

Superior Charter Township Park Commission  
Regular Meeting  
October 26, 2020

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Paula Jefferson called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

2. Roll Call

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

Park Commissioners absent: none

Others present: Trustee Alex Williams; Juan Bradford, Park Administrator; David Buterbaugh, Maintenance; Patrick Pigott, Recreation Coordinator; Evelyn Coleman; Greg Vessels

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 Martha Kern-Boprie to approve the agenda with the addition of the following items:

Old Business

- A. Health Care Committee report
- B. Schock Park discussion

New Business

- B. Resolutions to recognize out-going officials
- The motion carried.

5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

A. September 28, 2020

It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Terry Lee Lansing to approve the minutes of 9/28/20 as drafted. The motion carried.

6. Citizen Participation

Marion Morris introduced her daughter Evelyn Coleman, who is visiting from Georgia.

7. Reports

A. Chairperson

Chair Paula Jefferson had no report, as she is very busy with election preparation at her job.

B. Administrator

Juan Bradford submitted a written report. He updated this report with news that graffiti was found on the sign in Schroeter Park. The Pumpkin Give-Away event on Saturday was a success and 130 pumpkins were distributed.

C. Twp Board Liaison

Trustee Alex Williams reported that Supervisor Ken Schwartz will be off for two weeks for a medical procedure. Clerk Lynette Findley reported some election statistics. Superior Township has 12,000

registered voters. 6,000 absent ballots have already been issued, and 3,500 of those ballots have been returned already.

At the township board meeting on 10/19/20 the annual Truth in Taxation public hearing was held with no comments received. The Danbury Park Manor rental housing development on MacArthur Boulevard was sold. Ordinance #159 which updates the agreement with the owners for this property was adopted. There were no substantive changes to the agreement.

Resolution 2020-30 was adopted, which approved the agreement with OHM to design the non-motorized path along the east side of Prospect Road, from Berkshire south to Clark Road. County Parks & Recreation funds will pay for most of this.

Resolution 2020-31 was proposed, which breaks a development agreement into phases.

Resolution 2020-34 was adopted, which approves the contract for the Clark Road pumping station. 2021 millage rates, 2021 budgets and 2020 special assessments were approved.

A resolution by the Charter Township of Plymouth was delivered to the Superior Charter Township board and many other entities; that opposes construction of a sewer line from the "Salem Springs" project in Salem Township south through Superior Township.

D. Board Attendee

Paula Jefferson attended the 10/19/20 township board meeting. She noted that Trustee Williams' report was thorough, but clarified that Resolution 2020-31 was tabled. Trustee Williams acknowledged this was correct.

E. Park Steward

No report.

F. Safety

No accidents or injuries in the past month.

8. Communications

- A. Educational: MSHHS COVID-19 Epidemic Order Oct 9, 2020
- B. Fireman's Park Reservation: Zion House of Prayer Food Drive
- C. Hidden Gems Article CHNP

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

9. Old Business

A. Health Care Coverage committee report

A committee of park commissioners composed of Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Sandi Lopez and Martha Kern-Boprie met to review a request made by Juan Bradford for financial compensation for health insurance coverage, and for all year-round park department staff. The committee reported that while they do not have a final recommendation, they find funding a Health Service Account (HSA) for eligible staff would be most cost-effective. Contributions to HSA are exempt from federal income tax. The employee could be reimbursed for health care expenses from the HAS. The committee proposed a concept of establishing an annual amount of HAS contribution for a full time employee, and make contributions to the HAS in the same proportion as the employee's appointment. For example, for a half time employee the contribution would be half the amount for a full time employee. To fund this additional expense, the committee suggested looking to the Park Fund Balance for the first year. In subsequent years, this expense should be part of the annual funding from the Township General Fund. The committee requested the current Park Fund Balance Sheet, to obtain the amount of the Park Fund Balance. The committee also wished to find out how much health care coverage costs for eligible township employees.

Discussion of these ideas took place among park commissioners. Some commissioners doubted the township board would concur with this, stating if they were favorable, health care coverage would already be in place. Juan Bradford said he would provide the Park Fund Balance Sheet via email to

park commissioners. Martha Kern-Boprie said she would contact the township controller's office to obtain the current cost of health care insurance at Superior Township. Other commissioners noted that for some time, several Superior township staff had spouses whose health care insurance covered them, so Superior Township did not have to spend as much. That situation may be changing. The township has several part-time employees now, and the township may have to grapple with providing health care coverage for more staff than it has in the past. This could be a reasonable time to raise the issue with township elected officials. The committee will do some more work and report again.

B. Schock Park

Paula Jefferson asked for an update on discussions about the proposal made by Supervisor Ken Schwartz in 2019 to turn Schock Park over to the township board. A committee of Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Sandi Lopez and Martha Kern-Boprie reviewed, discussed and submitted a final report to the Park Commission in early 2020. Marion Morris and Paula Jefferson concurred with that, and recalled that Juan Bradford was to follow-up with Supervisor Ken Schwartz. Juan and Ken have not met yet. Juan said he would review his notes, and follow-up with Supervisor Schwartz. Marion Morris commented she is concerned that we need to complete action in writing, so it does not get lost.

10. New Business

A. 2021 Approved Budget

The 2021 Park Fund Budget was approved by the Township Board on October 19. No changes were made to the budget.

B. Resolutions to recognize out-going elected officials

1. Paula Jefferson

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUTGOING PARKS &  
RECREATION COMMISSION CHAIR PAULA JEFFERSON**

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION 2020-04**

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai that

WHEREAS Parks & Recreation Commission Chair Paula Jefferson has served the residents of Superior Charter Township as an elected member of the Superior Township Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS Paula Jefferson has contributed her time, talent, and leadership to the mission of the Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS Paula Jefferson has served as Vice-Chair and then Chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS Paula Jefferson has chosen to leave the Parks & Recreation Commission at the end of her term of office on November 20, 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Parks & Recreation Commission of the Charter Township of Superior thanks and honors the contributions of Parks & Recreation Commission Chair Paula Jefferson and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

M. Morris	Yes	S. Lopez	Yes
M. Kern-Boprie	Yes	T. Lansing	Yes
N. Sanii-Yahyai	Yes	P. Jefferson	Yes
B. Word	Yes		

The resolution was adopted.

2. Bernedia Word

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUTGOING PARKS &  
RECREATION COMMISSIONER BERNEDIA WORD**

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION 2020-06**

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai that

WHEREAS Parks & Recreation Commissioner Bernedia Word has served the residents of Superior Charter Township as an elected member of the Superior Township Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS Bernedia Word has contributed her time, talent, and leadership to the mission of the Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS Bernedia Word has contributed to design and delivery of brand and logo enhancement with shirts for Parks & Recreation Commissioners: and

WHEREAS Bernedia Word has chosen to leave the Parks & Recreation Commission at the end of her term of office on November 20, 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Parks & Recreation Commission of the Charter Township of Superior thanks and honors the contributions of Parks & Recreation Commissioner Bernedia Word and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

P. Jefferson	Yes	S. Lopez	Yes
M. Morris	Yes	T. Lansing	Yes
M. Kern-Boprie	Yes	B. Word	Yes
N. Sanii-Yahyai	Yes		

The resolution was adopted.

3. Sandi Lopez

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUTGOING PARKS &  
RECREATION COMMISSIONER SANDI LOPEZ**

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION 2020-05**

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai that

WHEREAS Parks & Recreation Commissioner Sandi Lopez has served the residents of Superior Charter Township as an elected member of the Superior Township Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS Sandi Lopez has contributed her time, talent, and leadership to the mission of the Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS Sandi Lopez has served on several subcommittees and helped maintain connection with land preservation organizations: and

WHEREAS Sandi Lopez has chosen to leave the Parks & Recreation Commission at the end of her term of office on November 20, 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Parks & Recreation Commission of the Charter Township of Superior thanks and honors the contributions of Parks & Recreation Commissioner Sandi Lopez and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

P. Jefferson	Yes	B. Word	Yes
M. Morris	Yes	T. Lansing	Yes
M. Kern-Boprie	Yes	S. Lopez	Yes
N. Sanii-Yahyai	Yes		

The resolution was adopted.

4. Alex Williams  
**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
 CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR  
 WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUTGOING TOWNSHIP  
 TRUSTEE ALEX WILLIAMS**

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION 2020-03**

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai that

WHEREAS Superior Charter Township Trustee Alex Williams has served the residents of Superior Charter Township as elected township trustee for twelve years; and

WHEREAS Trustee Alex Williams has served as liaison to the Parks & Recreation Commission throughout his service on the Township Board; and

WHEREAS in his capacity Trustee Alex Williams has provided valuable insight to Parks & Recreation Commissioners on township board issues, and advocated to the Township Board on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS Trustee Alex Williams chose to leave the Township Board at the end of his term of office on November 20, 2020.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Parks & Recreation Commission of the Charter Township of Superior thanks and honors the contributions of Trustee Alex Williams and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

P. Jefferson	Yes	B. Word	Yes
M. Morris	Yes	S. Lopez	Yes
M. Kern-Boprie	Yes	T. Lansing	Yes
N. Sanii-Yahyai	Yes		

The resolution was adopted.

11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Terry Lee Lansing to approve payment of the bills totaling \$37,884.52. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Sandi Lopez to receive the September 2020 Revenue and Expenditure Report. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Alex Williams thanked the park commissioners for their good work over the past several years, and expressed his appreciation for their accomplishments. He also noted that he will no longer be the township board liaison at the next Park Commission meeting, and he has informed the township board it needs to appoint a new liaison to the Park Commission.

Martha Kern-Boprie introduced incoming Park Commissioner Greg Vessels and let everyone know that she and Marion Morris brought cookies and cider to share after the meeting.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Bernedia Word to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. The motion carried.

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