

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
August 7, 2017**

Call Meeting to Order: Vice Chair Handy called the meeting to order at 6:00pm at the Garfield Township Hall, 3848 Veterans Drive, Traverse City, MI 49684.

Roll Call of Commission Members:

Present: Fern Spence (6:46), Chris DeGood, Denise Schmuckal, Dale Majerczyk, Valarie Handy, and Alisa Korn

Absent and Excused: Chris Remy

Staff Present: Rob Larrea, Tom Vitale

1. Review and Approval of the Agenda – Conflict of Interest (6:03)

Korn moved and Majerczyk seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Yeas: Korn, Majerczyk, DeGood, Schmuckal, Handy

Nays: None

2. Minutes (6:04)

a. July 10, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

Korn made a comment on commission minutes in general.

Schmuckal moved and DeGood seconded to approve the July 10, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Yeas: Schmuckal, DeGood, Handy, Korn, Majerczyk

Nays: None

3. Correspondence (6:12)

None

4. Reports (6:13)

Tom Vitale Conservation District Report

Vitale reported that the Miller Creek boardwalk is about 1/3 done and the project is going well. Details of a couple trail reroutes at Miller Creek will be worked out and a fishing platform is still in the works. He also discussed the Commons Area erosion control and Kids Creek bids. The Silver Lake Recreation area was also cleaned up.

Commissioner Reports

Schmuckal indicated that the tree clearing proposal on a small parcel of parkland in the township went to the Township Board and a committee was established to review the bids from the FAA.

Staff Report

Larrea said tree removal at the Silver Lake park nearest to the fire station needs to be done. There are many Black Locust trees which impede sight distance for the fire trucks which are invasive species. Some of the trees may be in the road right of way. Larrea will meet with Vitale at the sight to assess the situation. Larrea added that the Township Board approved the contract for Prien and Newhof to split bids for the proposed Boardman Nature Preserve.

5. Business to Come Before the Commission**a. PD 2017-68 CJLP Invoice Reimbursement Request (6:27)**

The subcommittee reviewed the agreement and the invoice and determined that the Township has met all its obligations under the agreement and no reimbursement is due for any work done by CJLP in Silver Lake Park. They recommend that the matter be closed.

Schmuckal moved and Majerczyk seconded to recommend to the Township Board that the invoice from CLJP not be paid as requested and the matter be closed.

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Majerczyk, DeGood, Handy, Korn
Nays: None*

b. PD 2017-69 Buffalo Ridge Connector Bids (6:30)

Three bids are before the commission for a trail connector for the Buffalo Ridge trail. The connector will follow the property line and Tom Vitale said that the three bids were to the same specifications. Vitale discussed the specifics of the proposed bids and said that the Conservation District will take care of re-seeding the area and bill the township.

Korn moved and Schmuckal seconded to recommend that the Township Board accept and award the bid to R.W. Popp Excavating in the amount of \$13,698 with \$5,000 to be applied from the TC Track Club and the remainder to be paid by the Garfield Township Park Fund.

*Yeas: Korn, Schmuckal, Majerczyk, Handy, DeGood
Nays: None*

c. PD 2017-70 Old Mill Pond – Demo Bids (6:43)

Tom Vitale sought bids for the demolition and removal of the historic Power House at Kids Creek Park and placing it in a pole building at the Templeton property for future restoration. Asbestos abatement will need to be done prior to demolition and obtaining the permits. Discussion of the bids took place.

Schmuckal moved and DeGood supported to recommend to the Township Board that the bid from Alpers Excavating in the amount of \$9,350 be accepted.

*Yeas: Schmuckal, DeGood, Handy, Spence, Majerczyk, Korn
Nays: None*

Vitale noted that the asbestos removal may be an additional cost and will seek clarification on that issue. Historical signage was discussed at the site of the Power House.

d. PD 2017-72 Beacon Hills Sign Request (6:57)

Mike Steadman, a resident of Beacon Hills proposes to place a sign at a piece of property in Beacon Hills which was apparently deeded to the township for a public purposes. He would like the sign to indicate that the property is for public use. There are also concerns from residents who do not want any signage on the property. Commissioners asked for a petition of support from residents of Beacon Hills for any signage before moving forward. Steadman urged commissioners to include this small park in their Master Plan and to maintain the park. Doug Brown spoke to the matter as well and asked for signage. Commissioners expressed concerns with placing signage in many of these pocket parks that the township did not know it owned until recently. Commissioners concluded the discussion by determining that signage in these parks was indicative of a larger issue which needed to be addressed.

e. PD 2017-73 Conceptual Plan for BVNP (7:30)

Commissioners reviewed five concepts for potential Township park development. They liked the idea of a dog park, pavilion, picnic, walking trails and a playground at the Boardman Valley Nature Preserve. A Pump Track for recreational biking was also mentioned as was a skate park. Commissioners discussed keeping the BVNP fairly simple to begin with and to focus on enjoyment of natural surroundings. Timing of the DNR grants were discussed as was a policy on dealing with small pocket parks deeded to the township.

7. Public Comment (8:04)

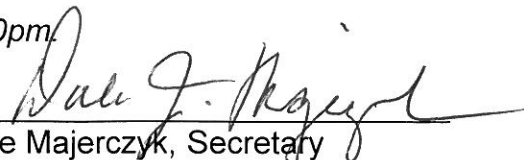
Colleen Farran of Carriage Hills liked the concepts presented for the Boardman Valley Nature Preserve. She asked for commissioners to find a way for residents to access the park without a car.

8. Items For Next Agenda September 11, 2017 (8:14)

Schedule for timeline on Parks and Recreation plan. .

9. **Adjournment**

Handy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm.



Dale Majerczyk, Secretary
Garfield Township Parks and Recreation
Commission
3848 Veterans Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684