT**

Trustee Hampel suggested that there is a bit of an attitude amongst some of the Board of Trustees toward the Parks and Recreation Commission and the commission's goals. She added that she's been disgusted with the behavior of some members of the Board of Trustees, and that their behavior has not been a positive reflection of the last four years. Trustee Hampel added that she fully supports the Parks and Recreation Commission and that she agrees with the need for

twelve meetings. She also suggested that when the commissioners go back to the Board of Trustees with their new requests for the budget that they need to come across with confidence.

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Brian Mathiot, **ADOPTED**, to follow Roberts Rule of Order and go back into meeting discussions.

**4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT**

The commissioners also discussed that they would like more specific definition of the repairs and maintenance category of the budget. Chairperson Knopf pointed out that for the painting of pickle ball lines on the tennis court; the original quote included painting the existing lines. She suggested taking that portion of the budget and moving it into a category for signs since they were also eliminated from the proposed budget. The commissioners agreed.

### **3. Park Inspection Rotation**

The commissioners agreed to the following rotation:

April-Commissioner Barrett  
May-Chairperson Knopf  
June-Commissioner Mathiot  
July-Commissioner Barrett  
August-Chairperson Knopf  
September-Commissioner Tissue

### **4. Website Update**

Chairperson Knopf mentioned that she would be meeting with Mary Mansfield regarding updates to the website. The commissioners agreed that adding pictures is a good idea.

### **5. DNR Grants 2018**

The commissioners agreed that in order to move forward with the grant process, it needs to be determined what the goals and wants of the Board of Trustees are. They also agreed that they need to prioritize things and that they would like to apply for as many grants as possible.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. Define Goals/Priorities and Strategizing Them**

The commissioners agreed, again, that they need to determine the goals and feelings of the Board of Trustees and what the end result and goal is for them with the budgeting process. They also agreed to discuss this topic at the May 2017 meetings so they are able to individually bring ideas to the table and so they can get through the budget process.

### **2. Planning Assistance Parks and Recreation Availability**

Chairperson Knopf stated that she would like to look into memberships with organizations for assistance for the next fiscal year budget.

### **3. Meeting Schedule 2017-2018**

The board previously discussed presenting an eleven month schedule for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, with no meeting in September.

**UPDATES:****1. Baseball Field Maintenance – White Lake Little League Assistance**

Chairperson Knopf reported that she had a conversation with a gentleman from the White Lake Little League and he mentioned that they are having a budget issue, having been asked to pay for the use at the Montague Township fields. She added that he mentioned the Nestrom Road Park baseball field could be used for practices and that it would also be suitable for some of the younger kids to play games on. Chairperson Knopf reported that she would continue discussions with White Lake Little League moving forward.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS: None**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Lynn Knopf, second from Brian Mathiot, ***ADOPTED*** to adjourn the March 6, 2017 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 8:55 PM.

***4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT***

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary