

Superior Charter Township Park Commission
Regular Meeting
July 27, 2020

Adopted 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, Sandi Lopez, Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Martha Kern-Boprie, Bernedia Word

Park Commissioners absent: none

Others present: Trustee Alex Williams; Juan Bradford, Park Administrator; Patrick Pigott, Recreation Coordinator; Greg Vessels
3. Flag Salute
Chair Jefferson led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. Agenda Approval
It was moved by Sandi Lopez and supported by Marion Morris to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion carried.
5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval
 - A. June 22, 2020
It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Terry Lee Lansing to approve the minutes of 6/22/2020 as drafted. The motion carried.
6. Citizen Participation – None
7. Reports
 - A. Chairperson
Chair Paula Jefferson informed park commissioners she has a medical procedure scheduled in early August. She expects to be able to attend all Park Commission and Township Board meetings during the balance of the year.
 - B. Administrator
Administrator Juan Bradford submitted a written report. Logan Miller and fellow members of boy scout Troop 243 are making good progress pulling garlic mustard plants from Cherry Hill Nature Preserve (CHNP). Ellen Kurath is also helping to remove “Stick Tite” plants.
Juan informed Park Commissioners that a “little free library” was found this morning in Fireman’s Park, nailed to a tree. It is well constructed, but not authorized by the Park Commission, and nailing it to a tree is not good for the tree’s health. Some of the reading materials found in and around this library box were of a protest nature. Juan had park staff empty the library of contents. The contents are stored in the Park Department offices. The library box will be removed tomorrow. Discussion took place among park commissioners about protest meetings and rallies that have taken place at Fireman’s Park recently. Marion Morris suggested drafting text of an ordinance to regulate such gatherings in township parks. Juan agreed to work on a draft for the August park commission meeting.

C. Board Liaison

Trustee Alex Williams reported that nine tenants were evicted from Sycamore Meadows recently, which may have inspired some of the protests. Some calls for law enforcement came from tenants.

Tyrone Bridges, who is working on homes for disabled residents, thanked Park Department staff for mowing the lawns of these homes. Superior Township First Responders received hazard pay for COVID-19 response.

A lawsuit has been filed over the proposed sewer from Salem Township through Superior Township.

D. Board Meeting Attendee

Sandi Lopez tried to attend the township board zoom meeting, but could not get the connection to work.

Paula Jefferson asked Alex Williams about the potential multi-unit vote counting board for absentee ballots. This is a proposal to acquire a high speed ballot counting machine that could process 1,000 ballots per minute. The machine would cost approximately \$100,000 and be paid for by a consortium of several units, possibly Superior Township, Salem Township, Ypsilanti Township and Ypsilanti City. Washtenaw County would also be involved. Discussion of this issue was removed from the agenda of the July 22 meeting.

E. Park Steward – no report

F. Safety

There were no accidents or injuries in the past month.

8. Communications

A. Educational: Stay Active to Stay Out of the Hospital

B. A Guide to Yellow Stripey Things

C. Fireman’s Park Reservation

It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Marion Morris to receive the communications. The motion carried.

9. Old Business

A. Movies in the Park

Movies in the Park is scheduled for August 8 in Oakbrook Park. The movie “Toy Story 4” will be screened at 9:00 pm. Park Department staff will mark large circles to ensure sufficient social distancing. Games will not be played before the movie. Some snacks will be available.

10. New Business

A. Rapid Response Grant

Juan Bradford applied for a Rapid Response Grant sponsored by Michigan Parks and Recreation Association (MPARKS) to put signs in township parks to promote preventive measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 virus. He was awarded funding of \$2,925.00 which is enough for about 45 signs. After the signs are purchased, MPARKS will reimburse the Park Fund. Juan asked the Park Commission to authorize him to order the signs. He plans to obtain them from the company Fast Signs that has produced other signs for the Park Department.

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai to authorize the Park Administrator to purchase signs to execute the objectives of the Rapid Response Grant, for an amount not to exceed \$2,925.00. The motion carried.

Approved by the Superior Charter Township Park Commission on August 24, 2020.

11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Paula Jefferson to approve payment of the bills for a total of \$34,005.10. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

A. June 2020 Revenue & Expenditure Report

B. Movies on the Green event expenditures

It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Marion Morris to receive the Financial Statements. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Nahid Sanii-Yahyai reported that she spoke with David Phillips, former township clerk, as he was assisting with election preparation. David was concerned about the presence of mold and mildew in the basement storage area under the Old Township Hall. Juan Bradford responded that he will investigate.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Sandi Lopez and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm. The motion carried.

Submitted by

Martha Kern-Boprie, Park Commissioner and Secretary