

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

September 10, 2018 @ 6:00 P.M.

**Silver Lake Recreation Area
1785 N East Silver Lake Road
Traverse City, MI 49685**

A G E N D A

Any interested person or group may address the Commission on any agenda item when recognized by the presiding officer or upon request of any Commissioner. Also, any interested person or group may address the agenda item designated Public Comment. The comment of any member of the public or any special interest group may be limited in time. Such limitation shall not be less than two minutes unless otherwise approved by the Commission.

Call Meeting to Order

Roll Call of Commission Members

1. Review and Approval of the Agenda - Conflicts of Interest
2. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 4, 2018
3. Correspondence- Conservation District Report
4. Reports
 - a. Commissioner Reports
 - b. Staff Report
5. Business to Come Before the Commission
 - a. PD 2018- 96 Silver Lake Recreation Area Discussion-On Site
6. Public Comment
7. Items for Next Agenda
 - a. To Be Determined
8. Adjourn

Garfield Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities upon the provision of reasonable advance notice to Garfield Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Garfield Township by writing or calling Lanie McManus, Clerk, Ph: (231) 941-1620, or TDD #922-4412.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
June 4, 2018**

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Handy called the special meeting to order at 6:07pm at the Silver Lake Recreation Area, 1785 East Silver Lake Road, Traverse City, MI 49684.

Roll Call of Commission Members:

Present: Chris DeGood, Denise Schmuckal, Dale Majerczyk, Chris Remy, Fern Spence and Valarie Handy

Absent and Excused: James Guilmet

Others Present: Rob Larrea, Dan Walters

1. Review and Approval of the Agenda – Conflict of Interest

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

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

Nays: None

2. Minutes

a. February 5, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Schmuckal moved and Majerczyk seconded for to approve the February 5, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

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

Nays: None

3. Correspondence

a. None

4. Reports (6:11)

Tom Vitale Conservation District Report

Vitale said that fish are being stocked in Kids Creek and that there are many yards of woodchips from the clean-up at Silver Lake Park. He added that there are many homeless people near the Verizon property and asked Commissioners their opinion regarding the homeless problem in that location. Commissioners agreed to have the homeless population moved out with the help of the Sheriff's department.

Commissioner Reports

None

Staff Report

None

5. **Business to Come Before the Commission**

a. **PD 2018-59 Silver Lake Recreation Area Landscape Buffer**

Commissioners looked at the land where many invasive species trees were taken out and determined that a new buffer needed to be placed to protect the neighboring properties from seeing the activities in the park. Tom Vitale and commissioners discussed which type of buffers would be adequate for the area and Larrea said that the ordinance approved a Type C buffer in that area.

DeGood moved and Schmuckal seconded THAT the planting of a "Type C" buffer at the Silver Lake Recreation Area along East Silver Lake Road in accordance with Section 531 of the Zoning Ordinance to replace the recently removed invasive vegetation BE RECOMMENDED to the Township Board.

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

b. **PD Report 2018-60 Silver Lake Recreation Area Path Crack Filling/Benches**

Larrea noted that the township owns a few benches which could be placed in various locations around the park.

Schmuckal moved and Spence seconded to recommend THAT the benches purchased by the township be placed at evenly spaced locations throughout Silver Lake Recreation Area.

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

Commissioners studied the paved walking path and took note of the many cracks in the path. Commissioners decided to gather bids for the crack sealing project in the park. Sealing the tennis courts and basketball courts were also discussed.

Schmuckal moved and Majerczyk seconded to RECOMMEND THAT the Township Board approve funding for and engage in a bidding process for repairs to the cracks and seal the entire non-motorized pathway at the Silver Lake Recreation Area.

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

6. **Public Comment (6:35)**

Commissioners also discussed the Boardman Lake Trail and a possible maintenance plan, sidewalks near S. Airport and Garfield and the pocket park located near the airport. Bathroom placement at the YMCA was also discussed

and commissioners would like to ask that the bathrooms be moved to another location.

7. **Items For Next Agenda**

Possible meeting at the pocket park near the airport.

8. **Adjournment**

Handy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:13pm.

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

Grand Traverse Conservation District
August 2018 Report

CONSERVATION TEAM

OWNER/PARKLAND: Garfield Township – Various

Administration

- Continued to work with a property owner on Miller Creek to potentially add to Miller Creek park as an access off Cass Road.
- Attended and provided updates at monthly Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Routine Monitoring and Maintenance

- Monitored trails and trailheads at all Garfield parklands, replaced dog waste bags at trailhead dispensers, and picked up trash as necessary.
- Cleared trails and removed down trees by chainsaw following late August storm events at all Garfield parks (Commons was hit especially hard).
- Replaced vandalized interim trail maps at the Commons trail intersects.
- Mowed, weed whipped, and pruned along trails as necessary.
- Replace dilapidated railing on fishing/viewing platform at Boardman Valley Nature Preserve.
- Replaced damaged footbridge railing at Miller Creek crossing down from Aldi Foods.
- Secured railing and bench along boardwalk at Kid's Creek Park.
- Removed or replaced damaged fencing at trailheads as appropriate.
- Installed a new trash surround at Silver Lake Recreation Area and removed the old one.
- Repaired two trail erosion sites at Silver Lake Recreation by implementing water bars, check dams, and aggregate.
- Installed erosion control measures near creek crossing at the Commons along Cedar Cathedral Trail.
- Contracted YouthWork to remove aquatic weeds at Oleson Pond at Kid's Creek Park.
- Switched garbage totes at Silver Lake dog park on a regular basis to accommodate dog waste disposal needs.

Other

- Coordinated the Invasive Species Network on the treatment of invasive phragmites at Miller Creek Nature Reserve and Kids Creek Park.
- Coordinated the Invasive Species Network on the early detection and treatment of invasive callery pear on the hill top at the Commons.
- Coordinated and assisted Boardman River Clean Sweep in homeless site clean-up efforts at River East RA and on the Verizon parcel at Boardman Valley Nature Preserve.
- Sought tree stock at local nurseries for Silver Lake RA buffer along E. Silver Lk. Rd.



OWNER/PARKLAND: Recreational Authority – Hickory Meadows

Administration

- Attended and prepared the agenda for the monthly Hickory Meadows Advisory Committee (HMAC) meetings.
- Attended and provided updates at the monthly Rec Authority Board meeting.
- Corresponded with Derek Melville, TC Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, and Spence Brothers, contractors for Hickory Hills developments, on updates and anticipated commencement of drain field construction on Meadows property.
- Contacted landscaping contractors to determine feasibility and cost of mowing the meadows.
- Contacted nurseries to determine available stock for buffer planting.

Routine Monitoring and Maintenance

- Monitored all trails and trailheads, picked-up trash, and replaced dog waste bags as needed.
- Removed several down trees along trails following late August storms.
- Pruned trees and shrubs along trails as necessary.
- Mowed and weed whipped trailheads and trails.
- Notified camper near the mid-Randolph maintenance access of no camping regulations on Meadows property.
- Downloaded trail counters for review and analysis.
- Continued to supply, collect, and record user surveys at main trailheads.
- Monitored erosion concerns on Meadows property resulting from Hills work site.
- Replaced a broken ‘No Parking’ post at Historic Barns Park.

Grants

- Awarded \$3,000 from the DTE Energy Foundation Tree Planting Grant Program to assist in the buffer planting along the Hickory Meadows and Hills border. Grant expires May 31, 2019. This will enable purchase of larger diameter trees in addition to the City’s planting plan along with secured restoration funds provided by NW MI Invasive Species Network.

BOARDMAN RIVER STEWARDSHIP

- Met with Senator Wayne Schmidt, Garfield Township Supervisor Chuck Korn, and others regarding how to get the railroad more involved in the replacement of the perched culvert under the railroad. GTCD staff helped arrange for a \$200,000 EQIP grant through the Grand Traverse Band to assist with the replacement.
- Conducted a Community Stewardship float through the new section at Brown Bridge. Backcountry North provided the use of the kayaks.
- Coordinated and conducted a site visit for project partners re: Phase-II instream habitat wood at Brown Bridge funded through a USFWS grant.
- Assisted with a tour for the Great Lakes Fishery Trust’s 20th anniversary celebration through the new section of River in the Boardman bottomlands.
- Prepared the Final Report for the 14th Annual Boardman River CleanSweep.
- Responded to reports of trees down blocking the river from several storms that blew through the area during the previous week.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Nature Center Visitation this Month: 1292
Program Participants this month: 909
Drop ins this month: 383
Nature Center Visitation this year: 5580

Nature Center Visitation Aug 2017: 1031
Program Participants Aug 2017: 751
Drop-in Aug 2017: 280
Nature Center Visitation since 2008: 84,403

Program Participation & Program Planning:

- Finished our 10-week summer day camp program serving 1,750.5 camper days. This is a growth of 64% over last year.
- We received our renewed program and site license from the State of Michigan for our day camp program. We will renew again in 2020.
- Continued work on interpretive outdoor exhibits. Interpretive signs printed and ready to be installed after trail construction is complete.
- Continued work on accessible programming for all members of our community.
- Continued work on planning upcoming season of Peepers and Knee-High programming.
- Completed exit interviews on all education seasonal staff.
- Met with Invasive Species Network for possible collaborative efforts on upcoming grant request to family foundations.

MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE PROGRAM (MAEAP)

Farm Visits: 5 (Antrim/Grand Traverse), 2 (Benzie/Leelanau)
Risk Assessments Completed: 3 (Antrim/Grand Traverse), 4 (Benzie/Leelanau)
Farms Verified: 3

Updates:

- 8/6: Web Soil Survey Training at NRCS Office
- 8/9: Household Hazardous Waste Event
- 8/29: Agrichemical Container Recycling Collection
- 8/30: Healthy Farms, Healthy Profits Field Day at Providence Organic Farm

Current Projects:

- Working with:
 - 8 Farms in Antrim
 - 14 Farms in Grand Traverse
 - 19 Farms in Leelanau
 - 3 Farms in Benzie



- Planning workshop for 2019 Northern Michigan Small Farms Conference
- Working with farms to complete NRCS EQIP applications.
- Collaborating with Grand Traverse County Resource Recovery Manager on Clean Sweep and Household Hazardous Waste events.
- Wrapping up 2018 reverifications.
- Finalizing third quarter cost-share report.
- Distributing cost-share funding to local agricultural producers to implement needed practices on their farms.
- Planning MAEAP session at the 2018 Freshwater Summit.
- 2018 MDARD Well Water Monitoring program for pesticide residues.
- Planning session for Leelanau Conservation District Field Day.

Upcoming Events:

- 8/5: Antrim County Verification
- 8/7: Grand Traverse County Verification
- 8/13-8/14: Agricultural Drone Workshop at Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station
- 8/17: Antrim Conservation District Board Meeting
- 8/20: Grand Traverse Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
- 8/27: Leelanau Conservation District Field Day
- 8/29: Household Hazardous Waste Event

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN INVASIVE SPECIES NETWORK (ISN)

Public Inquiry Responses: 63

Active Contacts: 509

Passive Contacts: 54,318

Acres Surveyed: 127

Sites Surveyed: 187

Acres Treated: 121.5

Sites Treated: 163

Volunteer Hours: 25

Volunteers: 14

Meetings/Presentations:

- 8/4 - Presented *Go Beyond Beauty* to Silver Lake Assoc.; ~60 attendees
- 8/22 - Presented *Birds and Native Plants* to Senior Network (Kingsley); 47 attendees
- 8/23 - Presented *Birds and Native Plants* to Senior Network (Interlochen); 45 attendees
- 8/28 - Conducted site visit & presentation at GT Unitarian; 5 participants, 2 acres surveyed
- 8/30 - Presented *Habitat Matters* at Kingsley monarch release; 50 contacts

Treatments, Restoration, and Surveys:

- Knotweed treatments: 125 sites, 24 acres
- EDR treatments: black swallow-wort; 25 sites, 3.5 acres
- Other treatments: 17 sites, 61.5 acres, 4 counties
- Site Visits: 23 sites, 4.5 acres

Other Accomplishments:


- **1 new landowner GBB participant!**
- Mention in [Ticker article re: TCLP property restoration](#) (32,000 circulation)
- NatureChange [video on swallow-wort](#) published (and already getting LOTS of press!)
- [Swallow-wort article in Record Eagle](#); 20,000
- Sent swallow-wort permission letters (33 passive)
- Facebook reach: 11,409
- Website reach: 9,462
- Instagram reach: 1,194

Upcoming Events:

- Fall partner meeting coming soon!

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AECOM	Boardman River Dams Project Engineers
BBAC	Brown Bridge Advisory Committee
BRNC	Boardman River Nature Center
CRA	Conservation Resource Alliance
DDA	Downtown Development Authority
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
ECR	East Creek Reserve
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentive Program
GBB	Go Beyond Beauty
GIS	Geographic Information System
GLRI	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
GM	Garlic mustard
GTCDD	Grand Traverse Conservation District
HMAC	Hickory Meadows Advisory Committee
ISN	Invasive Species Network
JB	Japanese barberry
MACD	Michigan Association of Conservation Districts
MAEAP	Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program
MDARD	Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
MISC	Michigan Invasive Species Coalition
MNLA	Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association
NER	Natural Education Reserve
NMC	Northwestern Michigan College
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NWMFFN	Northwest Michigan Food and Farming Network
ISN	Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network
OB	Oriental Bittersweet
USFWS	United State Fish & Wildlife Service
SEEDS	501(c)3 nonprofit organization
SFP	Safe Food Program
Tx	Treatment

		Charter Township of Garfield	
		Planning Department Report No. 2018-96	
Prepared:	September 6, 2018	Pages:	1 of 1
Meeting:	September 10, 2018 PRC (On-Site)	Attachments:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subject:	Silver Lake Recreation Area Improvement Recommendations II		

STAFF COMMENT:

➤ *Landscaping and Irrigation for Silver Lake Road Buffer Area:*

At the last meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Commissioners unanimously passed the following motion regarding the landscape buffer along Silver Lake Road:

DeGood moved and Schmuckal seconded THAT the planting of a “Type C” buffer at the Silver Lake Recreation Area along East Silver Lake Road in accordance with Section 531 of the Zoning Ordinance to replace the recently removed invasive vegetation BE RECOMMENDED to the Township Board.

However, since that time, the circumstances surrounding the buffer have clearly changed, in particular that a much larger area of planting is now required. Therefore, the Commission should discuss whether they still think that a “Type C” buffer is appropriate or whether other options should be pursued.

As for possible irrigation of the buffer yard, it appears that a good place to start in determining its feasibility would be contacting the contractor for the existing system to determine whether it has additional capacity or whether it might be added at a reasonable cost.

Action Requested:

In light of the above, the following suggested motion is provided for your consideration following discussion:

MOTION THAT _____
BE RECOMMENDED to the Township Board.

➤ *Disc Golf Course and Silt Fencing:*

A discussion regarding what should be done in terms of assessing the cleanup of the abandoned disc golf course is overdue. For example, there are some remaining silt fences that should be removed.

Action Requested:

In light of the above, the following suggested motion is provided for your consideration following discussion:

MOTION TO direct Staff to _____.

➤ *Placing Woodchips on Trails:*

When the invasive black locust trees were removed along Silver Lake Road, some of the debris was ground into woodchips. It has been suggested that these woodchips might be placed on trails within the park or put to some other use. Commissioners should discuss possible uses, if any, for the woodchips within the park.

Action Requested:

In light of the above, the following suggested motion is provided for your consideration following discussion:

MOTION THAT the woodchips from invasive tree removal along Silver Lake Road be _____.