

Superior Charter Township Park Commission  
Regular Meeting  
March 27, 2023

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order  
The meeting was called to order by Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai at 6:35 pm.
2. Roll Call  
Park Commissioners present: Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Marion Morris, Martha Kern-Boprie, Terry Lee Lansing, Guy Conti, Riley Schofield, Greg Vessels  
  
Park Commissioners absent: none  
  
Others present: Trustee Bernice Lindke; Juan Bradford, Park & Recreation Director
3. Flag Salute  
Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. Agenda Approval  
It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Riley Schofield to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion carried.
5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval
  - A. February 27, 2023  
It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Greg Vessels to approve the minutes of 2/27/2023 as drafted. The motion carried.
6. Citizen Participation – none
7. Reports
  - A. Chairperson  
Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai had nothing to report.
  - B. Director  
Juan Bradford, Park & Recreation Director submitted a written report. He updated this report with news that the appraisal of the Dixboro Green property is expected to be complete in April.
  - C. Board Liaison  
Trustee Bernice Lindke reviewed the volume and nature of comments made during Citizen Participation on the potential Garret's Space land use on Dixboro Road.  
The land formerly owned by the Rock company is presently rented to a farmer. The lease was renewed at the board meeting. The board is beginning to contemplate uses of this land. It is possible that special meetings will be scheduled to discuss this topic.  
Allocation of the remaining ARPA funds, that total a little over \$1,000,000 was tabled to the next township board meeting. This will allow consideration of proposals to allocate some of it to Park Department projects.  
The board retained attorney Denowith to represent it regarding the LaSalle contract to construct the Utility Department pump station on Clark Road.  
The board approved a contract with Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD) for the Trusted Parent Advisor program, to be paid for with ARPA funds.

Approved by the Superior Charter Township Park Commission on 4/24/2023.

Discussion of stipends for liaisons to other boards and committees was tabled to the next board meeting.

The appraiser chosen to prepare the Dixboro Green appraisal has experience with church properties that may be acquired by local governments for park purposes. Completion of the appraisal is expected in April.

D. Board Meeting Attendee

Martha Kern-Boprie attended the 3/20/23 township board meeting and submitted a written report. She also noted the attendance during the public participation portion of the meeting was very high and spilled out into the lobby.

E. Park Steward

No report.

F. Safety

Juan Bradford reported there were no accidents or injuries in the past month. Some chain saw parts were replaced to keep them safe.

8. Communications

A. Educational: Outdoor Exercise

B. Superior Scenes newsletter

C. Park Reservation: Michigan Folk School at CHNP

D. Park Reservation: Stop the Violence at Fireman's Park

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Marion Morris to receive the communications. The motion carried.

9. Old Business

A. Community Center Advisory Committee Update

Meetings continue. A report from the staff person assigned to this project by Washtenaw County Administrator Greg Dill was given to the committee. Greg Vessels asked where the community center would be located. Juan Bradford responded it would somewhere on the parcel that is bordered by Stamford on the north side, Clark Road on the south side and Dawn on the east side. Cheney school sits on the north end of this large parcel. Ypsilanti Community Schools owns the entire parcel. It is anticipated that Cheney school will be demolished.

B. 2023 Special Event Flyer

The 2023 Special Events flyer was presented for information only. One event, the "Live! Here! Now! concert" had to be re-scheduled to Thursday, August 24 at 4:00 pm.

C. Memo (draft): Pay Board Liaison to Parks & Recreation Commission

Martha Kern-Boprie presented a draft memo to the Township Board summarizing comments made at the February 27 Park Commission meeting on the topic of paying a stipend to the Township Board liaison to the Park Commission. Park Commissioners discussed the draft, and suggested amendments. Additional points that should be included were:

a. A comprehensive policy should be established for the entire township covering payment of stipends to boards and commissions that liaisons attend.

b. Request the township board cover any 2023 stipends that may be authorized for liaisons to the Park Commission, as the Park Commission did not have an opportunity to budget for this.

Martha will amend the draft memo and send it out to Park Commissioners.

D. Memo (draft): ARPA Committee Contribution to Park Director's salary

Martha Kern-Boprie presented a draft memo to the ARPA Committee summarizing discussion at the February 27 Park Commission meeting about the large portion of the Park Director's time that is spent on ARPA funded projects, leading to a request to have ARPA funds cover a portion of the Park Director's salary during 2023. Trustee Lindke noted that it would be more appropriate to ask the Township Board to increase it's allocation to the Park Fund budget. Park Commissioners concurred and asked Martha to amend the memo.

E. Proposed ARPA Funding Request

Juan Bradford presented a schedule of proposed projects that could be funded by American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds received by the township. These projects total \$218,000 and will improve Fireman's Park significantly. The projects and the estimated cost are noted below.

Fencing south of the Play Structure	\$ 8,000
Grills, tables, benches	\$ 12,000
16' x 24' Pavilion	\$ 38,000
Additional Play Structure	\$ 50,000
¼ mile Walking Trail	\$ 60,000
7 pieces adult exercise/fitness equipment	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
	\$218,000

10. New Business

A. Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 1 at 11:00 pm in Fireman's Park. Volunteers are needed to help set up the event and staff it. The following park commissioners volunteered to help:

Martha Kern-Boprie	Nahid Sanii-Yahyai
Terry Lee Lansing	Guy Conti
Greg Vessels (maybe)	

B. Park Staff Restroom Conceptual Estimate

Juan Bradford presented an estimate from one contractor of the cost to construct a rest room inside Fire Station #2 for the park staff. Cost totaled \$50,802. Part of the reason the cost is so high is waste water would have to be pumped to the nearest sewer connection. Guy Conti asked if there was any way to access the existing rest room near the fire fighters quarters without invading the privacy of the fire fighters. Juan said he will discuss this with the Fire Chief when he returns from bereavement leave.

C. Juan Bradford presented an estimate from Spartan Distributors in Auburn Hills to perform extensive maintenance and repair work on the 2013 Toro Groundmaster mower. The estimate totals \$2,297.17. Guy Conti asked what these mowers cost new, how long they usually last, and how many more years of service we can expect if this repair is performed. Juan estimated the cost of a new mower at \$30,000, approximately ten years of usual service, and this repair and maintenance will probably give us five more years of use out this ten year old mower. The commission concurred this repair was a good investment.

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai to authorize repair of the 2013 Toro Groundmaster 3280 4wd mower by Spartan Distributors of Auburn Hills, MI according to their quote dated 3/15/2023 for an amount not to exceed \$2,297.17. The motion carried.

11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Marion Morris to approve payment of the bills totaling \$23,572.32 at 3/27/2023. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

A. February 2023 Revenue & Expenditure Report

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Terry Lee Lansing to receive the February 2023 Revenue & Expenditure Report. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Martha Kern-Boprie noted what a great system of paved non-motorized paths we have in the subdivisions south of Geddes Road, and encouraged the park commission and staff to promote walking programs, particularly directed at senior citizens. Juan Bradford said he would look into the Walk with Ease program conducted a few years ago, and see what could be developed from that.

Martha also noted that the Muslim season of Ramadan is currently underway, and suggested that park programs be considered in a future year to learn about and celebrate muslim culture. Nahid Sanii-Yahyai asked that Persion culture also be considered.

Guy Conti asked that the Park Fund consider helping transport a commissioner who has a transportation problem, to an official meeting of the park commission.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Guy Conti and supported by Marion Morris to adjourn at 8:05 pm. The motion carried.

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