

**FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
SCHEDULED MEETING  
May 8, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Herb Huch, Commissioner Bob Murray, Commissioner Sue Sawyer, and Commissioner Deb Svensson.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Lynn Knopf.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Five interested parties.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Svensson called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**WELCOME GUESTS**

**AGENDA:** Motion by Sue Sawyer, second from Bob Murray, **ADOPTED**, to amend the agenda to include mission statement approval, bleacher update, camera update, and goals and objectives to Unfinished Business and to include playground update and the Friends of Fruitland Trails fundraiser to the May 8, 2019 agenda.

**4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT**

**MINUTES:** Motion by Sue Sawyer, second from Bob Murray, **ADOPTED**, to approve the April 1, 2019 regular meeting minutes and the April 11, 2019 work session minutes as written.

**4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Mike Murray, 5800 Duck Lake Road – thanked the commissioners for the work they’ve been doing.
2. Carlet Mitenbuler, 4623 Nestrom Road – mentioned bird watchers using the park, and mentioned some destruction of trees by beaver down by the lake.
3. Lynn Wiedrich, 3348 Nestrom Road – thanked the commissioners for the work they’re doing. She also questioned what is being used on the baseball field for fertilization, stating that the commission needs to be cognizant of what is being applied.

**RECEIPTS:**

Chairperson Svensson reported receipts activity as pavilion rentals in the amount of \$200.00 for the month April 2019.

Motion by Sue Sawyer, second from Bob Murray, **ADOPTED**, to accept receipts for \$200.00 from pavilion rentals for the month of April 2019.

**4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT**

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Chairperson Svensson reported disbursements activity as \$144.20 to TruGreen for fertilization, \$165.00 to Kerkstra the portable restroom, and \$25.99 to PNC for zip ties, for total disbursements of \$335.19.

Motion by Sue Sawyer, second from Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to pay total disbursements of \$355.19.

***4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT***

***Roll Call Vote: Huch-Aye, Svensson-Aye, Murray-Aye, Sawyer-Aye***

**NOMINATION/ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

Motion by Sue Sawyer, second from Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to nominate and elect Deb Svensson as Chairperson to the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

***4 AYES, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT***

**NOMINATION/ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Motion by Sue Sawyer, second from Deb Svensson, *ADOPTED*, to nominate and elect Bob Murray as Vice Chairperson to the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

***4 AYES, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT***

**NOMINATION/ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

Motion by Deb Svensson, second from Sue Sawyer, *ADOPTED*, to nominate and elect Lynn Knopf as Secretary to the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

***4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:****1. Approval of communication letter**

The commissioners agreed to only include names in the introductions. The commissioners agreed that they would like the flyer for Sports 'N Shorts included in their letter as well, so recording secretary Mary Mansfield will be formatting the letter for the commissioners.

Commissioner Huch mentioned the suspension of the Disc Golf Course on the newsletter, stating that it is misleading. He added that the commissioners ran to have the course closed, and that if they're going to close it, they need to do it. Commissioner Huch stated that he's been questioned many times about the course. Chairperson Svensson stated that she ran on process and believes in due process. She added that the Commission has a responsibility to look at the facts and data to determine if the course should be closed. Commissioner Murray agreed with Chairperson Svensson, adding that he has not been pleased with the course but that he doesn't want to make a snap judgement to remove it like the former commissioners did to put it in. Commissioner Sawyer agreed with Chairperson Svensson and Commissioner Murray. Commissioner Huch stated that the commissioners had all talked about the closing of the course, and that he doesn't want to mislead anyone. He stated that the

newsletter should say that the Disc Golf Course is closed for further assessment. The commissioners agreed to keep the wording of the Disc Golf Course closure as written, that it is closed temporarily for assessment and due to oak wilt season.

Motion by Herb Huch, second from Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to approve the communication letter with the additions and corrections discussed.

*4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT*

## **2. Sports 'N Shorts**

Commissioner Svensson reported that the Commission was able to exceed the \$1,500.00 in donations to sponsor Sports 'N Shorts at Nestrom Road Park. She added that sign ups for the program begin June 1<sup>st</sup>, and that the Commission should start sharing information with local churches and business, and have the information available at the Township Hall. Commissioner Huch asked whether Bob Switzer would be keeping her informed of data needed to determine moving forward for future years, and she said he would be. Chairperson Svensson stated that she would like for the commissioners to stop in to check on them, possibly taking pictures to share with the residents of the program.

## **3. Rental of second pavilion**

The commissioners agreed to include information about renting of the second pavilion in E-news as well as their communication letter.

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Deb Svensson, *ADOPTED*, to rent the second pavilion with a \$25.00 rental fee.

*4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT*

## **4. Water to 2<sup>nd</sup> pavilion and water testing**

Commissioner Huch stated that Ultimate Excavators estimated the work to be approximately \$4,500.00 to run water to the second pavilion. The commissioners agreed to have Commissioner Huch also contact Randy Smith and Mike Thomas for quotes. Once the water is run, the water will be collected and tested.

## **5. Natural Resource Survey update**

Chairperson Svensson questioned whether the Commission should have Shawna Meyer do a presentation of the report at the next meeting, and Commissioner Murray stated that having her do so included an extra expense for the Commission. Chairperson Svensson requested that the commissioners all read the report before the upcoming work session so they can discuss the report and decisions they would like to make.

## **6. Baseball field update**

Commissioner Sawyer reported that the scoreboard doesn't work, and Commissioner Murray stated that the Township Maintenance Supervisor, Steve Brock, looked at it and determined that there must be a break in the lines. Commissioner Murray also added that the bases don't need to be replaced, but rather a plug should be purchased for underneath them. He said that the plugs are available on Amazon for \$9.99. Commissioner Murry also stated that a grating rake is needed, which is \$44.98 at Lowe's.

Motion by Sue Sawyer, second from Deb Svensson, **ADOPTED**, to purchase the plugs for the bases from Amazon for \$9.99 each and the grating rake from Lowe's for \$44.98.

**4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT**

The soccer nets have already been disposed of, and the commissioners agreed to dispose of the remainder of the baseball field capping. Chairperson Svensson will be contacting Supervisor Jeske about the capping.

Jeff Moss from Montague also contacted the Township Hall regarding using the baseball field. The commissioners agreed to contact North Muskegon to request an accurate schedule to see if they are able to accommodate both teams.

### **7. Soccer field**

There is a group of toddlers using the soccer field, and originally the woman in charge requested possibly having lines painted on the field. Chairperson Svensson stated that the group is currently using cones and flags, so lines are not needed.

### **8. Signs**

The commissioners agreed to assess the signage at the park during the walk through at the work session.

### **9. May work session**

Motion by Bob Murray, second from Sue Sawyer, **ADOPTED**, to schedule a work session for May 20, 2019 at 10:00a.m. to include a walk-through of the park.

**4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT**

### **10. Mission statement approval**

The commissioners all agreed on the mission statement. Chairperson Svensson stated that she would like to have it added to the top of the agendas.

Motion by Herb Huch, second from Sue Sawyer, **ADOPTED**, to accept the mission statement "To provide and maintain a safe, valued, and diverse recreational environment for our Township and community."

**4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT**

### **11. Bleacher update**

The updates to the bleachers have not been completed, so Commissioner Huch is going to call on them.

### **12. Camera update**

A gentleman by the name of Doug Hawkins will be coming to the June 3, 2019 meeting to discuss cameras and options.

### **13. Goals and objectives**

Chairperson Svensson requested that this discussion take place at the work session and June 3, 2019 meeting. She also requested that the commissioners all jot down ideas on an ongoing basis.

**NEW BUSINESS:****1. Clean up of dog waste**

Commissioner Murray stated that when doing the ballfield capping, he noticed what a problem dog waste is on the field and the surrounding areas. He made mention of a product called the Mutt Mitt that is a double-layered bag for clean-up. Commissioner Svensson also mentioned the possibility of signs throughout the park and one pertaining to keeping pets off of the baseball field. The commissioners all agreed to assess signage and possibly placement for Mutt Mitts during their walk through of the park.

**2. Friends of Fruitland Township Trails**

Motion by Deb Svensson, second from Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to suspend Roberts Rules of Order to discuss the fundraiser with Township Trustee Terrie Hampel.

*4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT*

Terrie Hampel reported that the fundraiser will be taking place on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 from 5:00-9:00p.m. at Northside Pub. She added that 20% of the proceeds will be given to them for a feasibility study for grants to build trails.

Motion by Deb Svensson, second from Bob Murray, *ADOPTED*, to follow Roberts Rules of Order and go back into meeting discussions.

*4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Sawyer said that the Commission has their work cut out for them.

Commissioner Murray agreed that there is a lot of work to do, and mentioned that the Commission will be asking for volunteer help.

Chairperson Svensson stated that she would like to add volunteer groups to goals and objectives.

Commissioner Huch thanked those in attendance, and encouraged them to invite others as well.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Herb Huch, second from Sue Sawyer, *ADOPTED* to adjourn the May 9, 2019 scheduled meeting of the Fruitland Township Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:00 PM.

*4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT*

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mansfield, Recording Secretary