

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION
March 4, 2019**

Roll Call of Commission Members:

Present: James Guilmet, Chris Remy, Fern Spence, Chris DeGood and Valarie Handy

Absent and Excused: Denise Schmuckal and William Scott

Staff Present: Erik Perdonik and John Sych

1. **Call to Order:** Handy called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

2. **Review and Approval of the Agenda – Conflicts of Interest**
DeGood moved and Spence seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Yeas: DeGood, Spence, Remy, Guilmet, Handy
Nays: None

3. **Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes January 7, 2019**
Spence moved and Remy seconded to adopt the minutes of January 7, 2019 as presented.

Yeas: Spence, Remy, Handy, Guilmet, DeGood
Nays: None

4. **Correspondence – Grand Traverse Conservation District 2018 Annual Update**
Tom Vitale from the Conservation District said that the update was included in packets and he was open to any questions. Vitale also updated commissioners on current updates such as a tree down in the Commons and working with Greenspire School to plant at Miller Creek. West Middle Schools is helping to plant native species near Kids Creek and the ponds are being restocked as well. He shared a trail proposal for Silver Lake Park for commissioner review. Steve Largent added that he is working on obtaining a parcel off of Cass Road which would be a bypass for Miller Creek and help with drainage near Cass Road. The property would then be sold back to Garfield for access to Miller Park. He stated that he has signed a purchase agreement for the property. Sych talked about a possible land donation to the township.

5. **Reports**
 - a. **Commissioner Reports**
None

b. Staff Report

Sych reported that brush removal at Silver Lake Park went a bit too far and work plans will now be needed for volunteer work. Staff will wait and see what comes up in the spring and at that point will plant some other native species which provide habitats for bees and birds.

6. Business to Come Before the Commission

a. PD 2019-19 First Amendment to 2018 5 year Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Review

Perdonik said the Master Plan was revised to reflect the new parcels to be included in the Parks & Recreation Master plan.

DeGood moved and Remy seconded to direct staff to make the final draft First Amendment to the Charter Township of Garfield 2018-2023 Five-Year Parks and Recreations Master Plan, as attached to Planning Department Report 2019-19, available for the DNR –required 30-day public review period.

*Yeas: DeGood, Remy, Guilmet, Spence, Handy
Nays: None*

DeGood moved and Spence seconded THAT a public hearing BE SCHEDULED on the draft First Amendment to the Charter Township of Garfield 2018-2023 Five-Year Parks and Recreations Master Plan, as attached to Planning Department Report 2019-19, for the April 8, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

*Yeas: DeGood, Spence, Remy, Guilmet, Handy
Nays: None*

b. Deed Restriction on Trail Uses at the Commons Natural Area – Verbal – Preliminary Discussion

Sych said that the Township is thinking of trying to remove the land covenant on the Commons 100 property to allow for more recreation than just hiking and cross country skiing. The Parks and Recreation Commission would study the topic first and then the Joint Planning Commission would look into the proposal. Finally, it would be considered by the Township Board. Sych indicated that the state would also need to review the proposed deed amendment. He will keep the Parks Commission informed of the progress on this item.

c. Potential policy of Pickleball courts at the Boardman Valley Nature Preserve – Verbal – Preliminary Discussion

Sych said that the township was approached by a local pickleball association regarding the management of the courts at BVNP. The association wanted to use the courts for tournament play, reserved play

and designate courts with leveled play options. Sych said he would listen to suggestions from the association and that it may be helpful to have a policy of some sort regarding all courts and recreation areas in the township. Commissioners discussed the proposal regarding the pickleball courts and will wait for more information after Sych talks to the association representatives.

7. Public Comment

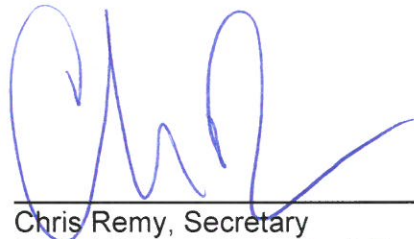
None

8. Items for Next Agenda

The next meeting will be held on April 8, 2019.

9. Adjournment

Handy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm.



Chris Remy, Secretary
Garfield Township Parks & Recreation
Commission
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