

Superior Charter Township Park Commission
Regular Meeting
February 24, 2020

Adopted Minutes

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Chair Paula Jefferson at 6:33 pm.
2. Roll Call
Park Commissioners present: Paula Jefferson, Bernedia Word, Marion Morris, Terry Lee Lansing, Sandi Lopez, Martha Kern-Boprie, Nahid Sanii-Yahyai (arrived at 7:10 pm)

Park Commissioners absent: none

Others present: Juan Bradford, Park Administrator; Don Waligor; Ken Schwartz, Township Supervisor
3. Flag Salute
Chair Paula Jefferson led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
4. Agenda Approval
It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Terry Lee Lansing to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion carried.
5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval
 - A. January 27, 2020
It was moved by Sandi Lopez and supported by Marion Morris to approve the minutes of 1/27/20 as drafted. The motion carried.
6. Citizen Participation
Ken Schwartz addressed the Park Commission about an initiative by the Township Board to acquire the real estate presently owned by Rock Properties, and convey it to conservancy. The initiative involves collaboration between Superior Township, a local farmer, several land conservancies, and the Ann Arbor Greenbelt.
7. Reports
 - A. Chairperson
Chair Paula Jefferson had no report.
 - B. Administrator
Juan Bradford submitted a written report. He provided a further update on repair of the tennis courts in Community Park. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds have been secured to fully repair the tennis court this year, at no cost to the Park Fund. Juan also informed Park Commissioners that a representative of a platform tennis group in Dixboro approached Juan about collaborating on installation of a platform tennis facility. Currently discussion is only on the broad concepts of collaboration. Park Commissioners requested more detail on the proposal.
 - C. Board Liaison
No report because Trustee Alex Williams was away on business travel.
 - D. Board Meeting Attendee
Sandi Lopez attended the February Township Board meeting. Movement is happening on the initiative to acquire the Rock properties. A letter was received by Superior Township from a lawyer

involved in the proposed sewer from Salem Township. Superior Township responded to the letter. Ordinance #169 was adopted, which makes it unlawful to discharge water into Superior Township without approval from the township board.

E. Park Steward
No report.

F. Safety
Don Waligor reported there have been no accidents or injuries in the past month.

8. Communications

- A. Educational: NRPA Park Pulse – Link to Healthy Food
- B. Superior Land Preservation Society (SLPS) Building Reservation
- C. 2020 Township Board Meeting Attendees UPDATED

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Terry Lee Lansing to receive the Communications. The motion carried.

9. Old Business

A. Schock Park Memo

Park Commissioners discussed the draft text of a memo to the township board from the Park Commission concerning proposed changes to Schock Park. Bernedia Word commented that all park properties are owned by the township and asked what the Schock Park subcommittee was trying to accomplish with its proposals. Martha Kern-Boprie responded that the subcommittee was attempting to retain access to the park maintenance barn, shed and Old Township Hall, and leveraging this change to secure funding for maintenance work performed by Park Department staff on non-park properties.

Marion Morris suggested several text amendments to the memo. These amendments impact paragraph #3 and #5.

Paragraph #3

Current text:

Subcommittee members noted that Schock Park property is not presently used for park purposes, and given its location, is not likely to be used for recreation. They could see merit to turning Schock Park property over to the township board to maintain. The subcommittee noted concerns they want addressed before recommending changes to Schock Park.

Marion's Amended text: (amendments highlighted in yellow)

Subcommittee members noted that Schock Park property is not presently used for active park purposes, and given its location, has only been used for passive recreation, most often by town hall staff. They could see merit to turning Schock Park property over to the township board to maintain. The subcommittee noted concerns they want addressed before recommending changes to Schock Park.

Paragraph #5

Current text:

1. Park Staff do a good job maintaining non-park properties, and this should continue. However, the Park Fund should be compensated for the labor spent maintaining non-park properties. This could take the form of charging hours to General Fund accounts, or by increasing the budget allocation to the Park Fund. \$5,000 per year would go a long way toward improving our parks, such as providing barrier-free sidewalks in them.

Marion's Amended text: (amendments highlighted in yellow)

1. Park Staff do a good job maintaining non-park properties, and this should continue. However, the Park Fund should be compensated for the labor spent maintaining non-park properties. This could take the form of charging hours to General Fund accounts.

Current text:

2. Subcommittee members also noted that the Park Maintenance Barn sits on Schock Park, and Access to this structure should be continued and limited to Park Department staff.

Marion's Amended text: (amendments highlighted in yellow)

2. Subcommittee members also noted that the Park Maintenance Barn, park garage and Old Township Hall sit on Schock Park, and access to these structures should be continued and limited to Park Department staff.

Current text:

3. The Park Commission wishes to know what the Township Board plans to do with the property that composes Schock Park.

Marion's Amended text: (amendments highlighted in yellow)

3. The Park Commission wants to know what the Township Board plans to do with the property that composes Schock Park.

Martha Kern-Boprie moved and Nahid Sanii-Yahyai supported a motion to direct the Park Administrator to meet with the Township Supervisor to discuss Park Commission concerns with access to Park structures in Schock Park and budgetary concerns about maintaining non-park properties.

After discussion among park commissioners Martha and Nahid withdrew the motion. A consensus among park commissioners was to put the memo back on the March park commission agenda, to complete the text before sending the memo to the township board.

10. New Business

None

11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Paula Jefferson to approve payment of the bills totaling \$16,032.21. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

It was moved by Sandi Lopez and supported by Bernedia Word to receive the January 2020 financial statements. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

None

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm. The motion carried.

Submitted by,

Martha Kern-Boprie, Park Commissioner and Secretary