

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

Monday, January 25, 2021
2009 Township Drive
Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

In accordance with Public Act 228 of 2020, this meeting was held via Zoom, video conferencing technology.

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

ROLL CALL: Present: Tim Wichert, Chairperson
Rachel Kast, Vice Chairperson
Sarah Henderson, Secretary (*Connection lost 7:08pm*)
Barbara Garbutt
Linda Champagne
William Petsch
Bob Berkheiser

Also Present: Emily England, Director of Senior Services/Parks & Recreation
Allison Kennedy, Asst. to Parks & Recreation Director
Mark Schoder, Maintenance Director
Larry Gray, Township Supervisor
Alyson Lobert, Library Director
Brian Widdis, Meeting Moderator, Merge Live

Sarah Henderson reported that she was calling into the Zoom meeting from Florida.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Petsch, seconded by Garbutt, to approve the November 23, 2020, Parks and Recreation Committee Regular Meeting Minutes as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairperson Wichert opened to Public Comments.

Brian Widdis – We have no callers at the moment with their hands raised. We have five callers on the line. If anybody would like to speak, press *9 on your keypad, and that will raise your hand. We have no hands raised.

ITEM 1: LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORT

Ms. England – I sent reports out to you submitted by Chris, Josh and Byers. I do have reports to add for Lakes Area Hawks and the Horse Farm when you're ready.

Chairperson Wichert – Okay.

CW3 Soccer – Chris Haney

Mr. Haney – If it's all right, I'll just defer to the written report to save time.

CW3 Soccer Association January 2020

- *Registration currently open*
- *Signage for registration (thank you)*
 - *Banners at Dodge Park; up soon, down end of March*
 - *Richardson kiosk; through February if possible*
 - *Permanent field map sign (agenda Item #9)*
- *Vehicle damage to new Field #3*
 - *Appears to be minimal; won't know until Spring thaw*
 - *Spoke to Emily regarding further preventative measures*

Mr. Berkheiser and Mr. Haney discussed damages to Field #3 and how the vehicle gained access. The entry point has since been secured. Ms. England added that they are looking to put bollards in there and need to make sure that will work with the trees in that area.

Interlakes Girls Softball – Tim Bailey

Mr. Bailey shared the following with the Committee:

- Our registrations are down. I assume it's due to COVID and people are not sure what's going on.
- We are proceeding right now as if we're going to have a somewhat normal season. We've done some extra advertising with the schools to try to bring up our registrations there. It's typical each year, it seems like they get later and later.
- We've still got a little more than a month of open registration.

Lakes Athletics – Josh Springer

Mr. Springer – I'll also defer to the document I sent out.

- *Although 2020 was a challenging year dealing with COVID, our organization was able to adapt to the changes.*
- *Our fall program continued for younger divisions as we followed COVID safety protocols, and by hosting tournaments we were able to continue our revenue stream.*
- *In the last 18 months, Lakes Athletics has been able to add over \$50k in improvements to the park.*
 - *The donation by Kamer Family Charitable Trust and Wixom Community Foundation of \$14k has allowed us to purchase bleachers for every diamond at the park.*
 - *Phase II of the Safety Improvement Program has finished with the completion of new backstops on Field 3 and Field 4. Thus far, the Safety Improvement Program has added over \$35k of improvements to the park including \$23k in improvements in 2020.*
 - *Equipment such as helmets and catcher's gear has added another \$1500 in improvements.*

- *These updates have been funded by tournaments and donations by our sponsors.*
- *The next phase of the Safety Improvement Program will begin this spring with additional dirt and foundation work around mounds and bases on Field 3 and Field 4, as well as additional safety equipment such as helmets and catcher's gear.*
- *Registration is open through March.*
- *Needs from the Township:*
 - *Parking Lot Update; Are there any tentative dates and/or times as to when work may begin? We will likely need to adjust schedules to facilitate these changes.*
 - *Richardson Center; Hosting meetings in person at the Richardson Center would be fantastic.*

Friends of Byers – Dean & Karen Schantz, Ellen Smith, Cheryl Quinn

Mr. Schantz's report included the following:

- *We submitted 3 months of reports for Friends of Byers.*
- *The barn has been a little slow but the visitors are coming. During the Holidays, they were mostly from out of town. Some were visiting as childhood memories and others because they have seen posts on Facebook.*
- *We are looking forward to February and hopefully being released to hold open meetings for our group as we haven't been able to since October. We are planning to hold elections of officers and set our plans for projects next month and now have a new meeting place in Commerce.*
- *We are very much looking forward to the approval for the Butterfly Garden as it will restore a look to the Farmhouse area that goes back quite a few years and will be very attracting to not only butterflies but also hummingbirds.*
- *We have planned a small project inside the barn for re-designing the candy counter making it more attractive and stable and we'll be changing out all of the old plastic containers to the historical looking glass candy jars.*
- *Santa was dearly missed this year, not only by the Friends of Byers Group, but all of the Community.*
- *We certainly will look forward to Pictures with Easter Bunny which will be coming up soon and hopefully we will be able to set a date and have a little social freedom to pull it off.*
- *I personally want to Thank You all for being a support to our group and we look forward to getting bigger and better with what we can achieve in this year.*

Chairperson Wichert – We have the report from Friends of Byers. Did Ellen want to make any additional reports?

Ms. England – I believe that either Dean or Karen are call-ins, and we have somebody with their hand raised also.

Brian Widdis – Would you like to call on them?

Ms. England – Yes, go ahead.

Brian Widdis – Caller -4511, press *6 to unmute.

Mr. Schantz shared the following with the Committee:

- Basically, we're just normal operations in the wintertime.
- We've got the barn open on Sundays from 12pm-5pm.
- We've had a lot of photographers taking photographs of the wildlife, primarily the ducks.
- We did a cleanup of the farmhouse about a month ago. It was our first time in nearly a year. It was very dirty. We did a pretty good job inside. We'd like to go back in a month or so and do some more cleaning. It should be something done on a regular basis. Maybe, with the permission of Emily, we'll do some painting projects inside there also. We've got some flaking paint. I'll coordinate with what the restoration plans are down the road.

Mr. Berkheiser and Mr. Schantz discussed spring cleanup dates with WWAM, and State mandates regarding the virus. Mr. Berkheiser wanted to be proactive in scheduling dates for the Boy Scouts to help out with cleanup.

Motor City Mountain Biking Association – Mike Kearney

Mr. Kearney shared the following with the Committee:

- There's not much to talk about. In the wintertime, we don't do much work.
- Things are in good shape. I was out there last week and there were no real issues to note.
- Due to snow conditions, there has not been a ton of biking, but there's definitely been a lot of people out there.
- I'd like to talk about more in depth in the next meeting regarding making progress on the boardwalk and bridge to access the east property for the trail that we worked on with Tim Slabaugh. Our next step was a loop back. We were instructed by Jay to go back through EGLE to secure or discuss the need for wetland and other permits. In order for the MCMBA to initiate those discussions with EGLE, previously DEQ, we need an affidavit from the Township that allows us to actually initiate those discussions because it's not our property. We'd just like to figure out how to move forward with you, with Jay, or whoever we need to, to start those discussions with EGLE in the spring so we can start getting a good picture.

Ms. England – I know that when Tim brought it to us, the Township had an issue with the design of the bridge. Has that been corrected so that it meets our ordinance standards?

Mr. Kearney – So, we went back on a few different iterations. Where I recall we left it with Jay was we actually did secure a permit, or were granted a permit for the bridge, but it was the boardwalk that Jay wouldn't grant the permit for because we didn't have engineering data to show that it would last as long as they expected it to.

The other part that came up with that was he wanted us to loop back with EGLE. We put everything on hold because if we had to go back to EGLE for the boardwalk, we wanted to make sure we circled back with the bridge as well.

Ms. England – All right, let me circle around with Jay and I'll get in touch with you so we can get that ball rolling.

Mr. Kearney – Perfect, thank you.

Chairperson Wichert – Do we have any more league and community organization reports?

Ms. England – I have two that I need to read in.

Lakes Area Hawks – Pete Lesner

Mr. Lesner's report included the following:

- *We are currently working with Riddell in order to get the newest, safest helmets ordered. Also, for the reconditioning of the cycled helmets that are still able to be reconditioned. Over \$8,000 has been spent for helmets only.*
- *The one-year deal with Pop Warner Football was not a good experience. They do not recommend the league to anyone interested in actually teaching youth football.*
- *We are continuing with close communication with Michigan Youth Football and Cheer, the best youth league in the State.*
- *We remain committed to having four levels of football and three levels of cheer in the upcoming year.*
- *Pete decided that 2020 was his last year of coaching at any level, but still remains as President of the Hawks organization, most likely for life.*
- *All the bills are paid and everyone is healthy in the organization.*

Windmill Farms (Horse Farm) – Carrie Hancock

Ms. Hancock's report included the following:

- *The problem coyote has not been seen for several weeks. We assume he is no longer in the area.*
- *Lessons have been steady and growing.*
- *We have several new students starting with interest in middle school equestrian teams.*
- *We are waiting to hear from the schools and the MIHA as to how the competitions will be organized this season.*
- *The improvements and upgrades being made to the farm are greatly appreciated, including the time and effort being put forth by the members of the Township's Horse Farm subcommittee.*

Ms. England – Carrie is on the meeting, so if you have any questions, you can let her know. To touch base on what she's talking about, we do have a Horse Farm subcommittee within the Township that consists of myself, Jay James, Molly Phillips our Treasurer, Bob Berkheiser and George Weber, our Trustees. We have had meetings with Carrie to set priorities as far as repairs goes. We are working on getting some bids back. Jay sent some RFPs out. We're hoping to have those bids back to present to the Township Board next month.

Mr. Berkheiser – The only thing I'll add to that, just for information, is things we've looked at and identified that you may not be aware of. Some of the fenceposts need to

be replaced, roofing on the barns, water issues with some of the wells, things like this that we are looking at.

Ms. England – I can read through the list:

1. Our first priority is with the roof, especially over the observation room. There's a lot of leaking going on there.
2. Second was drainage in the pasture area, but that has been fixed since then. We just still need to deal with the water well issue.
3. Priority 3 was with the well and water, to move the well. The well is not currently located in the house, but the bladder of the well is. We want to move that and install or relocate five hydrants to the utility room in the barn, so everything will be located in one building.
4. Fencing
5. Observation Room – Township to rebuild the ramp to make it ADA accessible and repair the electric in there.
6. Observation Room – This was going to fall on Carrie and her crew, and that was to do all interior improvements.
7. Install ADA accessible bathroom (currently we will put an ADA compliant outhouse in)
8. Mobile home and trailer – These need to be removed. That would be Carrie's responsibility.
9. Property electric – Move the main circuit box from the house and do an inspection to make sure things are up to code and safe.
10. Have discussion about the house; if we're going to remove it, demo the property or what the future holds for that.

ITEM 2: PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

Ms. England discussed the following:

- I tried something new this month, and I typed up a report for you. I figured it would help keep me organized and get all the information out to you.
- Things are changing as far as Executive Orders go. The Senior Center was actually able to open up for indoor exercise. Last week was our first week holding yoga and Tai Chi classes. I was surprised at how many people were still interested in coming. We're continuing to get those phone calls.
- We are continuing to serve meals.
- We are gearing up to start AARP taxes, which are going to be a bit different this year.
 - Not many sites wanted to host AARP taxes, so we were able to secure them every Monday from now through April 12th, with the exception of President's Day in February.
 - What they're going to do is instead of coming in and preparing the taxes in front of the senior, they're going to do a drop off service. They'll spend a half hour scanning the seniors documents in, making sure they have everything. The senior will leave and return the following week at the same time slot appointment to finalize their taxes and get those picked up.

Mr. Berkheiser – On your report, at least for the Year 2020, you had the rides for People's Express. Do you know what we ended up paying in 2020 for 2,100 rides?

Ms. England – It was \$26,000, something along those lines. I can get the exact number and send it to you.

Mr. Berkheiser – I know it's not a fair year, so I gather that. I do think at some point we need to evaluate.

Ms. England – We were definitely under what we had budgeted.

Mr. Berkheiser – I know folks pay a certain amount, but basically the Township pays a certain amount. Is it per ride, or are we paying a monthly fee?

Ms. England – It's per ride.

Mr. Berkheiser – So it doesn't matter whether we did 2,000 or 10,000 rides, the amount per ride is the same.

Ms. England – Correct, and once we consistently reach roughly \$7,000, then we would go to a monthly flat fee. But, we want to make sure that we hit that threshold consistently and it's not just one month.

Mr. Berkheiser – Right. I thought we had a flat fee, and we were being charged a certain amount.

Discussion took place regarding the Dodge Park restrooms, which will not be heated and therefore the water will not be on in the wintertime.

ITEM 3: TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT

Mr. Berkheiser provided the following:

- Our last meeting was relatively short. We had some basic discussions.
- We had a presentation from Lystek Systems. Wastewater fees are becoming increasingly expensive, so we are reviewing options. One process the Board is looking at can turn the wastewater into a Class A fertilizer, however the bill on that is about \$5.5 million.
- There was a traffic barrier discussion for Cascade Street; that's over by Cooley and Union Lake Roads. The little street that cuts through a neighborhood that during high volume times is a problem for the residents. We had a discussion on trying to turn it one way for a certain time frame. There's a potential that we're moving in that direction.
- The Township Hall is on septic and we're having some issues. So, we are going to be connecting the Township Hall to the sewer system.

Ms. Champagne – I was curious; all those new houses by the Township Hall are connected, are they not? Weren't they forced to connect?

Mr. Berkheiser – Sure, yes.

Ms. Champagne – So it's not going to be too big of a bill because you're not the first one starting it.

Mr. Berkheiser – No, because of all the DDA stuff, the infrastructure is there. We are just running our sewer lines from the Township Hall area out to connect. All we have to do is the connection piece. I think there was a rough estimate, and I may be wrong, but I thought it was about \$20,000. To me, it didn't seem like it was too bad to connect.

ITEM 4: PARK LIAISON UPDATES

Petsch - Bicentennial Park

- Nothing to report at Bicentennial.
- When I drive by, everything looks good.

Henderson - Byers and Mill Race

- I don't have anything to report right now.

Garbutt - Long Park & Snowy Ridge Park

- There's not too much to say because the road is closed. I don't think we'll be hearing much about Long Park until probably close to April.
- They're putting in piping down there and 14 Mile is closed. You cannot go to the Park.

Chairperson Wichert – Do we have a lot of sledders up on Snowy Ridge? Have you seen that yet?

Ms. Garbutt – Well, maybe after it snows. Tomorrow we'll have some sledders.

Champagne - Hickory Glen Park

- I saw the backstops were going up two weeks ago, Josh. They look pretty cool.
- Other than that, I have not seen a whole lot of activity.

Mr. Springer – Yes, backstops are completed. That's Phase II of our safety improvement project which we are hoping takes us about 5 years.

Kast - Dodge Park

- Nothing major to report.
- There's just always kids playing there, all the time.

Ms. England – It doesn't matter how cold it is, there's kids playing there.

Vice Chairperson Kast – I've been there on a snowy day. Oh actually, on that note, when it is rainy or snowy, all the ramps are super slippery.

Ms. England – I'll see if there is something safe we can put down on it.

Berkheiser - Wise Woods & Victory Park

- In general, not much going on.
- I would make a comment, and Mark, I guess you're on here. I noticed today, and I don't know when it happened, but there seemed to be a few trash bags on the side of the road. This was not normal road pickup; it just looked like black garbage bags, and there's an oven or range on the side of the road. It looks like

people are dumping over there on the Wise Woods side, so the north side of the Wise Road property.

- I've noticed what seems like a lot more cars, and of course, they're parking all over the place. They're not only parking in the dirt lot that we have, but just off on the side of the road. Emily, I think we need to kick up the plan of creating some parking spots and come up with bids. Whatever the process, we need to kick that in gear again.

Open discussions continued regarding increased random parking at Wise Woods, speculation on whether or not these people are hunting or just walking, and potentially unsafe conditions. In addition, the Committee discussed multiple unauthorized dirt bike courses, on both the north and south sides, and at least one of them was created recently with the use of heavy machinery. Supposedly, there were previous missile silos in there, and there is concern that if they are digging, the ground could collapse. There are already existing sinkholes.

Supervisor Gray – So, what I'm hearing is that the Township needs a BMX track.

Ms. England – We have that.

Vice Chairperson Kast – There's a few of them in there.

Supervisor Gray – We're talking about a skate park. I've never heard anything about a BMX track, so maybe that's something we can look into.

Mr. Berkheiser – It can go next to the dog park.

Ms. Champagne – Is there any signage for no motorized vehicles?

Ms. England – Yes.

Mr. Petsch – It's all posted.

Mr. Schoder – That, and “no hunting”.

Ms. England – Unfortunately, I think this is one where we need to get activity in the park so that it's being seen as park land and not a backyard.

Ms. Garbutt – When we're talking about this, we also have to watch the cemetery. Bob and I keep noticing a lot of people who park their trucks and go back in there. Some of those gravestones are not far enough away from the road. A big truck will really wreck them. We need to be careful of that. Maybe we could remind the Sheriff's Department to go by more often to take a look when they go by.

Ms. England – We can do that.

Vice Chairperson Kast – I think it makes sense also to put some sort of trail or walkway from the Library driveway over across the street into the park.

Ms. England – Where are you talking, Rachel?

Vice Chairperson Kast – Right across from the north entrance of the Library is where the power lines are, and that connects back if you go around behind the graveyard. But, I don't know if we own that land or if the power company does.

Ms. England – Okay, I think they have an easement. We can check into it.

Mr. Berkheiser – We can still use that property, the easement just means...

Ms. England – We can use it. I believe it's ours and they have the easement.

Wichert - Maple Glen

- I drove through there today and saw a lady walking her dog, and two cross country skiers.
- Mark, do we only plow the pavement and not the dirt at all?

Mr. Schoder – Yes, just the roundabout, the main entrance and just a small area for parking. We try to keep people out because there's a lot of lawn damage. We hope snow will discourage them.

ITEM 5: VILLAGE OF WOLVERINE UPDATE

Ms. Champagne had nothing to report.

ITEM 6: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Schoder discussed the following with the Committee:

- Park inspections are pretty good. Because of the snow, not a lot of people are using the parks as much as they do in the summertime.
- Long Park looks bad up front, but the back looks pretty good. It's one direction down there.
- A lot of trash cans have been taken out of Maple, Hickory, Richardson Center and Dodge south because of all the trash people are throwing in there. We really don't need that many there during the winter. Nobody has complained yet. If they do, we'll bring more.
- The parking area at Maple, we clear that. That was a request that Bob made last year.
- Dodge south, we keep that all clear so the workers can work there. There's still some kids going back there with their parents doing picnics if it's sunny. We try to keep it clean.

ITEM 7: GIRL SCOUT COOKIE DRIVE THRU-RICHARDSON CENTER

Ms. England had shared the request by the 4th grade Girl Scout Troop, from Commerce Elementary, to use the Richardson Center parking lot as a drive thru cookie site. Trisha Ranger, Co-Leader, and Michelle Brandon would be on the meeting to answer questions. Scouts Lyla and Ellie delivered a presentation to the Committee.

Lyla – My name is Lyla, and also on with me is Ellie.

- We're in Girl Scout Troop 76314.
- We were going to talk about why selling cookies is important, and to ask if we could use the Richardson Center parking lot as a cookie drive thru. With the Coronavirus, it's hard for us to find spots to sell at.

- I'm going to talk about why it's important for us to sell cookies and what we learn from it. We learn money and how to operate it. We get to make change, and we have to multiply and add when we're selling. That's important for us to learn our math.
- What's also important is we learn people skills, and we get to talk to a bunch of different people. That goes along with being brave and not being scared to do things. It's also good because we learn to take no for an answer.
- Now Ellie is going to talk to you about what we do with our cookie money.

Ellie – Thank you, Lyla. I'm Ellie and here's my presentation.

- We spend the money we raise from selling cookies on meeting supplies, badges, patches, and also fun adventures like Girl Scout camp, horseback riding, ziplining and canoeing, and a lot more including our big field trips.
- This year, we are spending the night at the Toledo Zoo and we're going to Mackinaw Island next year.
- Each year, our Troop chooses a charity to support. This year, we chose JDRF.
- Thank you for having us at your meeting, and for considering to allow us to have the cookie booth at the Richardson Center. Thank you.

Ms. England – They have put in a formal request to hold it. They're going to be in the parking lot only. They're requesting the time from 10am-6pm for February 13th and 27th, and March 13th and 27th. Currently, we don't have any renters that would interfere with that. I did speak to the Troop Co-Leader and explained that if something changed, we would just work with them to either pick a different date or alter times between them and the renter so it wouldn't be an issue with them being in the parking lot.

MOTION by Petsch, supported by Garbutt, to grant the request by Girl Scout Troop 76314 to hold a cookie drive thru in the Richardson Center parking lot, so long as there's no conflicts with anybody who is renting the Richardson Center, or anything that is an endangerment to the Girls.

Discussion –

Berkheiser and Ellie discussed how she has sold cookies in 43 states, and counting. Her Troop's goal this year is 14,000.

Kast asked if there is a delicious flavor of gluten-free cookies. Ellie and Lyla replied yes, and they're pretty good.

Champagne asked that the sale dates be forwarded to the Villlage of Wolverine Lake to be shared with residents. Gray asked for the dates to be put up on the Richardson sign.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee wished the Girl Scouts good luck.

ITEM 8: EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT - KAYLA JEWETT TROOP 201

Kayla Jewett delivered a PowerPoint presentation to the Committee:

- I'm going to do an Eagle Scout project for Byers Park.
- This is the current site we're looking at to build a butterfly park.

- We will have a fence 14' long by 9' deep, with a gate on the corner. We're going to be adding lots of flowers and milkweed for the endangered species of Monarch butterflies.
- We're going to be restoring a historic gate. It is like the original gate that the original owner had a really long time ago. I didn't get dates on that. This will consist of repainting it the original color, new hinges, new latches, everything.
- Possible historic garden cart: Apparently, at the time I made this, I didn't know that Karen had already bought a cart, so we're good. Can I fundraise to pay for it? Anyone have any thoughts on that?

Ms. England – To pay for the garden cart...

Mr. Berkheiser – Kayla, my feeling is that if it's not considered part of your Eagle Scout project, you shouldn't fundraise it. You should just be fundraising for whatever you need to do for your Eagle Scout project. The way I read your presentation was the cart was not really part of that. If you fundraise and you've got an extra \$300, then technically you're supposed to donate to there, so you could dedicate it toward the cart.

Kayla Jewett – Okay, perfect.

- Why is it helpful to the beneficiary and community? First of all, it was requested, and it will promote habitat restoration for the endangered Monarch butterfly population. And, it's going to beautify the park. I think it's going to turn out really good.

Mr. Berkheiser – What's the potential that we have a lot of bees and wasps, and would that be an issue with all the people that walk through there? I'm not trying to give you a hard time. Barb, if you're on, or anybody that can answer that. That was my only concern.

Ms. Garbutt – I'd like to say that most bees do not sting. Unless someone is in there swatting at them, there should be no problem at all.

Mr. Berkheiser – Okay.

Kayla Jewett – Yes, if they're honey bees, certainly not. I didn't think about that. That's a good point. I don't think there will be. Most of those flowers flower at different times.

Ms. Garbutt – There are two butterfly gardens that I see a lot. One is at the park, and another is at Walled Lake Library, and they do not have any problems with bees, or any other insects. I think you can rule that out.

Ms. Champagne – We've had one at Wolverine Lake for years, right at the entrance to Clara Miller Park, the sidewalk that goes to the bathrooms. It's kind of gone now, but we never had any issue with it either.

Kayla Jewett – Okay, that's perfect.

- Key steps to project completion: First of all, I need to get all the approvals and signatures, from the Scout end, and from the Committee end which I'm doing now. That's January.

- Project Final Plan: I would be preparing the project plan, especially detailing the anticipated costs so that I can fundraise properly.
- Fundraising: I forgot to omit the coin drive. I didn't know about the national coin shortage, so we're not going to be doing that. We're going to be fundraising after the Super Bowl.

[6:48pm Crosstalk – Unmuted caller]

Kayla Jewett – Are we good?

Ms. England – Yes, we just have some people on the phone...

Mr. Berkheiser – There are people on the phone that are unmuted. If you can mute them, that'd be great. You're good.

Mr. Petsch – Keep it going.

Kayla Jewett –

- We'll be securing the supplies prior to the workdays, and then we'll be scheduling the workdays. Scheduling is going to happen in Phase II. Then we'll be executing the workdays and then tying up the loose ends, like making sure everybody's happy with it.
- Then at the end will be more on the Scout end of things-

[6:49 Crosstalk – Unmuted caller]

Ms. England – Can we mute the caller?

Mr. Berkheiser – Ellen, you're live.

Ms. England – Sorry Kayla, just give us one second. Is there any way that we can mute our callers?

Brian Widdis – Yes, I'm going to work on that.

Ms. England – Thank you. Kayla, you don't need to worry about that.

Kayla Jewett – I will answer any questions.

Mr. Berkheiser – Ellen? You're live. We need you to mute, hit *6, because we can't continue with the meeting while you're talking.

Brian Widdis – Okay, I just muted her. [6:50pm]

Ms. England – Okay, Kayla. I'm sorry about that.

Kayla Jewett – It's all right. They were talking a little bit about plants. They will all be perennials. All they need to be is clipped down, except for the existing butterfly bushes. That'll be it, which Byers was willing to do I think. That's the impression Karen gave me.

Ms. England – You were dealing with Karen, yes.

Mr. Berkheiser – They are, and they requested it, so they're willing to do it.

Kayla Jewett – At the end, it's just all in the BSA.

Mr. Berkheiser – The only thing I would ask is, when it's done, if you would take some pictures, which you will for your project anyway. Then if you would, put together just a quick summary and send it back to Emily. That will come back to the Committee and Township Board, so we close the loop on our side and we can see the wonderful work you did and publicize it. Just a little one-page thing, not a big deal. Put some pictures in there. That's all we're looking for. Summarize what you did.

Kayla Jewett – All right.

- Okay, I'll make a summary for you.
- Here's all of the materials and price estimates if there's no donation. I will be fundraising for this much. If there's donations, that will be good.
- Safety Issues: In addressing safety, of course, you've got your outdoor stuff like bug spray, keep out of brush for poison ivy, working with tools. It will all be age appropriate. There's BSA regulations.
- I want to highlight COVID. We will be listing people for contact tracing. We'll have the temperature checks. All the participants will be required to wear a mask correctly. Outdoors, you don't need to be 6' apart if both people have a mask. That is my understanding. It's virtually impossible to get it outside. The food is going to be individualized and we're going to have handwashing stations, and hand sanitizer.

Ms. Garbutt – It certainly sounds like you've done a lot of work on this. It sounds like a great project coming up.

Kayla Jewett – I'm so glad. Thanks, I hope you will consider it.

MOTION by Berkheiser, supported by Garbutt, to approve the Eagle Scout Project, as proposed by Kayla Jewett of Troop 201, in Byers Park for the Butterfly Garden.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Kayla Jewett – Thank you!

Ms. England – Get with me after the meeting and we'll get your paperwork and everything filled out, okay?

Kayla Jewett – Okay, that will be wonderful.

Ms. Champagne – Kayla, how many girls are Eagle Scouts?

Kayla Jewett – In the Troop, there is one really on the way, and I'm going to be the second one.

Chairperson Wichert – Very good.

Kayla Jewett – I'm proud that I'll be the second Eagle Scout ever in the Troop.

ITEM 9: CW3 SIGNAGE REQUEST

Ms. England – Chris and I talked about this before the meeting, and I sent him over our sponsorship agreement, but I guess I need some clarification from Chris' end. Is this going to be a permanent sign, or are you just looking for temporary signage?

Mr. Haney – Permanent. The issue is, especially the visiting teams who attend games here at Dodge Park, as I've mentioned before, fans, spectators, players, coaches, referees, everybody that comes to this park just keeps raving about how beautiful it is and how great it is to play soccer there. The hard part is on the front end, most of them have no idea where to go once they get here.

We have a field map that we put on our website. Most teams send that out to their opponents, but there's always a disconnect between the sender and the receiver as far as disseminating that to all of their coaches and parents. Even with that map, most people aren't very good natural map readers. They have to be taught that skill by an Eagle Scout.

In the end, something fairly simple but we'd have to pick a proper location; either freestanding, or maybe attached to the building or the pavilion, whatever you guys think would be best. In an area adjacent to the circle drive or the main entrance into the main parking lot, where when people pull in, they can get oriented based on where they are as to where the fields are. From there, once they get out to the field, they figure it out. Typically, we have the field number painted on the ground at the corner of each field so they can differentiate.

Ms. England – I know that we are against signage. We don't like a lot of signage in our parks, but we do like wayfinding signage. The rest of our parks with leagues do have wayfinding signage. I think we could incorporate this to notify people on the south side of Dodge that the Library is on the north section, and vice versa. Letting people in the north section know that Scarlet's Smile is on the other side; which way the trail goes, which way the Richardson Center is, if you want to get into that much detail.

Chris had asked me to send him over the sponsorship policy, which I did, but this is permanent signage. This is an individual basis that we need to deal with. He suggested that maybe him and I, and possibly Rachel since this is her park, work on this and develop a plan to bring back to you next month.

Mr. Petsch – I would like to see a concept of what you really want, Chris, so we all have a visual. You could plan it on the map. Definitely, I've always thought that we needed some direction, both on the north side entrance, down the pathway, and also on the entrance off S. Commerce Road. As long as it's something that meets all of our guidelines and regulations, then I would be for it also.

Ms. England – It may help with the parking issues that we're seeing over there also.

Mr. Berkheiser – We've talked about this, Emily. I've sent you examples from different parks from the soccer games I go to. I think it needs to be something inside the park. I personally wouldn't want anything out by the road. Even with that, I think we need to remove the Scarlet's Smile road signs. Those are building type signs. It's in place now. We've got our Township Park sign there. If we need to modify that, that's a different story. We do need to come up with a standardized or preferred format that we want it to have. It's not just for soccer, but it ought to incorporate the pathway that heads to the Library, and those types of the things. It needs to encompass the park itself.

The Committee members agreed.

Ms. England – We will bring back different concepts to you next month.

Mr. Petsch – We can follow the guidelines of our colors on our entrance signs, and make something that looks congenial with the rest of what we've got going in all the parks.

Vice Chairperson Kast – I'm happy to help too.

Mr. Haney – Thank you.

ITEM 10: REGINA MUSIC BOX - LOCATION FOR DISPLAY

Ms. England discussed the following with the Committee:

- This was the music box that was in the Byers Farmhouse and was removed in 2018 due to the mold and mildew situation we have in the house, due to it not being weather sealed or weathertight.
- That music box was removed. It has been repaired, and it is now located at the Township Hall in the Treasurer's office. In the last two months, we've had several requests for the music box to be put somewhere where the public can see it and enjoy it. I don't think it's a bad idea, it's just finding the proper location for it.
- What tends to keep coming up is the idea of putting it at the Library. I know that when the Library was being built, we had a lot of discussion about having a spot in the Library where antique/historic items that pertain to the Township could be displayed. This seems like a good idea.
- Alyson and I had a very brief conversation about it and she had some valid concerns. She's in the Library every day. It is a music box, so the thought of having a loud music box go into the Library isn't exactly appealing because you have other patrons that may not appreciate that.

Mr. Berkheiser – There wasn't a plan to have it run the whole time, was there?

Ms. England – No, and if everybody is fine with that, it could be a good location.

Mr. Berkheiser – I'm more concerned if it's just sitting out that it could get damaged. When we built the Library, there was discussion of putting in a museum type thing where things could go and be protected, but you could see those things and change the displays. For whatever reason, we decided not to add those things into the Library when it was built. I do think it's a good spot, but my concern would be damage.

Ms. England – We would have to develop some kind of case to protect it.

Mr. Petsch – Alyson, is there any spot, like a little alcove or offset area that could be roped off that would be a display area? When the Library was being built, we thought we would have something like that to display not only the music box, but other antiques, artifacts and memorabilia from the Township.

Ms. Lobert – There isn't a dead corner of the Library as you're envisioning it. I'm sure we can get creative. We could tuck something in the corners by the chairs, but that's a place where we don't have a lot of visibility, so I would be concerned about the items.

Ms. Garbutt – I agree.

Ms. Lobert – The areas of with the lowest traffic are also watched the least.

Ms. Champagne – How big is it?

Ms. England – Linda, it's large. Would you say it's 7-8' tall?

Mr. Petsch – Oh yeah, it's a big thing. A large piece of furniture.

Ms. Champagne – Oh, really. What's wrong with Commerce Township Hall?

Ms. England – We've had discussion about that too. It could be a good location. I think there's more locations there that we could put it, but the traffic flow isn't as much, so that was the less appealing point to that. You want to put it out there so that the public can enjoy it, but sometimes the most obvious solutions isn't always the right solution. That's why it's here for discussion.

Mr. Berkheiser – Alyson and Barb, has the Library Board looked at it?

Ms. Garbutt – No, because I just heard about that today. I think Alyson is right, we would have to be so careful where it went because there are so many corners where kids get away from their parents. We have a meeting this week so we could also discuss it.

Mr. Petsch – If you could, discuss it. I'm not talking about sticking it in a corner just to have it there. I was hoping there could be a designated area that could be roped or partitioned off, if it's available. I agree with Emily; more people go to the Library than they do the Township Hall.

(7:08pm – Henderson's connection was lost.)

Ms. England – We need to do our homework. The idea is to bring it here. There's a lot of different opinions and mindsets about it, and the Library is going to bring their own ideas also. It's discussion that's been started. We need to continue it. Alyson, I'd be happy to come on your meeting. Is it Wednesday night?

Ms. Lobert – It is.

Ms. England – I can give some background on it, because I do feel it should be in the public eye.

Vice Chairperson Kast – Is there a place for it to go somewhere at the Richardson Center?

Ms. England – We originally thought about that when it was removed, but having renters in there, there's no place we can secure it. It would fit at the Township Hall better at that point.

Mr. Berkheiser – Push it to the Library. We need to get feedback from them to coordinate.

ITEM 11: PARK AND RECREATION BYLAWS REVIEW

Ms. England discussed the following with the Committee:

- The bylaws that you have in your packet show the redline changes that the Attorneys made. The changes are dealing with making it compliant with the Open Meetings Act by going on Zoom. Not only dealing with the COVID situation, but even beyond. They're pretty consistent across the Board. I know the Township and Planning Commission just approved these. We're just staying consistent with other Boards and Commissions in the Township.
- The other thing we need to discuss is, after reviewing our bylaws, it has been brought to our attention that there's nowhere in our bylaws that states that you have to be a resident of the Township to sit on our Committee. There has been some internal discussion on whether that should be a requirement, if that's a change that we want to make to our bylaws and send that to the Township Board.

Mr. Berkheiser – The Township Board is going to discuss that tomorrow night for all of the committees we have. If they make that decision, no offense, it doesn't matter what you want.

Ms. Champagne – In my opinion, it is very difficult to get volunteers in any Committee. You would lose people like Dean.

Ms. England – It would only be the Parks and Recreation Committee members.

Vice Chairperson Kast – I don't live in the Township anymore.

Ms. England – I was hoping that comments would be made and that I could send language over to the Attorneys to go to the Board for approval in February.

Mr. Berkheiser – In Article 3, Section 2, we can have up to two Board members on here. Traditionally we've only had one. I would suggest we change that to one, and not as you can have, I would just say *we have one Township Board member on Parks and Recreation that serves as a liaison.*

The term of the member, it says shall be 4 years. I was just going to say, *not more than 4 years*, but there's other things in there that explain it later.

Article 5, Section 1, talks about the time of the meeting. I don't know if you want to update that. Generally, we're technically 6:00pm.

Ms. England – Yes, because even when we have our park walk-throughs, they're at 6:00pm.

Mr. Berkheiser – If we need to have a time in the bylaws, we probably ought to update it. The only thing I put on Section 5, and you could ask the Attorney, but it says *if any Committee member misses two consecutive regular meetings without notifying the Township Supervisor...* I would say, *Parks and Rec Director or Township Supervisor.*

Ms. England – It says Supervisor, that would be me.

Mr. Berkheiser – Okay, that's good then. This other stuff from Section 6, that's all just standard lawyer stuff, right?

Ms. England – Correct.

The Committee held lengthy discussion on whether or not a Committee member should be required to be a resident of the Township. Vice Chairperson Kast moved out of the Township last year, although she still owns a rental property in Commerce. The members noted that this topic is not just about Ms. Kast, but they also considered having members who are landowners as opposed to having to be a resident. Payment of taxes and where an individual is registered to vote were other topics discussed. One question addressed was, if the policy were changed to only allow members who are residents, would Ms. Kast's term end immediately or would she finish out her term. The majority felt that her term would end immediately if that were the decision.

MOTION by Petsch, supported by Berkheiser, to recommend that it be a requirement to be a resident of Commerce Township to be on the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Discussion –

Champagne – I'd like to be on record stating I don't agree.

Berkheiser – Can we say to the Board, whether it's tomorrow night or not, that it seems like there were two feelings; one was a property owner, and the other was a resident. That's fair to pass on.

Petsch – To make sure we're getting this correctly. Right now, there is no stipulation. It doesn't matter who you are. We want some sort of stipulation, either on the tax rolls or if you're a permanent resident. As Linda stated, you do have a property listed in your name that you're paying taxes on in Commerce Township, which would give you a voice. The minimum I would say is you definitely have to own property.

Champagne – Again, they are appointed.

Berkheiser – If you're a renter, then you can't be on the Board?

Petsch – I would say no.

Berkheiser – But you're considered a resident.

England – There's the question though. If they're a renter in Commerce Township, can they vote on the millage?

Berkheiser – Do you have to be a registered voter in Commerce Township then?

England – No.

Petsch – Bob, you're going to pick that up tomorrow.

Berkheiser – That’s got to do with our millage and our parks. It’s a can of worms. Discussions continued regarding the decision process for selecting new Committee members.

Wichert – Do we need to vote, or are you going to withdraw your second, Bob?

Berkheiser – No, go ahead and vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Petsch, Berkheiser

NAYS: Garbutt, Wichert, Champagne

ABSTAIN: Kast

ABSENT: Henderson (*Connection lost at 7:08pm*)

MOTION FAILED

Ms. Champagne – I just wanted the Township Board to know that we were divided.

Mr. Berkheiser – I understand, and I’ll reflect that when we talk about it. The only other side is that when someone moves out, do you allow them to stay on? I think that’s something the Township needs to look at.

Ms. Garbutt – In many ways I do not disagree with you, but I think what bothers me the most, and I know we should not talk about Rachel, but here is a person who has great things going on in the Parks. It’s really hard for me, but otherwise I agree with you. I think we should live in the community.

Open discussions continued regarding Rachel’s term, and how this policy is not just about Rachel – it is about the residency requirement for Boards and Committees.

ITEM 12: PARKS DONATION POLICY

Ms. England – This goes back to when we had the request to put the bench in at Scarlet’s Smile. We had further discussion as we’ve been getting a lot of these requests. We wanted to put together a policy so that we didn’t just have X, Y and Z benches put throughout the Township. We want consistency throughout the parks. I’m going to turn this over to Allison. She has done a lot of work with surrounding communities. She put together a draft that’s included in your packet, including her suggestions and a possible policy to move forward with.

Ms. Kennedy discussed the following with the Committee:

- I put something together roughly and there is missing information, just because I wanted input from you and any suggestions that you thought we should move forward with.
- I’ve included a copy of what they used in Novi for their tree/bench donations, and then also what they use for the Huron-Clinton Metroparks.
- With that also are the benches that are currently at Scarlet’s Smile.
- There’s two options; one with the back, and then there’s also a bench without the back. Both come with a plaque.

Mr. Berkheiser – Were there pictures in our packet?

Ms. Kennedy – Yes. Tim’s showing it right there.

Mr. Berkheiser – I saw those, but I didn't know if those were suggested, or if they were in Novi.

Ms. Kennedy – Those are the ones that are currently being used.

Ms. England – Those are the ones that are at Scarlet's Smile.

Mr. Petsch – Allison, can you do this on a PowerPoint?

Ms. Kennedy – I'm not as good as the other people showing their screen.

Mr. Berkheiser – We can get an Eagle Scout to show you how to do it. My concern is that those will get up and walk away. Are they bolted down?

Ms. Kennedy – Correct, yes, they are bolted down and it's like a Trex deck.

Mr. Berkheiser – Okay, so it's low or no-maintenance.

Ms. Kennedy – Correct. In with that packet too is the email from Kyle at Landscape Forms. It goes over the material and he says there's really no maintenance. With these particular benches, if any one of those particular slats needs to be replaced, you can replace them individually instead of the entire bench.

We were wondering on pricing how you want to go about this. The one with the back is \$1590, and the one without a back is \$1340, and then he said there's a 5% annual increase. It's going to be a matter of, do you want to have both options available? Do you want to stick with one? How much extra do you want to add on? We're going to have to put in the cement slab, and it will be up to us to maintain them – these are different aspects that will have to be included into the cost.

Mr. Berkheiser – Is this also something that's projected to go in our trails, like on the Airline Trail if somebody wanted to put a bench in there?

Ms. Kennedy – The Airline Trail has their own that they were using. I'd have to check with the Airline Trail if someone wanted to donate. I did not reach out to them about adding this there.

Mr. Berkheiser – Should it be consistent through the Township?

Ms. England – We could add their scope into this policy also, because I know the Airline Trail policy isn't just for Commerce Township.

Ms. Champagne – Where does the plaque go on this bench?

Ms. Kennedy – On this one, he said it goes on the seating surface. It's recessed. On the other one, it would go onto the back.

Mr. Berkheiser – In some of the stuff I read, these looked like granite slabs. I know that's a different thing. How big are you proposing?

Ms. Kennedy – The granite slab, I think that's the one they use in Novi. For the ones that go with this bench... I don't see where he put it in here, but he emailed me separately the size of it.

Ms. England – The plaque would be the same size as what's currently over at Scarlet's Smile. I sent that out at our last meeting. Let me see if I can find it.

Mr. Berkheiser – But if it's recessed into the Trex deck, it almost needs to be 3"x4" or whatever.

Ms. England – Yes, they're not very big.

Ms. Kennedy – It's 2"x10", and only 1/16" deep. It's almost just like a plaque.

Ms. Champagne – If you had it recessed into there, how about water and snow getting in there? It wouldn't be flush. It would become a concave.

Ms. Kennedy – For the one without the back, yes.

Ms. Champagne – Unless they fill it with something to make it flush.

Chairperson Wichert – Epoxy or something.

Mr. Petsch – I'm sure they do fill it. My suggestion is that, if we're going to make this something that somebody would want to buy to dedicate to someone, it includes the granite slab, so they're all uniform and those aren't going anywhere. You set it and you don't worry about cement, pouring forms, cement cracking, breaking up. Put the slab in – that's part of the deal. You want to buy a bench; this is what it comes with.

Ms. England – You mean a total package as far as a person who wants to do this sponsorship.

Mr. Petsch – Yes.

Mr. Berkheiser – Right, I think it should be a total package, including the slab, the plaque. There should be a leeway for the amount of time to install it, two hours for two people? Do we pay for that for our maintenance guys, whatever that is? That's cost, and then you're going to have to bump it up a little bit because we don't want to change the price every year when prices go up.

Ms. England – Allison, give us a price comparison, because at first I was in sticker shock at these benches, but when you brought to my attention what the other policies are, ours weren't so bad.

Ms. Kennedy – Just the bench itself, without factoring in install, maintenance, et cetera. The one with the back is \$1500. Once you add everything else in, say we put it at \$3000. The Metroparks, for one of their benches, \$5150 is the minimum donation for a recognition bench. Then in the City of Novi, their bench is \$2100.

Ms. Garbutt – I think no matter what we decide, I think the benches with the backs are much nicer.

Ms. Champagne – I like having a choice.

Mr. Berkheiser – I think it depends on where it is. I think we, the Township, need to decide what is an appropriate bench. If you're on a trail, a bench without a back might be useful because you're on either side of it. Or at Dodge Park, you can sit on either side watching the games. I think we need to make both available, but if someone is trying to put one with a back in an area where we would prefer it to be the other, then we should be able to nix that.

Chairperson Wichert – I agree.

Mr. Petsch – I would say that's correct. We will have designated areas where benches with backs would go, and other areas where benches without backs could go.

Discussions continued regarding costs of each individual item; benches, plaques, slab, and installation. The maintenance staff could install, but the slab would need to be factored in. Reasonably, the bench packages might be priced around \$2500 and \$2000, or \$3000 and \$2500. Ms. Kennedy stated that the benches come fully assembled, and added that if a granite slab is used, it would likely increase the cost significantly. Mr. Petsch felt it should be a uniform slab versus pouring cement. Mr. Berkheiser proposed another style of bench, not on a slab, but on posts that could be set into the ground.

Ms. England stated that they would research the slab, and look at another type of bench.

Ms. England – The other piece to this was the tree.

Ms. Kennedy – I'd say it's almost 50/50, between the phone calls we get, to donate either a tree or a bench. To add into this, the second part is to donate a memorial tree and how you want to proceed with that. I included in there some native trees to Michigan, and trees they use in some of the other parks. Do you want to be that specific to only allow certain types of trees?

Chairperson Wichert – I noticed they don't have Ginkgo trees like we have at the Library.

Ms. Kennedy – If there's anything you want to add, we'll add that in there. This is just what other communities were using that we were working off of.

Mr. Berkheiser – We've been moving toward deciduous instead of just pine trees that are good for 20 years. The other is, what size? Are we talking a 6' tree?

Ms. Kennedy – Most other communities that have a tree donation program will guarantee a tree of at least 2-3" in diameter. We could set the size of a tree we want; not necessarily in height, but how big the trunk is.

Mr. Petsch – Yes, the caliber.

Mr. Berkheiser – I think the key is on how long the tree lasts. Generally, they guarantee them for a year, but if it dies in two years, then is the Township responsible? What happens if they die?

Ms. Kennedy – Most other communities will only guarantee a tree for the first year, some are two. If it does not survive, then the Township would replace it at the Township's cost. Anything after that, we can't guarantee the survivability of the tree.

Ms. England – Maintenance is going to have to go out and water, and granted we do have watering bags, but it's more man hours.

Ms. Kennedy – Right, something to add into the cost of their tree donation.

Mr. Berkheiser – And this plaque, for lack of a term, is it a granite slab that goes down?

Ms. Kennedy – Communities do it differently, so it's your choice. I know at the Metroparks, the plaque does not even go by the tree. It's just hung in the park office.

Mr. Petsch – We had a tree donation program with the plaque going on the ground by the tree at Edgewood. They were a headache for the grounds crew for mowing and weed whacking. We did what you're talking about; we put up a big brass plaque with a tree, and when you put your tree in, the location of the tree and a plaque attached to that big sign.

Ms. Garbutt – I think that's a good idea. I have been part of several trees that have been planted as memorials for people, and it doesn't take long for those little plaques to be knocked down and gone, and then nobody knows they've ever been planted there in their honor. I agree we need to do it a different way.

Chairperson Wichert – Sounds like a good idea, Barb.

Mr. Berkheiser – I agree with that concept.

Ms. Garbutt – The trees that we've donated have been a decent size and they've been about \$300/\$350. The people you buy them from plant them and see that they're done correctly.

Ms. Champagne – We as a park board should identify where we would like to put trees. You don't want to have the person donating them make the decision that they want it by that sign in Commerce Township on M-5. If we put some places where they can pick, where we feel they need shade trees or pine trees, they can look at a chart.

Ms. Kennedy – As part of this, essentially they're just picking the type of tree they would like and in which park they want it, then it would be up to either the Parks Committee or the Parks Director to determine the final location. Once the tree is planted, they would receive something on where the final location of the tree is.

Chairperson Wichert – Sounds good. What else do we need to do Emily?

Ms. England – If this is something you want to move forward with, or if you want us to bring it back next month with other bench options, we need direction. It sounds like everybody’s happy with the tree piece of it. It will go to the Township Attorney for review and then to Township Board for final approval.

Mr. Petsch – I think we need to gather some more information on the bench situation, what the cost of a slab will be, or if there's multiple options besides a granite slab, what the total cost of the bench will be.

Ms. England – What’s your idea on the bench itself?

Mr. Petsch – I would like to see a uniform bench. I don't care what it is, as long as it’s nice, durable and uniform.

Ms. England – I like these benches because you can replace the slats.

Mr. Petsch – I like them too.

Ms. England – The other benches, it’s all or nothing, but that’s not to say there's not another option out there.

Discussion continued regarding how long the benches have been around for and will continue to be available, along with the longevity of the company itself, which has been around quite a while. Other topics further addressed were purchasing extra slats for the benches, the Rotary benches in the Township which are mounted and coated to last forever, and possibly laser cutting or etching in the memorial message, as opposed to using a plaque.

ITEM 13: OTHER MATTERS

None.

The next Parks and Recreation Meeting will be Monday, February 22, 2021, at 6:00PM.

ITEM 14: ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Petsch, supported by Champagne, to adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Henderson

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sarah Henderson, Secretary