

Superior Charter Township Park Commission
Regular Meeting
May 22, 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, Greg Vessels, Riley Schofield. Terry Lee Lansing

Park Commissioners absent: Guy Conti

Others present: Trustee Bernice Lindke; Juan Bradford, Park Director; Jack Smiley, Jan Piert, Carla Bisaro

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 Riley Schofield and supported by Greg Vessels to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion carried.

5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

A. April 24, 2023

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Riley Schofield to approve the minutes of 4/24/23 as drafted. The motion carried.

6. Citizen Participation

Carla Bisaro, a member of the Superior Township chapter of the SouthEast Michigan Land Conservancy spoke to the Park Commission about a summer nature hike planned on August 13, 2023 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The hike will begin in the Jack Smiley Nature Preserve and travel east and north through the Weatherbee Woods to Schroeter Park, and then loop back to the Jack Smiley Nature Preserve. Carla said the planning committee includes representatives from the land conservancy that owns the Smiley Nature Preserve and Washtenaw County Parks & Rec that owns Weatherbee Woods. She asked for a representative from either the Park Commission and/or Park Staff to participate with planning this nature hike. Martha Kern-Boprie offered to help with planning. Juan Bradford said staff could participate as well. Carla went on to say that this was the first summer walk. Walks took place in Spring, Autumn and Winter in previous years. This walk was designed to highlight partnerships that enabled the Superior Greenway.

Marion Morris commented on the notes in the minutes in the Chair's report about trash found along roadsides. She witnessed a garbage truck from the new garbage collection vendor with trash blowing off of it. The truck appeared to be overloaded and not covered.

7. Reports

A. Chairperson

Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai thanked the park commission and staff for the get well card sent to her. She also followed up on her concern voiced at the April Park Commission meeting about trash appearing on roadsides all over the township, and asked Juan Bradford if he discussed her idea of a Township Clean-Up Day. Several people commented on seeing the new trash collection vendor's truck overloaded, with trash blowing off. Trustee Bernice Lindke said she would follow up on this with the township supervisor. Nahid also spoke about the Township Board's decision to pay the liaison to the

Park Commission a stipend for Park Commission meetings attended. Nahid was not concerned about that, but was concerned that a comprehensive policy was not prepared and adopted concerning payment of stipends.

B. Park & Rec Director

Juan Bradford submitted a written report. He added that he met with OHM staff today on preparation of the bid package for improvements to Fireman's Park. He also submitted a grant application to the Michigan DNR Natural Resources Trust Fund to purchase 162 acres south of Cherry Hill Nature Preserve and north of the "rock" properties, that would establish a green way connection from the north side of Cherry Hill Road to Geddes Road. The decision on the grant application will be released in December.

C. Board Liaison

Trustee Bernice Lindke reported on the May 15, 2023 Township Board meeting. Many people spoke both in favor of and in opposition to the rezoning of 76 acres at 3900 N. Dixboro Road to allow Garrett's Space to operate. Over 100 letters were submitted to the Township Board on this issue. Clerk Findley reported that significant state funding was coming to support the Community Center, but did not provide detail on amount or specific source. Supervisor Schwartz is working on getting the soil tested for the Community Garden land. The proposal for engineering services to address drainage issues in Fireman's Park was approved.

D. Board Attendee

Martha Kern-Boprie attended the May 15, 2023 township board meeting and submitted a written report. Her report concurred with that of Trustee Lindke.

E. Park Steward

Ellen Kurath was not present. Juan Bradford reported that he spoke with Ellen, and she plans to plant trees in Schroeter Park.

F. Safety

There were no accidents or injuries in the past month.

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii Yahyai to receive the reports. The motion carried.

8. Communications

A. Educational: Parks and Improved Mental Health & Quality of Life

B. Not MI Species

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

9. Old Business

A. Community Center Advisory Committee Update

Crystal from Washtenaw County government spoke. A survey of the community was conducted. No results have been released yet.

B. Ypsilanti Township Recreation Facility Use Update

Juan has contacted staff at Ypsilanti Township several times about developing an agreement to permit Superior Township residents to use Ypsilanti Township recreation facilities for the same price as Ypsilanti Township residents. There were staff turnovers at Ypsilanti Township, and there has been no response to Juan's inquiries for some time now. Juan will continue to contact Ypsilanti Township staff about this.

10. New Business

A. Park Maintenance Supervisor

Juan Bradford informed the park commissioners that he interviewed three candidates for the Park Maintenance Supervisor position. Juan recommends that we promote Don Waligor to this position, effective May 22, 2023. Juan further recommends the following hourly pay rate for Don as Park Maintenance Supervisor:

Effective May 22, 2023	\$28.00
Six months later	\$29.00
One Year later	\$30.00 plus 1/01/2024 percentage increase received by Park staff

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai that the Park Commission concur with the recommendation of Park & Recreation Director Juan Bradford and promote Don Waligor to the position of Park Maintenance Supervisor effective May22, 2023 and establish the following hourly pay rates for Don Waligor

Effective May 22, 2023	\$28.00
Six months later	\$29.00
One Year later	\$30.00 plus 1/01/2024 percentage increase received by Park staff

The motion carried.

B. Superior Day – June 10, 2023

Superior Day is planned for Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm in Oakbrook Park. Volunteers are needed. The following park commissioners volunteered to help at this event:

Nahid Sanii-Yahyai	Martha Kern-Boprie	Guy Conti
Marion Morris	Terry Lee Lansing	

Volunteers should arrive at Oakbrook Park by 10:00 am.

C. Kite & Rocket Day – June 24, 2023

Kite & Rocket Day is planned for Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at Fireman’s Park. Volunteers are needed, especially to help children assemble the kites. The following park commissioners volunteered to help at this event:

Nahid Sanii-Yahyai	Terry Lee Lansing
Marion Morris	

Volunteers should arrive at Fireman’s Park by 10:30 am.

11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Greg Vessels to approve the bills totaling \$29,068.12 through 5/22/2023. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

A. April 2023 Revenue and Expenditure Report

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Greg Vessels to receive the April 2023 Revenue and Expenditure Report. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

None

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Riley Schofield and supported by Greg Vessels to adjourn at 7:00 pm. The motion carried.

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

