

**Springfield Township  
Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, February 14, 2012**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The February 14, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:42 p.m. by Chairperson Vallad at the Springfield Township Civic Center, 12000 Davisburg Road, Davisburg, Michigan 48350.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present**

Lisa Christensen  
Dot LaLone  
Anne Loncar  
Jean Vallad  
Darryl Wendt

**Staff Present**

Jennifer Tucker

**Others Present**

Judy Hensler  
Joanne Ledbetter

**Commissioners Absent**

Diane Baker with notification  
Annette Zemon-Parker with notification

**IV. AGENDA REVISIONS AND APPROVAL**

Add "Rental House at 8625 Eaton Road Update" as item "B" under Old Business.

**Chairperson Vallad moved to accept the agenda as revised. Chairperson Vallad was supported by Commissioner LaLone. Vote on the motion: Yes: Christensen, LaLone, Loncar, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Baker and Zemon-Parker. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.**

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes –January 10, 2012 with Additional Disbursements of \$3,710.84 for the Parks & Recreation Fund
- B. Receipt of Activities Report for January
  - Receipt of Communications
  - 1.

**Chairperson Vallad moved to accept the consent agenda as presented. Chairperson Vallad was supported by Commissioner Christensen. Vote on the motion: Yes: Christensen, LaLone, Loncar, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Baker and Zemon-Parker. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.**

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Mobile Communications Update – Motion to Table**

**Commissioner Loncar moved to table the mobile communications update until the March meeting. Commissioner Loncar was supported by Commissioner LaLone. Vote on the motion: Yes: Christensen, LaLone, Loncar, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Baker and Zemon-Parker. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.**

### **B. Rental House at 8625 Eaton Road Update**

Director Tucker stated that the former tenant at 8625 Eaton Road had finally vacated the premises as of February 9, 2012.

Chairperson Vallad asked if the former tenant was being charged for the extra days that he had been in the house.

Director Tucker stated that he was being charged a per day rate for those extra days. Director Tucker said there were no damages to the house beyond normal wear and tear. Now that the house has been vacated staff will be cleaning the house in order for her to be listing the house rent and she is still investigating the option of an intern that could be placed into the house.

Commissioner Loncar stated an intern would be a good option considering some of the additional events the department may be doing in the future. But her question is where do they find the money to give them a stipend to live off of because while she understands that part of their salary would be getting to live in the rental house the individual would still need to get paid something so that they can eat. Maybe it is something that the Commission looks at first just having them for June, July and August while they are out of school and then if it is a success having them during their school breaks.

Commissioner LaLone wanted to know if the intern would be strictly for in the office or would they work both in the office and out in the parks.

Director Tucker stated it would depend on what the curriculum is because you would want to gear the internship toward that, but she is thinking of looking for someone pursuing a Parks and Recreation degree and they would have to be well rounded. They would need to be able and willing to work wherever they are needed like the current staff does. Director Tucker stated that the intern would be given some large projects that they would be able to use on their resumes.

Chairperson Vallad stated that she would like Director Tucker to bring some information to the March meeting on having an intern for the Department. She also wondered if Director Tucker was going to advertise that the house was for rent in the meantime.

Director Tucker stated that she could advertise for a renter. She stated that she had spoken with a colleague that is a professor at Central Michigan University, which has become one of the top schools for Parks and Recreation degrees, and he is very interested in the idea of the intern for the house and thinks that the house would be a big draw for students.

Commissioner Wendt stated that he feels that Director Tucker needs to get the process started for renting out the house and in the meantime as she looks for an intern if the house is not rented at that time then maybe the Commission looks at placing an intern into the house.

Chairperson Vallad stated that every month that the house sits empty the Department is losing the rental revenue, and she understands that if an intern is in the house they would not be receiving rent from them however they would be working for the Department in exchange.

Chairperson Vallad stated that this subject was not something she was willing to make a decision on tonight so if it was possible she would like to have Director Tucker gather information and place "Intern for Parks and Recreation" on the agenda as a New Business item at the March Park Commission meeting.

Chairperson Vallad stated that in summary she was glad that the renter had finally vacated the property and that all of his vehicles were removed from the property. At this point now staff had to only clean the house. Director Tucker will begin advertising for a renter for the property. In addition, she will bring information on an intern to the Park Commission for their March meeting, which will include the stipend or a salary if there is no rental house available for them to reside in place of a salary.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Hart Community Center Updates**

Director Tucker handed out to the Park Commission a summary on the costs associated with phase one of updating the Hart Community Center.

Director Tucker reviewed the summary which included the prices for lighted wall scones for the center, wood trim in the "Rotary" room, paint, tile for the restrooms, sinks, mirrors for restrooms, new lights in the restrooms, the covered porch area, recessed lighting in the foyer area. Director Tucker stated that all of these items except for the electrical would be done in house.

Director Tucker stated that normally a big project would be planned and budgeted for during the budget process however the Department was recently approached by Mrs. Ledbetter, who is an interior decorator, who offered her services free of charge to help update the facility.

Director Tucker also stated that the Department has not spent any money on the interior aesthetics of the building in several years and it is in need of some improvements.

Chairperson Vallad asked what renovations had been done to the restrooms.

Director Tucker stated that a year ago the new toilets were installed. The front two restrooms have had the floor tiled and the back bathroom is currently having the floor installed.

Mrs. Ledbetter, owner of JL Custom Color, introduced herself and explained that she is a resident of the Township who has a vested interest in the quality of the Parks & Recreation Department and the facilities for not only herself and her family but the entire community. Individuals like to be in pleasant and comfortable spaces. Mrs. Ledbetter stated that how your space is designed and accessorized, from the lighting, to the flooring, to the hard and soft surfaces have a huge impact on the emotional, intellectual, function, and attachment to those facilities. Mrs. Ledbetter stated that she is offering her professional design services to help better the Hart Community Center because the more that it is used the more revenue it will generate and the more attention that it gets the more participants will be in the programs. She stated that the Hart Community Center is a great asset as long as it is maintained and kept attractive in how it looks and how it functions. Mrs. Ledbetter stated that she would like to help the Department by making suggestions so that it can be used to the best that it can be. Mrs. Ledbetter stated that the plan that she and Director Tucker had compiled will help increase the potential rental revenue.

Mrs. Ledbetter went over the potential plan with all of her suggestions with the Park Commission.

The Park Commission looked at the January Budget Printouts to see what funds would be available for this potential project.

Commissioner LaLone asked if the Commission is still suppose to keep three months in reserve.

Director Tucker reminded the Commission that they made a budget amendment in January for \$4,800.00. In addition she discussed with the Park Commission a potential budget amendment for the ball fields and the Hart Center project.

The Commission had a lengthy discussion about the project and the costs associated with it.

Commissioner Wendt asked how long the Hart Community Center project would take.

Director Tucker estimated that it would probably be six weeks since a bulk of the work is being done in house by the staff and they have to work around when the building is being used.

After a lengthy discussion the Park Commission decided that they would like to call a special meeting to discuss the budget amendment and the Hart Community Center updates.

**Chairperson Vallad moved to table the Hart Community Center updates until the next special meeting. Chairperson Vallad was supported by Commissioner Loncar. Vote on the motion: Yes: Christensen, LaLone, Loncar, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Baker and Zemon-Parker. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.**

## **X. TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **A. Bills List**

**Commissioner Christensen moved to approve payment of the bills as follows: Parks and Recreation at \$ 15,307.42 and Trust and Agency at \$ 145.00. Commissioner Christensen was supported by Commissioner LaLone. Vote on the motion: Yes: Christensen, LaLone, Loncar, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Baker and Zemon-Parker. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.**

**B. Budget Amendment**

Chairperson Vallad moved to table the budget amendment to the special meeting the date as yet to be determined. Chairperson Vallad was supported by Commissioner Loncar. Vote on the motion: Yes: Christensen, LaLone, Loncar, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Baker and Zemon-Parker. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

**XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Policy & Procedure**

None

**B. SBP Athletic Field Construction**

None

**XII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**XIII. COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

Commissioner Loncar wanted to say job well done to everyone involved with the Spaghetti Dinner.

Commissioner Wendt stated that he had contacted both Director Tucker and Chairperson Vallad that he will be finishing out this year but he will not be running for another term.

**IVX. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Wendt moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation at 7:58pm. Commissioner Wendt was supported by Commissioner Loncar. Vote on the motion: Yes: Christensen, LaLone, Loncar, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Baker and Zemon-Parker. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

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Jennifer Tucker, Director of Parks & Recreation

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Jean Vallad, Chairperson of Park Commission