

PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Indian Creek Pavilion
Douglas Road, Lambertville, MI 48144
June 8, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.

Present: Sally Dunn, Connie Velliquette, Rusty Wilke, Carol Laurie

Also Present: T.C. Clements Excused: Jerry Goodridge, Nancy Crandell

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. by Velliquette, with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by Laurie, seconded by Dunn to approve the Parks Board agenda of the Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Laurie, seconded by Dunn to approve the Parks Board minutes of the Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
4. Secretary's Report: None.
5. Treasurer's Report: Expenses for period \$1,727.78. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Dunn, seconded by Laurie. Roll Call: all ayes. Motion Carried.
6. Presentations: None.
7. Community Education: No Report.
8. Comments from the Public: None.
9. Old / New Business:
 - a. **Update on Parks Re-Opening:**
 - a. Since the Governor has declared that the state has reached Phase 4 of the MI Safe Start Plan, all Bedford Township parks have been re-opened. The Play Structures, Pickle Ball Courts, and Basketball courts are all open as well. We ask that folks use their judgement in terms of social distancing, etc...
 - b. **Ansted Park:**
 - a. The Board has been informed by Taylor Myatt with the Monroe County Conservation Agency that there is a rare bird, the Henslow Sparrow, nesting in the native grasses at the park. Mr. Myatt will be writing an article to include in the local paper informing the public of this. Great to see the native grasses attracting such wildlife.
 - c. **Samaria Park:**
 - a. Protective Bollards need to be installed to protect the new well that was drilled earlier this year.
 - b. The parking lot has recently been re-sealed and re-stripped.
 - d. **White Park:**
 - a. Park has been full of activity, including walkers, pickle ball, basketball games, and baseball.
 - b. The Pickle ball bench has been removed from storage and is located by the courts for the season.
 - c. Jerry will be contacting the 3-B Baseball Organization to get an updated schedule for their season.

e. Parmelee Park:

- a. Disc golf has been in full swing since the opening of the park.
- b. Jerry and Carol are to meet with Don Wilson, with Scale-Tech, to evaluate the current condition of the skate park.

f. Indian Creek Park:

- a. Walking trails are in great shape and are being used a bunch.
- b. The ballfields are in need of some additional stone and need a good dragging before ball season begins.
- c. Millings material taken from the school projects have been added to a portion of the parking area. The Board will inquire as to whether more material is available as the roadway closest to the park could use some upgrading.

g. Carr's Grove Park:

- a. The parking lot has been re-sealed and re-striped.
- b. The community building needs to be power-washed, along with the awnings. Wilke to call a company to inquire about a price to do the work.

h. Wheeler Preserve:

- a. It was decided to target the park grand opening for August as it seems it might be better attended once the public is more comfortable with the status of the COVID-19 issues.
- b. Velliquette made a motion to purchase a Granite memorial stone for \$565 to be placed under the existing monument to raise it up, motion seconded by Dunn. Roll Call Vote, all ayes, motion passes 4-0.
- c. Laurie made a motion to purchase 3 signs (2 "No Dogs Allowed" Signs, 1 "Wildlife Sanctuary" Sign) at a maximum cost of \$25/each, to be placed near the parking lot, seconded by Dunn. Roll Call Vote, all ayes, motion passes 4-0.
- d. Velliquette noted that the "walking trails" should be mowed once a month.

10. Comments from the Public: None.

11. Commissioner's Comments:

- a. Dunn mentioned that the outdoor meetings at the different parks seems to be working well and would suggest this become the norm as weather permits.
- b. Wilke stated that the Park Board handled the COVID-19 issues well in dealing with closing the parks and opening them at the appropriate time.
- c. Clements stated that given the recent budget cuts, it's important to keep an eye on park maintenance to make sure the parks stay in good condition for the public. One suggestion is to host a "Friends of the Park" event twice a year to help with light maintenance at the different parks. He also stated that the Park Board Budget has been reduced from \$279k to \$257k. This was achieved by reducing budgets in several different areas that should not directly affect the Parks.

12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Laurie, seconded by Wilke, all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:41p.m. by Velliquette.

Respectfully submitted

Rusty A. Wilke, Secretary
Bedford Township Park Board