

Superior Charter Township Park Commission
Regular Meeting
April 25, 2022

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marion Morris at 6:35 pm.

2. Roll Call

Park Commissioners present: Marion Morris, Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Martha Kern-Boprie, Riley Schofield, Terry Lee Lansing, Greg Vessels, Guy Conti

Park Commissioners absent: none

Others present: Trustee Bernice Lindke; Juan Bradford, Park Administrator; Angela Miller

3. Flag Salute

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

4. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Greg Vessels to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion carried.

5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

A. March 28, 2022

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Greg Vessels to approve the minutes of 3/28/22 as drafted. The motion carried.

6. Citizen Participation

There was none.

7. Reports

A. Chairperson

Chair Morris said she will skip the request made a month ago to have each park commissioner share their history, and why they ran for Park Commissioner, as this was done in December 2020. Chair Morris also stated she would like the minutes of park commission meeting kept in a similar format and content as used prior to the March 2022 meeting. Chair Morris said she would like to have the park commission discuss contributing financially to the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy (SMLC) nature trail maintenance. This discussion should take place in the New Business portion of the agenda.

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Guy Conti to amend the agenda by adding New Business C. Discussion of support for maintenance of the SMLC nature trail. The motion carried.

B. Administrator

Juan Bradford submitted a written report. He added to this report an update on the controlled burn at Schroeter Park. The burn took place on Saturday, April 23. Juan confirmed that indoor programming for the Washtenaw County Summer Playground Program will take place at Christian Love Fellowship Church on Stamford Road. On April 26 from 5:00 – 7:00 an open house on the crosswalk plans for Harris and MacArthur will take place at Christian Love Fellowship Church. No employment applications have been received yet for summer seasonal maintenance staff. Juan spoke with Ellen Kurath recently, and she will be out working soon.

C. Board Liaison

Trustee Bernice Lindke reported on two township board meetings held on April 18, 2022

Special Meeting – discussed need for and timing of financial statements for the Township Board to review. Some board members want monthly statements that contain year-to-date budget and year-to-date expense. The township board also discussed creating position descriptions and conducting a wage and salary survey of like positions in other townships.

Regular Meeting –

Citizen Participation – Robyn McCoy, candidate for State Representative introduced herself.

Presentation – Forest Yang, Deputy CEO of Planning & Innovation presented an overview of The Ride (AAATA) long-range plan.

Supervisor Report

- A landowner that wanted to have a poultry farm raising 300,000 chickens withdrew her request after Supervisor Schwartz found multiple conflicts with the township zoning ordinance.
- Supervisor Schwartz has been elected alternate for Washtenaw County Townships to the Executive Board of the SouthEast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).
- The Mayor of Ypsilanti reported that City Council is considering building a large recreation center on the Water Street property near Michigan Avenue. Mr. Schwartz noted this discussion has been happening for many years, as the east side of the county has no recreation facility. Township board members asked if building a recreation facility on the Water Street property would impact funds for a Superior Township Community Center. Mr. Schwartz believe it would negatively impact funding for our township.
- The building official position was offered to a candidate but the person declined because he believed the salary was too low. There is another candidate who will be interviewed.
- The Neighborhood Watch Program Coordinator position, which has been vacant for a while will soon be posted.
- Clerk Findley was allotted time to address the board and public about the initial meeting of the Community Center Advisory Committee (CCAC) held on 4/11/22. Clerk Findley said there will be monthly reports to the Board from this point forward. Membership on the CCAC was changed to township residents only. Subject matter experts will be invited to present, as needed. A CCAC retreat has been planned for May 2. Clerk Findley informed the board that a \$4 million grant was submitted through Congresswoman Dingell’s office. She also reported that the township received initial cost estimates for refurbishing Cheney School and for constructing a new community center. A meeting is planned for representatives of Ypsilanti School District, Washtenaw County and Superior Township to continue discussion about Cheney.

Washtenaw County Clean Up Days – held at five different sites during the remainder of 2022.

Accepting variety of household items, home toxics, paints, electronics, scrap metal, tires, etc.

Township-wide Open House on Master Plan and Park & Open Space Plan on May 9 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at Christian Love Fellowship Church.

Resolutions Approved

- Labor agreement with firefighters union
- Initiate sale of bonds to pay Rock Property Land Contract
- Language for Law Enforcement Millage ballot issue and Fire Millage ballot issue
- Purchase equipment from AVL Systems to update audio and video system to allow public to view board meetings
- Contract with Washtenaw County Road Commission for 2022 road improvements
- Retain Burgoyne Appraisal Company to appraise a strip of land on Plymouth Road where the owner did not grant an easement for the non-motorized pathway from Dixboro Rd east to the Boro Restaurant. This is the start of the process to condemn the property.
- Amend the Use Agreement between the Township and the Dixboro United Methodist Church.

D. Board Attendee – no report

E. Park Steward
Ellen Kurath spoke with Juan Bradford. She has her supplies and is ready to start working.

F. Safety
There were no accidents or injuries in the past month.

8. Communications

- A. Educational: Avian Influenza Update
- B. Letter of Support: SMLC Trail Improvements
- C. Park Reservation: Oakbrook Sports

It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Terry Lee Lansing to receive the communications. Park Commissioners discussed the Avian Influenza publication, and recommended sanitation of bird feeders to prevent contagion. Concerning Oakbrook Sports, commissioners asked who pays for the port-a-pot. Juan Bradford responded the Park Fund pays for it. The motion carried.

9. Old Business

- A. Five Year Plan Update: Open House May 9
There will be an open house on May 9 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm held at Christian Love Fellowship Church to present progress on the Township Master Plan and the Parks & Open Space Plan. Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and Martha Kern-Boprie have volunteered to help staff the Parks & Open Space plan portion.
- B. Community Center Advisory Committee
The first meeting was held. No decisions have been made. A retreat is coming up soon.

10. New Business

- A. Kite & Rocket Day Sign-up
Kite & Rocket Day is scheduled on May 14 (Saturday) from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm at Fireman’s Park. The following park commissioners volunteered to help:
Nahid Sanii-Yahyai Martha Kern-Boprie
Marion Morris Terry Lee Lansing

- B. Community Park Sidewalk Bid Award
Two bids were received for construction of an ADA compliant sidewalk in Community Park.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Universal Consolidated Enterprises, Inc PO Box 80850 Rochester MI 48308	\$11,969.00
Saladino Construction Co., Inc 3303 North Territorial Road Ann Arbor MI 48105	\$16,000.00

Juan Bradford said he researched both bidders, with organizations that had work done by both. The references for Saladino Construction Co, Inc were superior, and for that reason he recommends this bid, even though it is higher than the other bid.

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Marion Morris to award the bid for construction of ADA compliant sidewalk in Community Park to Saladino Construction Co, Inc for an amount not to exceed \$16,000.00. The motion carried.

- C. Discussion of financial support for maintenance of SMLC nature trail
Marion Morris recommended a modest financial contribution of approximately \$200 to the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy toward maintenance of nature trails. Marion explained the work is largely done by volunteers, and financial support could pay for some supplies. Martha Kern-Boprie

noted that she has always understood that public funds such as the Park Fund cannot be donated. When a government seeks to support something, it has to pay for something. She cited an example from the 1980s in Superior Twp, before the township was part of the Ypsilanti district library; the township purchased a number of library passes that permitted township residents to use the library, because it could not donate to the library. Trustee Bernice Lindke said she would research this question in a publication of the Michigan Township Association.

11. Bills for Payment

A. March 29,2022 – April 25, 2022

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Marion Morris to approve payment of the bills totaling \$15,452.09 through April 25, 2022. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

A. March 2022 Revenue & Expenditure Report

B. March 2022 Balance Sheet

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai to receive the March 2022 financial statements. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Greg Vessels noted he rides his bicycle on LeForge Road and finds a lot of trash dumped along this road, and other rural roads. He asked if we could get the trash picked up. Marion Morris responded that Supervisor Ken Schwartz has a contractor who will pick the trash up. Greg should call the supervisor's office. Nahid Sanii-Yahyai noted there is trash along most of the roads in the township.

Guy Conti mentioned there are several candidates for County Commissioner, and he encouraged park commissioners to learn about them.

Guy also mentioned that he grew up in Brooklyn NY. Parks and libraries held the community together during his youth. This is why he ran for Park Commissioner, to enhance parks here in Superior Township. Marion Morris also noted how important parks were in her life.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Guy Conti and supported by Greg Vessels to adjourn at 7:32 pm. The motion carried.

Submitted by,

Martha Kern-Boprie, Park Commissioner and Secretary