

**FINAL
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Monday, September 28, 2020

2009 Township Drive
Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

Due to Governor Whitmer's Executive Orders, this meeting was held electronically.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Kast called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

ROLL CALL: Present: Rachel Kast, Chairperson
Tim Wichert, Vice Chairperson
Bob Berkheiser
Linda Champagne
William Petsch
Barbara Garbutt (connection issues until 6:07pm)

Absent: Sarah Henderson, Secretary (excused)

Also Present: Emily England, Director of Senior Services/Parks and Recreation
Mark Schoder, Maintenance Director
Ken Milburn, Meeting Moderator, Merge Live
Allison Kennedy, Assistant to the Parks and Recreation Director

COMMUNICATIONS:
None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Wichert, supported by Petsch, to approve the July 27, 2020, Parks and Recreation Committee Regular Meeting Minutes as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Wichert, Petsch, Kast, Berkheiser, Champagne
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Henderson
ABSTAIN: Garbutt (connection issues)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION by Wichert, supported by Petsch, to approve the August 17, 2020, Parks and Recreation Committee Special Meeting Minutes as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Wichert, Petsch, Kast, Berkheiser
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Henderson
ABSTAIN: Champagne, Garbutt (connection issues)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairperson Kast opened to public comments.

Mr. Milburn – To any callers online, if you would like to speak, please press *9 on your keypad and we will ask you to unmute your line.

Ms. Garbutt – Emily, I just wanted you to know I've been here since they were calling roll but I was having trouble getting it unmuted. (6:07pm)

Mr. Milburn – I'm seeing no hands raised at this time, Madam Chair.

ITEM 1: LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORT

Chairperson Kast – Emily, are we just going off of what was submitted in writing?

Ms. England – Yes, and I have an update from Windmill Farms that I will read to you. I didn't get anything from Todd Lamb. He's on the call so if he has an update, he's more than welcome to give that.

Windmill Farms – Carrie Hancock

Ms. England shared the following report submitted by Ms. Hancock:

- We had three successful equestrian team meets at the Milford field. The show was split between Saturday and Sunday each weekend to accommodate COVID guidelines regarding limiting the number of people at outdoor gatherings.
- Now that the 5-year contract is in place, we can move forward with confidence and are looking at how to best serve the residents of the Township.
- The parking lot has been paved with crushed asphalt and the outdoor lighting has been repaired.
- We're still waiting for the foundation work to be done at the barn, where the tree was at.
- A plan is being put together to address both immediate and future repair and maintenance needs for the property.

Interlakes Girls Softball – Tim Bailey

Mr. Bailey shared the following with the Committee:

- We had our late summer league go out. That was unplanned and we got it moved forward because of COVID. We had about 200 kids play in that league. We got an overwhelming response of positivity. Parents were so happy to have something for their kids to do and we got nothing but gratitude from that. They just finished up last week.
- We have a small tournament that went on last weekend, and it will be completed this next weekend.
- After that, we're pretty much done for the season.
- We've already had a meeting, planning for next year. Hopefully things go like normal.

Mr. Berkheiser – Was that tournament this past weekend, yesterday?

Mr. Bailey – Yes.

Mr. Berkheiser – Yes, I was out there yesterday. There was a bunch of cars out there and it looked like they were having a good time.

Mr. Bailey – Yes, it's a 2-weekend tournament, just because we have a number of travel teams, and then with daylight hours. It's actually become pretty popular.

CW3 Soccer – Todd Lamb

Mr. Lamb shared the following with the Committee:

- We launched last weekend. We did get some soccer together, and much like Tim, echoing some of the same positive reviews from parents.
- Numbers were down substantially which is to be expected, everything considered, but everything went off without any issues.
- Godspeed to everybody staying healthy. We'll get the kids back up and going again in the spring.

Ms. England – Perfect. So, everything else from the other leagues was sent out. If you have any specifics for Lakes, I know that Josh is on to answer if you have questions for him. I'm pretty sure that Carrie was going to try to call in, and Byers is also on the call.

Mr. Berkheiser – Emily, a question on the Mountain Bike Association. I don't know if someone is on for them.

Ms. England – No, they're not.

Mr. Berkheiser – Okay, their comment about what they were looking for from the Township. Is it the expansion of that trail that was running through the wetland area?

Ms. England – Yes.

Mr. Berkheiser – My understanding is that was a firm requirement.

Ms. England – They're wanting to move forward. Michael was there when that was all going, but he wasn't as active as he is now. I think we all need to regroup and let the conversation happen with him and Jay so that he completely understands the requirements and he knows what he has to take back so they can move forward. They're very interested still in doing that project and doing it the right way, he just needs to be brought up to speed.

Mr. Berkheiser – I'm trying to go from memory. The big issue was crossing over the water. They needed a certain size bridge. That was the issue?

Ms. England – Correct.

ITEM 2: PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

Ms. England discussed the following:

- First I want to introduce you to Allison Kennedy who is on this meeting tonight. You will see her face more as we move forward. She will be more active in the Parks world. If you need anything, you can reach out to her. She has been with us almost two years now.
- As the Executive Order changed last week, to go into effect on October 9th, that is going to allow us to potentially open the Senior Center up more. We're looking at establishing those guidelines and working with the attorneys to at least start seeing some seniors back in the building. That's exciting.
- I don't think it's going to make a difference as far as rentals go because we want to make sure that the number that's allowed for a gathering meets the room requirements, and we hold a liquor license. We don't need to get in trouble with the MLCC. We're still looking at that.

- Other than that, everything else I have is on the agenda.

Mr. Berkheiser and Ms. England discussed upcoming changes to the Executive Orders regarding indoor gatherings as it relates to the Richardson Center. Ms. England will be looking further into this with the MLLC at the request of the Township Attorneys.

Mr. Petsch – In the past, did we have many small showers or things of that nature?

Ms. England – Yes, but since the caterer has come on, we started seeing less of those because the renter now has to use that specific caterer for their food needs. The cost to have a small shower is now more than what they wanted to pay.

Mr. Petsch – Okay, thanks.

ITEM 3: TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT

Mr. Berkheiser provided the following:

- We have been spending a lot of time, nearly every Tuesday, working on the budget.
- We have broken the budget up into sections. On a Tuesday night, we'll go over Police and Fire, and another night a few more areas.
- Hopefully the last budget meeting is tomorrow night. It's probably going to be the longest one; it has General Fund and Parks and Recreation. There's a lot to haggle out and come up with a plan.
- So hopefully, the budget will be done shortly and it will come in for a vote. My hope is that we can then, at beginning of year, put in place the things that we want to get done as opposed to waiting. I feel like we lost this year on a lot of things we wanted to do, understandably. I think that's what Allison is looking to do, to make sure we line things up.
- As you're probably aware, we approved the SADs for Police and Fire.
- You heard that we approved the Horse Farm contract. We do have a 5-year contract with Carrie at Windmill Farms. That does provide stability. I think that was a drawn out process, but a good process.
- We've approved the general contractor's contract for the Fire Department. That's Fire Department #3 on Welch Road. You should see that torn down and moving along over there later this year and early in the spring.
- That has been an interesting process. Where I think it plays into some of the stuff with Parks is that this was the first time, since we've done the Library and the Richardson Center, that we paid for a group to be an owner's representative. They have engineers and designers. So instead of taking 7 people that have limited engineering skills, if any, on the Board to make decisions, they were making the decisions. We had a good experience and it worked out well.
- We've been trying to use them for projects at Byers and the Farmhouse. That won't be connected to the Fire Station contract, but I think it will help us move along for what we're looking to do with that.

Mr. Petsch – What are they going to do for fire service in that area, since that will take at least a year to build?

Mr. Berkheiser – They have moved out and they're in the Walled Lake Fire Department. We have an agreement with Walled Lake. They're going to do fire training in the old department, cutting through the roof, and then it will be torn down.

ITEM 4: PARK LIAISON UPDATES**Berkheiser - Wise Woods & Victory Park**

- There's nothing new to update on Victory Park or Wise Woods.
- I was in Maple Glen on Sunday and it looked good.

Wichert - Maple Glen

- A couple of trees were not doing so good, but so far I thought the park looked good too.

Discussions took place regarding water bags on trees at the park and potential tree loss, which according to the arborist can be up to a loss of two-thirds when planting a large amount of trees.

Champagne - Hickory Glen Park

- I heard a lot of cheering over there this weekend.
- Josh has got things going full speed.

Petsch - Bicentennial Park

- I've been working with Rousseaux to get prices to improve the diamond at Bicentennial.
- I've been in contact with Bruce Kilmer trying to figure out the square footage that we need for the baseball field, the dust that goes on the ground.
- Are we looking at those prices for the skate park for the tennis court area?

Ms. England – Yes.

Mr. Petsch – It seemed to be very expensive.

Ms. England – Some of them were, but the options I sent out today weren't as bad.

Mr. Petsch – We could probably get the baseball diamond done for a reasonable amount of money when I get the final numbers in from these guys. It looks like we can do quite a bit of the work ourselves. I think they went out there and killed it off for us.

Ms. England – Not yet. We're still working on that.

Mr. Petsch – The guy that has the license to go out there?

Ms. England – Yes.

Mr. Petsch – That's our first step. Mark already went out and marked off the area. I gave him the dimensions of the little league diamond. Once we kill off all that grass, we can put a shovel in the ground, see how much base is there and I think we can get that into a decently shaped field for under \$10,000, which is pretty cheap to make a baseball diamond. The rest of the stuff we're going to do through the budget and get some more picnic tables and grills out there, but it's a well-used park.

Garbutt - Long Park & Snowy Ridge Park

- Long Park was closed awhile as they worked on the phragmites. It is open now.
- Mark, if you'd like me to meet you over there to show you what needs to be trimmed down, I would be happy to do that.

- I also think that all of you should know that Wynn Berry, who the lake is named for, did call me to tell me how pleased he is with how nice the park looks. You should know that particularly, Mark, because you're the one who works there.

Henderson - Byers and Mill Race

- No report in Ms. Henderson's absence.

Kast - Dodge Park

- The new soccer field; one of my kids had a game on it yesterday and it was beautiful. It was a perfect day to watch soccer.
- There are tons of kids at Scarlet's park all the time.
- Construction is coming along well.
- I did notice that there is some caution tape around one of the zip lines, which is a bummer because my kids love that one.

Ms. England – It should be fixed next week.

Chairperson Kast – Oh, perfect. Other than that, it looks great.

Ms. Champagne – Emily, do you ever hear from the Clark's?

Ms. England – They are very happy. She is still working to make the park beautiful. She has reached out to a few landscapers and it sounds like she is very close to securing all of the landscaping and irrigation to be donated.

Mr. Berkheiser – I was out there Saturday for a soccer game, not on the new field. I was impressed as to how nice the fields are over there. Todd, you're doing a good job keeping them in shape.

I know there's a bunch of trash cans out there and it didn't look as bad as I've seen it in the past with trash. I'm not sure if there's signs, or what we need to do. I just don't understand how people can have their picnics or birthday parties, or whatever they're doing and then just leave trash blowing all over the place. I'm not sure what other options we have except having somebody work it.

Emily is there an update on the bathroom? How long before they get the building up?

Ms. England – Once the building is up, everything within the building can be done during the winter. It's still on schedule for that to be completed by the end of this year.

Mr. Berkheiser – Don't we have to dig new lines through there? When is all that supposed to be done?

Ms. England – I have to check. We have to wait for the sewer line that they're running through the park on that Newton Road sewer connection. Once that's done, then they will make that connection. I'll have to verify with Jason when that's on the schedule.

Mr. Berkheiser – Are we putting irrigation in there, because the butterfly garden was supposed to be irrigated?

Ms. England – Yes.

Mr. Berkheiser – Okay, good. Thank you.

ITEM 5: VILLAGE OF WOLVERINE UPDATE

Ms. Champagne discussed the following with the Committee:

- The Village is still entertaining applications for a new administrator.
- The last one took a job as administrator of Clawson. We seem to be a training ground.

Mr. Berkheiser – Is that a financial reason?

Ms. Champagne – They get paid pretty well, but when you get offered a job by a town the size of Clawson, the pay increases substantially. The other one is now administrator for Livingston County. It's like our police force, it's the same thing. It's a small little community, and we're a steppingstone.

Also, they approved the expansion of the new building in Clara Miller Park that's going to have storage. I think it will also have cafeteria-like facilities to serve food at our events. There will be new restrooms and a bigger building.

ITEM 6: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Schoder discussed the following with the Committee:

- Tickets were handed out at Mill Race Park for graffiti. They got two adults and two minors.
- They put their snapchat tag right on there and took pictures. We sent that to Wendy and she took care of it.

Mr. Berkheiser – Do you know if they have to provide community service scrubbing that graffiti off?

Mr. Schoder – We don't know. They have a court date but we don't know what the judge will have them do. I sure would love to sit in on that.

At Bicentennial, we have a light out that was cut when they cut trees down years back. I was wondering if we can get that fixed. It's up by the tennis courts. If we flip the circuit breaker, it just shorts out because it's a cut wire.

Ms. England – Have you called Miss Dig? Can they try to identify where the line is cut?

Mr. Schoder – They won't search for a wire for us. I asked Jay a number of times.

Mr. Petsch – I have the equipment. That's what my company does, we service that type of equipment. I've got those in the office that are loaners. I can show you how to use it, Mark. It's not hard as long as you disconnect it. Hook it to a ground, hook to the lead, trace it out.

Mr. Schoder – Great, that'll work. Appreciate it.

Mr. Petsch – You bet.

Mr. Schoder – Scarlet's Playground; I hate to beat a dead horse, but it's pretty bad there. We came in Monday and it was just terrible. Bob, you're right, they don't know how to use the garbage cans. A lot of people just throw garbage anywhere they want. It would be great if we could get somebody to volunteer, or I could have one of the guys come in Saturday, and tell him to go home a couple hours early one day during the week if that's okay.

The platform at Long Park, I want to start doing that this week. I'm going to use the composite boards for the wheelchair accessible. Barb, we can meet and I can show you what I want to do over there, and you can let me know what you think.

ITEM 7: BYERS BOO BASH

Ms. England – I know that Karen and Dean are on and I'm going to let them talk about this. This is an event that we did approve when they came in with the proposed events last year. Obviously, COVID has changed a lot of things for us. I think that the group has done their part in making this able to work under the restrictions.

What they have proposed was included in your packet. I think the only thing that's changed is they're going to send 75 people through as opposed to 100. That way, it doesn't go over the 100 with the volunteers and the participants.

I did send their plan over to the Township Attorney and he was comfortable with their plan, that this was acceptable to meet all of the current Executive Orders.

Mr. Berkheiser – The new Executive Orders allow a lot more people.

Mr. Petsch – There are a lot more people allowed outdoors now.

Mr. Berkheiser – That's what I'm saying and this is an outside program. I hate to have people have to schedule a certain time to go do something. I think we can keep them separated. My question to Emily would be, with this new Executive Order that goes into effect before Boo Bash ...

Ms. England – October 9th.

Mr. Berkheiser – I think it was up to 500 people now.

Ms. England – I didn't pay attention to the outdoor number. I was more concerned about the indoor number. If it has been raised, I honestly don't see an issue with what they're proposing.

Mr. Berkheiser – It says, *non-residential outdoor gatherings and events now must limit attendance to ...* and they have a 30 people per 1,000 square feet, or 30% of fixed seating, which that doesn't apply, with a maximum of 1,000 people. I don't know how that really applies when you're doing a walk-through. As long as you're keeping people socially distanced, this makes it sound like we can do it.

There's another area of the Executive Order that states a maximum of 500 people allowed in the State's largest venue. That sounds like if you're having an activity, we should be allowed up to 500 people. I would ask Hans as that may change things.

Ms. England – If they want to move it to 100, I honestly don't see what the issue would be, but I will verify that everything follows what it needs to follow on our end.

Mr. Milburn – Dean and Karen have their hand raised.

Mr. Dean Schantz – As we coordinate, we are trying to keep it within the State mandate of 100 people. We have this organized in half-hour increments of 75 people. We're going to have a monitor who will be monitoring people going in and out, including the volunteers. We are going to keep it under the 100-person State mandate.

We will have a sanitation station as they enter and as they leave. We're going to have five Halloween themed stations. They will pick up their candy, but they'll be in bags, pre-bagged months ago, so there will be very little human contact as the kids pick the candy out themselves.

We've got 100 people interested already. They feel really comfortable in this venue. It's a lot safer for them as opposed to going into a neighborhood with many houses handling candy. We are requiring masks and we're going to keep everything in accordance with what the State mandates.

Ms. England – Byers is looking for formal approval just due to the circumstances of COVID, that you approved the plan that was presented to you, and that you do know that it was approved by the Township Attorney. I will work with Dean and the Township Attorney to make sure that if they were to increase it, that it will fall within the guidelines.

MOTION by Petsch, supported by Wichert, to support the Byers Boo Bash event in October, making sure that Dean Schantz works with the Township Attorney to meet the guidelines for the maximum number of people.

Discussion –

Mr. Berkheiser – Dean, a reminder; we don't charge for entry into any of our parks. That's for everything, whether it's baseball, football, whatever. If there's a donation out there, that's great. I say that as a general reminder.

Mr. Schantz – I think we changed all that wording as we advertised on social media. It will be regarded as a \$2 donation as they come in the door.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Petsch, Wichert, Berkheiser, Garbutt, Kast, Champagne

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Henderson

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 8: BICENTENNIAL PARK - BASEBALL DIAMOND

Ms. England – Bill touched base on this. I know he met with Mark Rousseaux over there. We actually went to Hickory Glen and looked at one of their fields also, so that Mark knew exactly what we were looking for. We understand that this is just a neighborhood park, so we don't need a top-of-the-line field there. Just something where people can go and have a pickup game, have a picnic and have family events.

We want to kill off the top surfacing, but the base is good so we don't want to damage the base. As Bill said, Mark has gone over and painted the grass so that we know the area that needs to be sprayed. I'm working with [Dar Howard] who actually helps with the maintenance of the CW3 soccer fields at Dodge Park. He was going to come over to take a look at it and give us a price on getting the vegetation off, and then he would edge it so that when they bring in the material, it goes exactly where it should. And Bill, you can chime in. You've been working closely with Mark on getting the proper materials brought in and those prices will be coming through.

Mr. Petsch – Mark said to keep costs down, it wouldn't be a problem since we have a front end loader, to get the tonnage that we need delivered behind what would be the 3rd base side of the diamond. We'll be able to use a loader to spread it out, back blade it and drive on it.

Ms. England – It sounds like a very doable project that can be done this year, with the help of the Township, Bill, myself, Mark; I think we can bring this back next month and have this completed.

Chairperson Kast – This was all in the budget so we don't need to vote, right?

Ms. England – Right, it was all budgeted for.

ITEM 9: BICENTENNIAL PARK - TENNIS COURT

Ms. England – We had discussion at the budget meeting about the fact that we were looking at doing a concept plan for Richardson. We have had the great debate for many years about what to do with the tennis courts. We've had companies come out and tell us that they can seal it and make repairs, but they can't guarantee it because the cracks are so deep that they will just come back as soon as cold weather hits.

We can pulverize and rebuild. If we do that, the question is, is Bicentennial the correct place to put the tennis courts? One of the #1 things we hear requested are pickle ball courts, which fit on a tennis court, and maybe that belongs at the Richardson Center instead since that is a senior activity.

Then we talked about looking at options of what we could do for that area in Bicentennial to give the park a facelift and give it back to the neighborhood to be a neighborhood park. So, we looked at the skate park idea.

I contacted the company that I talked to previously. The three items in your agenda packet were just ideas. He wanted you to see what you get for your money, but we can take our budget to them and they will design what we need. The ones in the packet would require resurfacing. We could not just build on top of the tennis courts that are currently there because obviously the cracks aren't good for skateboards.

The two options I sent out today, he felt they may be a better fit for us because we could fill the cracks and put these down on the current surface. Budget wise, you'd get more for your money out of the project, and he said there's like no maintenance. Obviously, if you have vandalism, you're going to have to maintain that, but as far as the structure goes itself, there's little to no maintenance. Maybe having to paint it within 5 years.

The half-pipe design was approximately \$35,000, which is what you're looking at. The pump track design was also \$35,000. The second one is skateboard and bike friendly. I feel that option will meet more recreational needs. It's something to look at to start the discussion with.

Mr. Berkheiser – Emily, were all these designs geared to fit on the current tennis court?

Ms. England – Yes, I gave them the size. They haven't been out to look at the court, but I gave them the size and these were ideas of what we could put there.

Mr. Berkheiser – I had several questions. One, have we brought this idea to the attorney, from a liability point-of-view?

Ms. England – Not yet.

Mr. Berkheiser – It just seems to me, the bicycle thing, while I realize you'll get more people, I feel like they'll get some speed going on that and we might have some pretty good crashes.

Mr. Petsch – Bob, it's at your own risk, again, like all this stuff.

Ms. England – Like the sledding hill.

Mr. Berkheiser – Well, at your own risk, except we as a Township built it. You do assume some liability to that.

The other question I had is can we do this in sections if we wanted to? If you scroll down further, I mean I liked the skate park one, but the next one down that looked like it was \$100,000. Something that had a design like that, but is that something where you can put three of them up, and then a year later, add to it?

Ms. England – Yes.

Mr. Petsch – The top is the half-pipe and that was \$50,000, right?

Ms. England - \$35,000.

Mr. Petsch – The other little things there, you can buy them whenever.

Mr. Berkheiser – You design it with the idea. If we have to re-finish the whole thing, maybe that's \$25,000. I personally think we would need to pour new concrete in there.

Ms. England – You would have to.

Mr. Berkheiser – I think what's there now is in really bad shape personally. Are you putting this on top of the concrete, or is this a base that goes on top of it?

Ms. England – They like the material that a tennis court is made out of. It's not necessary, but that's what they recommend. You're going to want to put down something along those lines. There are no specifications as to what the ground actually needs to be, it's just in consideration of when people fall. These are all things that we need to continue the conversation about with him if this is something you're interested in. I didn't want to get too far into this and then have it not be an idea that we were interested in pursuing.

Mr. Berkheiser – I'll tell you; I asked the Boy Scout troop. These are kids that are roughly 10-16 years of age; *Would you like tennis and pickleball courts, or a skate park?* I don't need to say that none of them chose pickleball or tennis courts.

Ms. Champagne – Didn't Wixom put up a skateboard park at Gunnar Mettala?

Ms. England – Allison Kennedy can comment on that, or maybe she told me about Milford.

Ms. Kennedy – Milford; I know they finally got approval for it and they're supposed to start it, but they haven't put it in yet.

Ms. Champagne – I thought Wixom was doing something too at Gunnar.

Ms. England – I can double check with them over at Wixom.

Mr. Petsch – We can wait and see what goes on with those and how popular they are.

Ms. Champagne – I know Village of Wolverine Lake has an unsanctioned one that we just kind of let happen. It was made on a hill and the kids have built it up. They use it for dirt biking and jumping. We haven't had any purported accidents.

Vice Chairperson Wichert – How much money do we have budgeted for Bicentennial?

Ms. England – It was \$100,000.

Vice Chairperson Wichert – We could put in one of the first two things I guess.

Ms. Kast – And how much is the resurfacing?

Ms. England – I'll have to get a price on that. I need to have a more in-depth conversation and have them actually come out to see their concerns about what's currently there.

Mr. Petsch – Let's just follow-up on it and see what happens.

ITEM 10: BLEACHER PADS

Ms. England – There was no attachment for this. It's a conversation, and we've had the conversation in the past with Lakes Athletics. I know Josh is on. They worked to get grants and donations to buy new bleachers, and they've always discussed especially as far as maintenance goes, about pouring a concrete pad to put the bleachers on. That way we don't have weeds and stuff growing up underneath them.

It seems like now would probably be the time to do that if they are getting in their bleachers. It's my understanding that they've started receiving them or will be soon. We would make these bleacher pads ADA accessible so that somebody in a wheelchair who cannot use the bleachers could roll up and sit and watch a family member play ball. We need to see if it's something the Township is interested in. Mark has some ideas and some questions of what it is you would like to see so that we can gather pricing and bring it back to you.

Mr. Berkheiser – Are the bleachers a standard size? The area that they're taking out, is 20' wide by 40' long, so therefore the pads would be a standard size, or are they all different?

Mr. Springer – All the bleacher sets we got are all identical size. They're 15' to 17' long and about 6-8' wide. They're 4-row, low-step rows, so the height is about 3.5'. Even the old sets we have are the exact same size.

Mr. Berkheiser – What makes it ADA accessible?

Ms. England – Not the bleachers, but the pad itself would be considered to be ADA accessible because we would give them a spot to sit and watch the ballgame as well.

Mr. Berkheiser – We're talking pouring a pad that's roughly 10x60, and these bleachers would not just sit on them. I assume they would have to be bolted down, so they'll have to be coordinated.

Ms. England – Yes, correct.

Mr. Springer – With our donation we also got bleacher anchors which screw into the ground. They're almost an inch in diameter; a solid steel like auger. You have to drill it in, I'm guessing with a skid steer. We also got metal strips that can be used to attach to

a cement pad as well. We have some flexibility with how we want to make those more permanent. We will have to coordinate bolts in concrete.

Mr. Berkheiser – Emily, we need to get a rough idea.

Ms. England – Mark, can you go over your ideas with the Committee so that we can make sure we're on the right road of what it is they want to see there? You had talked about digging down so it was level with the ground, as opposed to having it raised, and then a ramp.

Mr. Schoder – Right, whatever you want. I'm going to have a concrete guy come out to give us an estimate of what it will cost to do each one. We're going to have to have it level if it's ADA accessible. We can't have anything with an incline.

Ms. England – It's probably more cost effective too than having to build a ramp.

Mr. Schoder – Exactly. Then we could use millings, but that might be too rough for ADA to get on. We could use composite boards. There's a few things. I'll get prices for those.

Ms. England – Josh, if you have time this week, you could meet me and Mark at the park so we're making sure we're getting the correct amount of slabs and where you want them.

Mr. Berkheiser – How many are we talking about?

Mr. Springer – We have 8 bleachers that were donated that we just put together. We had 4, so a total of 12 now at the park.

Mr. Berkheiser – They're all roughly 8x50?

Mr. Springer – They're not 50' long – they're 15' long. I'm not an ADA expert, but I would think a 20x8 or 20x10 pad would probably be plenty big.

Mr. Berkheiser – Yes, if they're 15', even if you did 25' that would be plenty of room. So you're talking about 10x25, okay.

Mr. Springer – Yes. I don't know how much you need to put in the front.

Ms. England – If you are in support of this, then we will continue to do our research and bring this back to you.

Vice Chairperson Wichert – Sounds good.

ITEM 11: 2021 CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Ms. England – I put it on here because we need to have the discussion. My goal is to move on as if next year is going to be a normal year, schedule our dates, start looking for food trucks and do everything the way we would.

Mr. Petsch – Do what we used to always do, run the same course. I would hope that everything is back in order by then.

Mr. Berkheiser – Are you still looking to work with the same company?

Ms. England – Yes.

ITEM 12: UPDATE ON HICKORY GLEN & RICHARDSON CENTER CONCEPT PLANS

Ms. England – We have walked the sites. Living Lab did come back and we had a quick Zoom meeting with Bob and George Weber, Trustee. We reviewed the preliminary concept plan. They didn't want to get too in-depth with it if there were some things we didn't like, and that actually was the case for the Richardson Center. They had several options that removed the playground and we didn't want to see that happen. That's highly used.

They're going back and revisiting some things, trying to get some answers on a few questions. They're going to wrap up their original concept design and that will be coming to the Committee, we're hoping by next month.

The Hickory Glen concept; we're not taking away the mature trees, the look, the neighborhood park, that feel, but we're primarily focusing on making parking pods. Right now when you pull in there, you just park wherever you want. There's nothing that tells you where a parking spot is. We're trying to give that guide without pouring a large area of concrete and taking away from the park. We understand that they have tournaments and they find a place to park. We want a designated overflow parking area that the league would monitor and manage. As Bob says, you don't build the church for Christmas service, so we're not going to build the park for a couple tournaments a year. We need overflow parking, but we need to make sure it remains park land.

We also looked at putting in an emergency exit. It looks like it's going to be more of a permanent entrance and exit, which I think is needed. It's not in the original spot we were thinking of, but to do it more cost effectively, we are going to be putting in an area so that people have two options of getting out of the park.

Mr. Petsch – Good, I'm happy with that.

Vice Chairperson Wichert – Emily, are we going to do anything with disc golf?

Ms. England – That was not discussed. That's in the original concept for Hickory Glen. If that's something we want to pursue, I think we can do that in-house, but I don't want to include that in this concept plan. This was geared at looking at that emergency entrance/exit. So we'll just follow the original concept for that.

Vice Chairperson Wichert – Okay.

Discussions continued regarding disc golf, involvement by Eagle Scouts, partnering with Wolverine Lake, the potential for disc golf at Wise Woods, lack of access at Wise, the low cost of setting up disc golf, course design, ease of relocation and expansion.

ITEM 13: AGENDA REQUESTS

Ms. England – I'll bring back everything that needs to come back. I'll probably put the meeting schedule on.

Mr. Petsch – I think we'll have a live meeting next time, right Emily?

Ms. England – It depends on what the rest of the Boards do. They want to keep consistency among all Township meetings to avoid confusion.

ITEM 14: OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Berkheiser – I think we'll have a new Board, the Supervisor at least, and I think we ought to think about getting in early for our quarterly. I was going to ask whether you guys want to present to the Board at the January discussion session.

Ms. England – I agree with that.

The next Parks and Recreation Meeting will be Monday, October 26, 2020, at 6:00PM.

ITEM 16: ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Petsch, supported by Wichert, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sarah Henderson, Secretary