

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD  
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 5, 2020**

**Roll Call of Commission Members:**

Present: William Scott, Denise Schmuckal, James Guilmet, Chris DeGood (6:08), Chris Remy, and Art Bukowski

Absent and Excused: Fern Spence

Staff Present: Deputy Planning Director Steve Hannon and Parks Steward Derek Morton

1. **Call to Order:** Secretary Remy called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.
2. **Public Comment:**  
Rob Larrea, on behalf of the Traverse Area Pickleball Association, asked the board to delay making a decision about the tennis courts at the Boardman Valley Nature Preserve so that TAPA could gather money to make them into pickleball courts.
3. **Review and Approval of the Agenda – Conflicts of Interest**  
*Schmuckal moved and Bukowski seconded to approve the agenda as presented.*  
  
*Yeas: Schmuckal, Bukowski, Guilmet, Remy, Scott*  
*Nays: None*
4. **Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2020**  
*Bukowski moved and Schmuckal seconded to approve the minutes of August 10, 2020.*  
*Yeas: Bukowski, Schmuckal, Remy, Guilmet, Scott*  
*Nays: None*
5. **Correspondence**
  - a. **Public Act 159 of 2020 (Commons 100)**  
Hannon said that the State Legislature has passed this Public Act to allow the existing deed restriction to be removed on the Commons 100 property and broaden the uses allowed there. Although this has gone through the State Legislature, Hannon said the actual deed transfer will still need to be executed administratively.
5. **Reports**
  - a. **Commissioner Reports**  
Remy said he enjoyed walking at the Silver Lake Recreation area but thought that more trail signage was needed.

**b. Staff Report/Updates**

Parks Steward Derek Morton reported that there are signage upgrades planned for the Silver Lake Recreation Area. He reported on projects and maintenance at all parks. A fall planting will occur with trees donated through a DTE program at Silver Lake. Downed trees were removed from the Commons area and a phased development has been fleshed out for the River East property. Morton met with contractors at the Boardman Valley Nature Preserve about the tennis court demolition and he is gathering snow removal bids.

**c. Grand Traverse Conservation District Report**

Tom Vitale reported that they have been working on Silver Lake signage and looking at small projects for fall completion.

**6. Old Business**

None

**7. New Business****a. PD 2020-135 – BVNP Tennis Court Transformation 2020 Project**

Parks Steward Derek Morton gathered estimates for the crack seal and asphalt layer to turn the tennis courts into much needed additional parking at Boardman Valley Nature Preserve. The additional parking would make about 30 new parking spaces. Board members discussed the proposed parking area considering the public comment. Board members expressed concerns with the water table and adding more parking demand to the park. Rob Larrea spoke once again on behalf of TAPA.

*Bukowski moved and Schmuckal seconded to recommend to the township board to accept the bid from Molon for a project at Boardman Valley Nature Preserve to replace the existing old tennis courts with an additional parking lot area.*

*Yeas: Bukowski, Schmuckal, Guilmet, DeGood, Scott, Remy*

*Nays: None*

**b. PD-2020-136 –Parks CIP – Revised Proposed 2021 Projects**

Hannon said that this is a follow up to the August Park Project CIP discussion. Some new information was presented that could potentially amend the priority list. After discussion, board members revised the amount allocated to River East for 2021 to make the bottom line total \$166,000 to be recommended to the Township Board.

*Remy moved and Scott seconded to recommend to the Township Board the revised list of priority Parks and Recreation projects for 2021 in the amount of \$166,000.*

*Yeas: Remy, Scott, Guilmet, Schmuckal, DeGood, Bukowski*  
*Nays: None*

**8. Public Comment**

Rob Larrea said he appreciated the work that Morton put into the BVNP bid. He asked that the board start over with the collaboration between Garfield and TAPA. Township Supervisor Chuck Korn appreciated the board and their consideration of all things in front of them.

Hannon reminded the Commissioners that anyone with a term expiring at the end of the year will need to apply by the deadline for reappointment on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

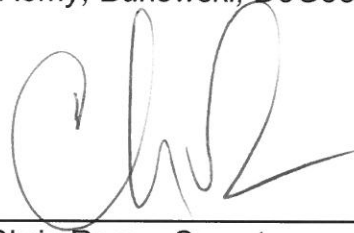
**9. Item for Next Agenda – December 7, 2020**

Hannon said that in December, the Commission would revisit the River East project and the Commons 100 area and approve 2021 meeting dates.

**10. Adjournment**

*Schmuckal moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:51pm.*

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Scott, Spence, Remy, Bukowski, DeGood*  
*Nays: None*



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Chris Remy, Secretary  
Garfield Township Parks & Recreation  
Commission  
3848 Veterans Drive  
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