

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
October 2, 2017**

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Remy 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, Chris DeGood, Denise Schmuckal, Dale Majerczyk, Valarie Handy, Chris Remy and Alisa Korn

Staff Present: Erik Perdonik, Rob Larrea, Tom Vitale

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

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

Yeas: Korn, Majerczyk, DeGood, Schmuckal, Handy

Nays: None

2. Minutes (6:04)

a. September 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

Majerczyk moved and Korn seconded to approve the September 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Yeas: Majerczyk, Korn, Schmuckal, DeGood, Handy, Spence, Remy

Nays: None

3. Correspondence (6:00)

None

4. Reports (6:00)

Tom Vitale Conservation District Report

Vitale reported that the Kids Creek connector should be beginning construction this week. Vitale met with a representative from Norris Design Studio, Ted Price, who was asked to work on some preliminary designs for the mill at Kids Creek. The owner of the Great Wolf Lodge is against demolishing the mill and is asking that the Township try to keep the mill. At this time, the mill demolition is on hold. Commissioners discussed the mill and the demolition project versus a project to retain and rebuild the mill. Commissioners agreed to approach the Great Wolf Lodge for money towards a restoration of the mill or Alpers would be approached to demolish the mill by March. Commissioners agreed that the mill did not represent the wants and needs of the Township residents according to the most recent parks survey. Larrea will contact Alpers to see when the bid expires. Vitale went on to report that the Miller Creek project is still in progress and the Silver Park trees have been tagged. Clean up continues in the Commons area where vandals defaced trees.

Commissioner Reports

Handy said that there will be a dedication of the Nordic Trail on the October 11th at 4pm.

Staff Report

None

5. Business to Come Before the Commission**a. PD 2017-104 2018-2023 Draft Parks and Recreation Plan (6:01)**

A new plan must be in place by April of 2018 in order to be eligible to receive grant funding for the five years thereafter. The current plan expires on December 31, 2017. Commissioners have been asked to review the draft plan. Commissioners made specific comments regarding the text and cited certain pages. They said that the idea of accessibility in the parks needs some work. Maintenance of trails was discussed and commissioners thought that a collaborative regional discussion on sustaining usability of trails may be needed. Larrea asked commissioners about the name of the new recently acquired park property and thought it would be a good idea to name it at this point so it could be included in the plan. Schmuckal moved and Spence seconded to name the new park River East Recreation Area. Commissioners reiterated that trail maintenance should be a priority in the plan. The survey mentioned Pocket Parks and commissioners decided to recognize them on a map with the caveat that the Township did not maintain them at this time. Existing and planned sidewalks were discussed and commissioners agreed to show them on the non-motorized plan map. (Spence left at 7:12pm) Larrea asked to add Brian VanDenBrand to the credits page as a former member of the Planning Department. The proposed Parks and Recreation Plan will be brought for commissioner review one more time before a public hearing.

7. Public Comment (7:27)

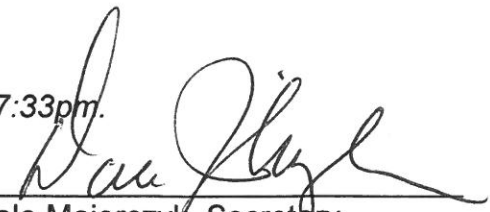
Doug Brown of Highland Drive commented on pocket parks. He asked for signage and maintenance for safety.

8. Items For Next Agenda (7:33)

None discussed

9. Adjournment

DeGood moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm.



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