

Superior Charter Township Park Commission
Regular Meeting
February 25, 2019

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Paula Jefferson at 6:32 pm.

2. Roll Call

Park Commissioners present: Paula Jefferson, Marion Morris, Terry Lee Lansing, Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Sandi Lopez, Martha Kern-Boprie, Bernedia Word

Park Commissioners absent: none

Others present: Trustee Alex Williams, Juan Bradford, Parks Administrator; David Buterbaugh, Maintenance Supervisor; Patrick Pigott, Recreation Coordinator

3. Flag Salute

Chair Jefferson led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Marion Morris to approve the agenda with the addition of New Business B. Communication to Township Board of Trustees. The motion carried.

5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

A. February 4, 2019

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai to approve the minutes of 2/04/19 as drafted. The motion carried.

6. Citizen Participation: none

7. Reports

A. Chairperson

Chair Paula Jefferson presented a newsletter from Monroe City Parks & Recreation that could be a model for communication from and about Superior Township Parks & Recreation. Programs in the City of Monroe could also be considered in Superior Township.

B. Administrator

Juan Bradford submitted a written report. To this report he added that "Destination Ann Arbor" is sponsoring grants that could help fund outdoor movie nights in Superior Township. We are obtaining the grant application requirements. Treasurer Brenda McKinney will submit the application on behalf of Superior Township Parks.

C. Board Liaison

Trustee Alex Williams reported that the water main along MacArthur Blvd is one of the oldest and longest in Superior Township. Replacement of this main would be expensive. Some low interest financing may be available. Replacement of this main will probably be done in 2020. Horizontal drilling will probably be used rather than trenching, which will decrease damage to road pavement. Other significant upcoming Utility Department projects include sewer replacement on Harvest Lane and water main replacement or repair on Clark Road.

The Township Supervisor's report at the February meeting included discussion of the potential sewer line coming into Superior Township from Salem Township, near Gottfredson Road. Superior

Township ordinances require Township Board approval to permit the sewer to pass through Superior Township. The St. Joseph Mercy Health system wants to expand their farm, which generates food used in the health system. The Dixboro Master Plan will be reviewed. Demetrious Parker is the new director of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). Mr. Parker will review the intersection of Plymouth Road and M153/Ford Road, which is often referred to as “sixteen corners”; in the interest of coming up with safety enhancements. A house on Harvest Lane was purchased by Superior Township, which will be rebuilt by Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Burley, a long-time township resident who has conflicted with township ordinances, has died. The final computer server was connected by Nimble, the IT consultant. There have been a few glitches, but these are resolving. Evan Pratt, Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner, advised the township about installing rain gardens along MacArthur Blvd. It may be advisable to place a retention pond at Harris and MacArthur. Board of Review member terms were amended to two years. Utility Department staff member Ricky Harding was promoted now that he passed the “S2” certification. The annual audit contract with Pfeffer Hanniford Palka, CPA was renewed for another three years. The poverty exemption standard for property tax was amended to permit exemption for taxpayers with higher annual income. Superior Township contributed funds to expand the Weatherbee Woods preserve. The township purchased additional self-contained breathing apparatus for the Fire Department.

D. Board Meeting Attendee

Marion Morris attended the Township Board Meeting on February 18. Marion suggested to Trustee Williams that Supervisor Ken Schwartz discuss the potential sewer line coming into Superior Township from Salem Township with Bill Ford of Ford Motor Company. The line would pass near Ford Motor Company properties, and Mr. Ford could be helpful in resisting this proposed sewer. Marion commented that Ricky Harding of the Utility Department staff is a highly regarded employee, and it was good to see his family present at the Board Meeting where his promotion was approved. Marion also commented that the self-contained breathing apparatus must be available in multiple sizes to fit different face sizes and shapes of fire fighters. Nahid Sanii-Yahyai asked about reports on water quality in Superior Township. This will likely be reviewed at the next township board meeting.

E. Park Steward – no report

F. Safety

There were no accidents or injuries in the past month.

8. Communications

- A. Educational Info: How Playground Behaviors Shape Child Development
- B. Superior Land Preservation Society Building Rental
- C. English Gardens Plymouth Nursery Grand Opening

It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Sandi Lopez to receive the Communications. The motion carried.

9. Old Business – none

10. New Business

A. 2019 Special Events Sign-Up

Park Commissioners volunteered to help with the following special events scheduled during April through June.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Park Commissioner</u>
Easter Egg Hunt	Sat, April 13	11:00 am	Martha Kern-Boprie Nahid Sanii-Yahyai Bernedia Word Paula Jefferson

			Marion Morris
Backyard Bird Watch	Sat, May 11	10:00 am	Martha Kern-Boprie
Superior Day	Sat, June 8	11:00 am	Nahid Sanii-Yahyai Sandi Lopez Martha Kern-Boprie Paula Jefferson Marion Morris
Kite & Rocket Day	Sat, June 22	11:00 am	Martha Kern-Boprie Terry Lee Lansing Nahid Sanii-Yahyai
Dixboro Farmers Mkt	Fri, May 31	3:00 pm	Terry Lee Lansing
Dixboro Farmers Mkt	Fri, June 28	3:00 pm	Bernedia Word

B. Communication with Township Board of Trustees

Sandi Lopez commented that township board members did not appear well informed about Parks & Recreation activity, and she thought sending a summary memo to the board members could be helpful. Discussion took place about effective methods of communication. Trustee Williams suggested making a presentation at a township board meeting, which would inform both board members and everyone in the audience. Park Commissioners agreed to seek a spot on the March 18 Board of Trustees agenda.

11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Martha Kern-Boprie to approve payment of the bills totaling \$19,273.38. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Bernedia Word to receive the January 2019 Financial Statements. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Marion Morris commented that the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy (SMLC) has agreed to be the fiduciary for funds to acquire property near Berry and Ford Roads. SMLC will arrange for land clearing and a parking lot.

Marion also suggested park commissioners read an article in the Monroe City Parks newsletter on backyard bird watching.

Nahid Sanii-Yahyai asked when the next township newsletter will be published. Juan Bradford responded it will be published in March or April.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Marion Morris to adjourn at 7:30 pm. The motion carried.

Submitted by,
Martha Kern-Boprie, Park Commissioner and Secretary