

**Springfield Township
Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 9, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The June 9, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Parke at the Springfield Township Civic Center, 12000 Davisburg Road, Davisburg, Michigan 48350.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present

Diane Baker
Dot LaLone
Rich Parke
Jean Vallad
Darryl Wendt

Staff Present

Casey Reed
Sarah Richmond
Jennifer Tucker

Others Present

Verlin Cook
Laura Moreau, Township Clerk
Nancy Strole
Judy Windrim, Davisburg Rotary Club
Mike Wise, Davisburg Rotary Club

Commissioner Absent

Annette Zemon-Parker with notification
Lisa Sargent with notification

IV. AGENDA REVISIONS AND APPROVAL

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

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes-May 10, 2009 with Additional Disbursements of \$2,255.92 for Parks & Recreation Fund and \$ 150.00 for Trust and Agency Fund
- B. Receipt of Parks & Recreation Activities Report for May
- C. Receipt of Financial Summaries
- D. Receipt of Corrected Budget Amendment dated May 12, 2009
- E. Receipt of Memo to Township Board re: Budget Amendment
- F. Receipt of Approved Township Board Meeting Minutes for April 16, 2009
- G. Receipt of Tentative June Calendar of Events

H. Receipt of Young At Heart Active Adults June & July Newsletter

Receipt of Communication

1.

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

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Parks and Recreation Budget Presentation

Director Tucker previewed the Parks and Recreation Budget Power Point Presentation to the Park Commission. This Presentation will be presented at the Township Board meeting on June 11, 2009. In the Presentation Director Tucker highlighted information on the programs, events, and community enrichment classes. Also in the Presentation was information on all of the parks and the costs associated with the parks. This Presentation illustrated how the department is doing more with less and how it is dedicated to strengthen community outreach efforts; stewardship of the parks and natural resources; fulfilling the community's needs on a constrained budget; and taking on additional duties despite increased time demands on our staff and a continually tightening budget.

The Commission gave Director Tucker several suggestions for the Presentation.

Nancy Strole stated she had found the Presentation very interesting and helpful in understanding what the department offers. Mrs. Strole stated that she felt that the Presentation needed to emphasize the big picture, how our land and parks are tremendous assets. She stated that it is in both the short-term and long-term interest to maintain the lands. Mrs. Strole stated that when realtors are trying to sell homes they highlight the open space and parks that are in the township. Both the programs and the land are a great resource.

Chairperson Parke stated that often it is thought that spending for parks is optional but unfortunately it is not optional since there are fixed costs associated with maintaining the property.

Mrs. Strole stated that North Shiawassee Basin Preserve is a gem which is globally significant. It is like "going up north" without having to go up north.

B. Davisburg Rotary Club Project Request

Mike Wise, the current Davisburg Rotary Club President, came to discuss the request of the club to install a canopy over the Neighbor for Neighbor door on the back half of the Hart Community Center. The installation of the canopy would be performed as an in-kind service in lieu of their yearly rent of the community center.

Commissioner LaLone inquired if the structure would be attached to the building.

Mr. Wise stated that the structure would be attached with some brackets to an attached beam to the building, which if the structure is ever removed would make it very easy to do so and make any repairs to the building very minimal.

Several of the Commissioners expressed concerns about the slope leading up to the door, which contributes to the problem of standing water on the sidewalk and water seepage under the door.

Chairperson Parke stated that he liked the look of the plans and that the price that was quoted by the group was reasonable.

Mr. Wise stated that he had consulted a local contractor, Mark Yovich, who quoted over \$2,200.00.

Commissioner Wendt asked if this is what the Commission was trying to accomplish, cosmetic improvements to the building in lieu of payment for renting the Hart Community Center.

Chairperson Parke stated that obviously there is a conflict between loss of cash dollar revenues and an improvement to the building. As he understands it this area has had problems in the past with ice falling from the roof down to the entry of the doorway.

Director Tucker stated that she originally thought that the canopy would be somewhat smaller than what the plans are calling for.

Mr. Wise stated that they were very careful with the materials that they chose to construct the structure. Also, Mr. Wise stated that in the past the group has always done in-kind service in lieu of paying rent.

Commissioner Baker asked how close to the parking lot will the structure be. Also what kind of maintenance will be required to maintain the structure.

Mr. Wise stated that it would be close to the parking lot. Also there would be no major maintenance required, just paint and the shingles.

Commissioner Vallad inquired if the Rotary group were to pay rent, what would their yearly rental fees be.

Director Tucker stated that they would be \$ 1,510.00.

Commissioner Vallad then clarified that Davisburg Rotary Club's proposal is to have the remaining amount be carried over into the 2010 budget year.

Chairperson Parke suggested that a subcommittee be formed to address some of these concerns.

Commissioners Baker, LaLone and Wendt offered to sit on the subcommittee.

Commissioner Vallad moved to give the subcommittee, composed of Commissioners Baker, LaLone and Wendt, the authority to make a decision on modifications, if any, on Davisburg Rotary Club presentation for in-kind services regarding the canopy and

sidewalk installation at the Neighbor for Neighbor door. The meeting will be on Wednesday, June 24, 2009 at 6:00 pm at the Hart Community Center. Commissioner Vallad was supported Commissioner Wendt. Vote on the motion: Yes: Baker, LaLone, Parke, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Zemon-Parker and Sargent. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Rough Draft of 2010 Park and Recreation Fund Budget

The Park Commission examined the second draft of the 2010 Park and Recreation Fund Budget.

The Park Commission discussed the fact that the prior year fund will be very close to zero.

Chairperson Parke stated that he would like to see a request of \$ 385,000.00 from the general fund.

Commissioners LaLone, Baker and Wendt agreed with Chairperson Parke.

Commissioner Vallad would prefer that the number be at \$ 350,000.00 but will agree to the \$385,000.00 for now.

Chairperson Parke discussed several reductions that he would propose to the budget.

Commissioner Vallad stated that she agreed with some of Chairperson Parke's suggestions but had some alternative suggestions.

Chairperson Parke made the recommendation that staff make adjustments to the budget using the \$ 385,000.00 number as the request from the general fund. After the adjustments are made the revised budget could then be e-mailed to the Commission members for review so that everyone could present any changes they had at the July meeting.

IX. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Bills List

Commissioner LaLone moved to approve payment of the bills as follows: Parks and Recreation at \$ 31,394.40 and \$ 550.00 for Trust and Agency. Commissioner LaLone was supported by Commissioner Vallad. Vote on the motion: Yes: Baker, LaLone, Parke, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Zemon-Parker and Sargent. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Policies and Procedure Committee

None

B. Shiawassee Basin Preserve Rental Properties Committee

Director Tucker stated that she had met with the Rose Township Supervisor and they are making some modifications to the final resolution. As part of the resolution the residents of Rose Township would be allowed ten years to receive the resident rate that Springfield Township residents pay.

C. Non-Profit Community Group Committee

None

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

XII. COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Vallad stated that she was happy that the playscape work is getting done and she appreciates all the work that has gone into it.

Commissioner Wendt stated that he would like to see the list that was created and given to the Rotary Club.

Director Tucker suggested that for next year that a list is compiled and then attached to the rental agreement the community groups receive. The Park Commission will receive the list in their packet material

Commissioner LaLone asked if the excellence grant [Grant for Regional Excellence] becomes available again would the Commission like Director Tucker to pursue it.

The Commissioners agreed that Director Tucker should pursue it again.

Commissioner Baker thanked Chairperson Parke and everyone else for their work on the budget.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner LaLone moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation at 9:38 pm. Commissioner LaLone was supported by Commissioner Baker. Vote on the motion: Yes: Baker, LaLone, Parke, Vallad and Wendt; No: None; Absent: Zemon-Parker and Sargent. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Jennifer Tucker, Director of Parks & Recreation

Rich Parke, Chairperson of Park Commission