

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

*Monday, May 20, 2024*  
2009 Township Drive  
Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chairperson Petsch called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**ROLL CALL: Present:** William Petsch, Vice Chairperson  
Bob Berkheiser  
Ron Krueger  
Laura Waterworth  
Denise Vecellio

**Absent:** Johnny Walker, Chairperson (excused)  
Krystal Schwartz, Secretary (excused)

**Also Present:** Emily England, Dir. Senior Services/Parks & Recreation  
Allison Kennedy, Asst. to Parks & Recreation Director  
Mark Schoder, Maintenance Director

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION** by Vecellio, seconded by Krueger, to approve the April 22, 2024, Parks and Recreation Committee Regular Meeting Minutes as written.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Vice Chairperson Petsch opened to Public Comments.**

There were no comments.

**Vice Chairperson Petsch closed to Public Comments.**

**ITEM 1: LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORT**

**Silo Ranch – Dawn Ray**

Ms. Ray shared the following with the Committee.

- We had our first Horses & Horsepower event a couple weeks ago. It was really small. We have the next one coming up the first weekend in June. (Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00am)
- We had our community garden meeting last weekend. People received the rules and where their plots would be located. We were tilling it up today. Starting this weekend, they'll be able to start planting.

Mr. Berkheiser – How many folks did you get?

Ms. Ray – We have 14 total.

Mr. Berkheiser – How big are the plots?

Ms. Ray – They're 18x18.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – That's nice.

Mr. Berkheiser – Where are you putting it?

Ms. Ray – Right along Chickory Lane, parallel to the barn.

Mr. Schoder – The east end.

Mr. Krueger – Do they have irrigation?

Ms. Ray – We bought a tank and it will sit over there. We will fill the tank. Eventually we'd like to put a water source right there.

Mr. Berkheiser – You said you gave them the rules. Is that something we have a copy of?

Ms. Ray – I can get it for you.

Mr. Berkheiser – Yes, just give it to Emily in case they come in. Maybe I'll do one.

Ms. Ray – Okay.

Ms. Waterworth – I can let you know how it goes.

Mr. Berkheiser – You're doing one?

Ms. Waterworth – Yes.

Mr. Berkheiser – Are you pulling your own weeds?

Ms. Ray – It will be rototilled but eventually, she will have to pull the weeds.

Ms. Waterworth – You have to. If you don't maintain it, you'll be kicked out. It's one of the rules.

Discussion continued regarding the community garden rules.

Ms. Ray – In addition, we had our 4H meeting and they are going to start next month going forward with 4H.

Mr. Berkheiser – Are you partnering with someone on that?

Ms. Ray – Yes, it's Debbie Morgan. She's the head of the 4H. She runs Bower's and the Oakland County 4H Fair.

Mr. Berkheiser – So when you said you had a meeting, what was that about?

Ms. Ray – All the people who signed up at our Open House; she had a meeting with them. It's small, I think there's 4 or 5 kids.

Mr. Berkheiser – That's fine.

Ms. Ray – This year will be arts and crafts, but no animals this year.

Mr. Berkheiser – When they do animals, will they use part of the barn?

Ms. Ray – Yes.

Discussion continued regarding the 4H program and the list of animals. Ms. Ray and Director England noted there would not be any pigs, but potentially goats, sheep, rabbits, chickens, ducks, and guinea pigs.

### **Friends of Byers – Dean & Karen Schantz**

Ms. Schantz shared the following with the Committee.

- We came through our spring cleanup with Troop 308. We ran out of woodchips, but we were really close. So, if you get any more woodchips, we'll take a few more.

Mr. Schoder – I'll deliver them when you want them.

Ms. Schantz – They hadn't been done in years.

- The gardens are started. We didn't get those finished, but Dean and I went early yesterday before we opened the barn and worked on the front of the farmhouse, and a little bit around the butterfly garden.
- We have a garden group that started last year. They will pick up on the butterfly garden and continue on.
- The grounds are looking really good.
- We will talk about the electrical later.
- Our bid came in on the north wall of the barn at \$8,000. Lumber is extremely high. We have the barn wood made for us and we don't want to switch because we did the first two walls already. Iverson's Lumber Mill up north in Montrose makes it for us; they just got bought out and their prices have shot up a little bit. We will just plan it that way and continue on.
- We're working on the August Vintage Market. It's going really well. So far, I have 18 vendors. I'm trying to choose a food truck for luncheon type stuff because it's a midday event.
- Things are business as usual in the barn.

### **Lakes Athletics Association – Jared Stoddard**

*A report was submitted in the packet dated May 13, 2024:*

- *League Update – LAA/LCB is once again preparing for our Memorial Weekend Tournament with full field entry.*
- *Season Dates – LCB Memorial Weekend Tournament: May 24-26*
- *2024 Capital Improvements – Ideas for improvements under discussion.*

- *Needs From Township*
  - *Picnic Tables: We have received the tables; thank you! It has really made the park and concessions area so much better.*
  - *Cement Bleacher Pads F1: The poured cement bleacher pads and ADA accessible seating area on Field #1; Township to provide updates.*
  - *Tree Trim:*
    - 1) *Two large maple trees in front of the garage are in need of clean-up to prevent major damage to the building.*
    - 2) *Brush clean-up for outfield fence of Field #1 (impede into fence and play area)*
  - *Grass Cut Improvement: Areas of HG park have opportunities for weed whip improvement by Township vendor. Photos were shared in a separate email.*
  - *Port-o-Potty: As park activity increases with warmer weather, an additional unit for baseball and trail/bike users between F#1 and F#2 is always appreciated if possible. Thank you for considering. LAKES currently supplies units at our satellite fields of Shepherds Church and Long Field.*

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Anything from the other leagues? We were at Maple Glen tonight.

Director England – No. We went through the bathrooms; they just noted the doors which Mark already knows about at Interlakes, and then the pathway, which he also knows about. Once our season is done, he will start work on that.

We went over some stuff with Commerce Little League to bring them up to speed on how the system works since they've had some changeover there. They have made some requests for upgrades. We will get a list together and bring that back during our budget season.

*No report submitted or representative present at the meeting for the following leagues:*

- *CW3 Soccer*
- *Interlakes Girls Softball*
- *Commerce Little League*
- *Lakes Area Hawks*
- *Motor City Mountain Bike Association*

## **ITEM 2: TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT**

Mr. Berkheiser provided the following:

- At our May meeting, most of it was about the 5 & Main project, which seems like it's never moving along. We've been doing this for 15 years.
  - We approved several SAD's with Continental. They seemed very prepared and very professional. Those were approved to help with the 5 & Main infrastructure; sewer and water lines.
  - They made a comment that if this is approved, they expect to have a shovel in the ground in mid-June. Hopefully we will start seeing movement there. I think this is an aggressive timeline, but they hope to have some concrete poured before winter, and if not, then early spring. I'm hopeful that sometime in the next year, we will actually see some vertical going on there. Continental did a very good job in what they asked for and how they presented it.

- We also had some special liquor licenses that were approved.
- We approved the resolution for the West Nile Virus that Parks sent forward, so hopefully we won't have issues.

### **ITEM 3: PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Director England discussed the following:

- For the new board members, I want to clarify what the West Nile Reimbursement Program is. Oakland County offers the program, and they give a budget to all participating communities, and we can then get larvicide. We split it between larvicide that Mark and his crew put in the stormwater basins and our retention ponds to keep the mosquito population down. We rotate that each year with getting bug wipes and sprays that we hand out at concerts. It provides free prevention to the community.
- We had our M-5K this last weekend. We had 91 registrants, and 82 in attendance to run the race. It went great. We had great weather. It was a good experience. We've already got a date reserved to do that again next year.
- The Oakley Park pathway is done. We're waiting on a few punch-list items and then that will be open. And the pathway on the west side of the pickleball courts will be open and ready to go.
- Pickleball is going well. We haven't heard too many complaints. I would say what we've heard are basically people's opinions that would only benefit themselves and not the community as a whole. I'm standing very firm on the fact that we are here to do what is best for the community as a whole and not just a particular group of players. But, it has been minimal, so we just continue to educate and offer programming.
- You may hear some talk about Bicentennial because they did pour asphalt and they had to tear it back up. They're redoing it because the asphalt mixture was not good. It was allowing too much moisture through. The asphalt company is covering all of the expenses for the labor to tear up and pour the new asphalt. Some people were questioning that. They are doing that so we have a good product.
- Victory Park is entering the end stages so that should be ready to go out to bid very soon.
- The kayak launch is on the agenda.

Mr. Berkheiser – I had one complaint on the pickleball. They wanted you to have the nets up earlier next year. I said it's weather dependent.

Director England – It's the overnight weather that it's dependent on, and not the daytime temperatures.

Ms. Waterworth – The pickleball tournament is June 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am?

Ms. Kennedy – Don't quote me on the start time, but it's June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Director England – We'll send you a reminder.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Emily, with all of the issues with ticks this year, do we have enough bug wipes and spray to put out at all of the parks?

Director England – I can't just put it out for people to take because one person will take it all, but that is something we do hand out at the concerts. The spray we get covers mosquitos and ticks as well. We will have it available at the Richardson Center, the Library and the Township Hall for people to take.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Okay. I think we should make sure everybody knows that. In all the years I've lived here, I've never seen a situation like we have now.

Mr. Schoder – They're bad.

Ms. Schantz – They very bad. I got a bite yesterday.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Let's just make everybody aware for the kids at the ball fields that it is available at Richardson, here and the Library.

Director England – We could actually give some to you, Karen, to have at the barn for when it's open.

#### **ITEM 4: PARK LIAISON REPORTS**

##### **Waterworth – Hickory Glen Park**

- I have not been to Hickory Glen much, but I did notice when driving by that there are gator bags. Are they supposed to be there right now?

Director England – That's a great question.

Mr. Krueger – They're usually used in the first 3 months, but you have to fill them.

Mr. Schoder – They're dry.

Mr. Krueger – We don't have the manpower to keep them filled, so they're really not doing anything right now.

Director England – We do have some tree issues and I'm on it. I've talked to the contractor to get the dead pines removed.

Mr. Krueger – I'd be happy to talk to that contractor.

Director England – We have to let the engineers handle it. We paid them to handle the contract. They're working on it and I'll keep you updated. The other trees there should be established enough now that we should be able to remove the gator bags. Maintenance can remove them.

Mr. Krueger – You said you're working on those trees?

Director England – They were supposed to be replaced. The contractor is the same one doing Bicentennial Park. He got a hold of the landscaper to make sure that those trees get replaced. There are three pines being replaced.

Mr. Krueger – Also, there's an oak tree that's nearly dead.

Director England – That's not covered under the contract. We would be responsible for replacing that.

Mr. Krueger – And there are two or three that are half dead, but we can't trim those now because it's the wrong time of year.

Director England – Those would be up to us and we will reach out to you for your guidance on how to save those, or to replace them.

Ms. Waterworth – Did you get to remove the spray paint yet?

Mr. Schoder – I wish you had walked down there because you would have said, good job.

Ms. Waterworth – Okay, I'll go walk my dog there this week.

Mr. Schoder – What we couldn't get off the bench, we spray painted over it. It looks good, so I'll take that off my list.

**Krueger – Dodge Park**

- I didn't go into my park either, but everything has always been really nice over there. I apologize I did not get there.
- A few times I've driven through and there's always cars in there for the playground.
- I'm assuming everything is good and I'll do a better job before the next meeting.

**Petsch – Bicentennial Park**

- I did see they were working on that.
- I did not see any improvement to the old Town Hall site where they were supposed to take care of the glass.

Director England – I'm not in charge of that contract. Larry was reaching out to the contractor who did that job.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Okay, Larry was informed so my phone call would be to him.

Mr. Berkheiser – We've had an update at the Township Board. Some of it was picked up, but it's not where it needs to be. He knows that. That was a couple weeks ago.

Mr. Schoder – I think they were over there last week. They were looking around.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – We talked about the grade and the seeding. It's horrible and not what we expected.

Mr. Berkheiser – The seed was brought up. The comment was that they seeded. I said they didn't do a very good job.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – They didn't do proper grade either.

Mr. Berkheiser – I'm not sure what was in the contract regarding grading. That would have to be followed up on. I don't know if all the grass was done, some of it was picked up. Supposedly they planted seed. I said it is not growing through and something would need to be done.

Mr. Krueger – With all the rain we've been getting, that seed should be coming up.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – It started coming up. It was patchy. If they had just run a power rake over it to smooth it out, then seeded it, it would be much better than what they did.

### **Vecellio – Long Park & Snowy Ridge Park**

- Nothing at Snowy Ridge. That looks fine and nobody is using it.
- Long Park looks great.
- That stanchion with the two steps is all cleaned up and it looks really nice.
- But now, if you go through the bridge, the stanchion way in the back has more graffiti. It's the same person.

Mr. Schoder – I'll get over there.

Ms. Vecellio – The picnic tables at the pavilion, are they going to be moved around? They look all pushed off to the end. Do people just move them around?

Mr. Schoder – People move them. They're chained but they can move them around a little bit where they want. We will have a couple handicap ones over there and we'll take a couple wood ones out.

### **Berkheiser – Wise Woods & Victory Park**

- Same old thing. They're using both sides of the road.
- Once we get our stuff out to bid, hopefully we can get a more formalized entrance over there.
- I think we will have complaints and issues as we always do when we try to improve fields that people think are theirs, but the more people we can get back in there, the less ruffraff we will have.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Last week, I was over on the street that runs behind the park. I talked to a homeowner there for quite a while and asked if they had noticed any motorized vehicles or disturbances back there. She said no. It has been pretty peaceful back there.

Mr. Berkheiser – Kids are now coming back from college, so we will see what happens.

### **Schwartz – Byers and Mill Race**

No report in Schwartz's absence.

### **Walker – Maple Glen**

No report in Walker's absence.



**ITEM 5: VILLAGE OF WOLVERINE UPDATE**

Ms. Waterworth discussed the following with the Committee:

- They're holding a meeting now.
- The only thing I have to update is, if you didn't have enough fun on our 5K, their 5K run/walk is this Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:15am.

**ITEM 6: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mr. Schoder discussed the following with the Committee:

- Victory Park; I noticed today they're moving the telephone poles and driving trucks back there. We fixed it, but they will find another way in.
- They're dumping at Wise Woods parking lot. We need to put some rocks in there.

Mr. Berkheiser – I haven't seen that. Are they putting it up the hill where the trees are?

Mr. Schoder – No, right in the woods, on the other side of the parking lot.

Discussion continued regarding addressing and preventing these issues.

Mr. Schoder –

- We removed two pine trees at Maple Glen at their request. One was dead and one was too close to the fence. We chipped them up and took them to Richardson.
- We cleaned up graffiti.
- We graded at Maple and Hickory. We will do that once a week. It only takes us about 3 hours now with the new grader.
- We weed whacked and sprayed underneath all of the bleachers at Maple Glen.
- The benches and the bike repair stations for the Airline Trail were built. We will meet them tomorrow to see exactly where they want them.
- We cleaned the cracks at all of the parks and buildings. We're spraying the weeds with pet friendly spray.
- Woodchips came out of here and Scarlet's, so we're putting them on the trails. It's working out good with the woodchipper.
- With the rainy season we have right now, we have Fire Station #4, Long Park, the Sledding Hill, Byers, and Mill Race that all get really wet, so the grass will get a little bit long. We either wait until it dries out or use the push mower.

**ITEM 7: BYERS' ELECTRICAL**

Vice Chairperson Petsch – There's nothing in our packet for this.

Director England – There is not. I was hoping to have more information for you. Karen has two quotes. The third quote was waiting to get more information back from Jay and our electrical inspector, which we don't have yet. One of your quotes is \$10,600?

Ms. Schantz - \$17,000 even, and that is Sam Moraco's electrician who has always worked on the house. The \$10,600 is Castle Electric.

Director England – So this is to replace the existing electrical, upgrade it and bring it up to code. The third contractor could not give us a solid bid because he had questions for

the inspector. We're waiting for answers. Byers is asking for us to partner with them on this. We have two bids in front of us and we will get the third bid. We will have Jay review those bids to make sure they're apples to apples, and that they bring everything up to code as requested. This will have to go to the Township Board for final approval. So, what I'm asking of this board tonight is to make a motion to support the project and approve the bid that Jay recommends to go to the Township Board.

Mr. Berkheiser – For half of it.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – When there's such a discrepancy that we have here, a matter of a \$7,000 difference, before I make any recommendation, I'd like to know where the other one comes in. Have we been paying this guy too much all along that has been doing this work for us?

Ms. Schantz – No.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – I'm just saying, how can they be that far apart if we're getting the same product?

Ms. Schantz – One is a historical renovator, and that's the \$17,000 guy. He works with Sam Moraco.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Well, I don't think he's putting tube and wire or anything in.

Ms. Schantz – It says here, *all devices are to be standard with matching white face plates, removal of flooring and second story may be necessary to run lines to existing lights on floor.* He is more technical than the \$10,600 bid. They are both asking, *do you want additional electrical service plates?* Neither one includes that. We only have two in the living room or parlor, and two in the dining room.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – But we aren't using this as a commercial building. Why would we even need that?

Ms. Schantz – No.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – If you have two outlets there ... Mark, do you see any reason that we would need to add them? We don't need them every 6 or 8 feet, or to code.

Ms. Schantz – That's the whole question. Do you bring it up to code, or allow it to go as is? That's what they're asking.

Director England – And that's up to our Building Department. That's not our decision.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – I don't feel comfortable with the amount of information that we have right now, but it's the Board's preference. Bob, what's your feeling on this?

Mr. Berkheiser – Mine is that the Board will decide which contract to let. The question to us is, are we willing to partner with them and share the cost? I think you have a \$10,000

quote, so worst case we're looking at \$5,100 out of the \$25,000 we have budgeted for it. I would say that, as far as we're concerned, if you feel that way, that you're willing to partner with them to do that, then make a motion to partner with Byers to do the electrical project and take the recommendation from the Township Building Official.

**MOTION** by Berkheiser, supported by Krueger, to recommend partnering with Friends of Byers on the Byers' farmhouse electrical project, to pay up to 50% to upgrade the electrical, and to take the quote recommended by the Township Building Official.

Discussion –

Petsch – I would hope that we get that information. I'm very curious on where that's going to fall.

England – I'll keep you updated. That's no problem.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Schantz – Do you want it itemized?

Director England – Let's wait to hear from Jay, and then we'll see what they need to make the recommendation.

Discussion continued regarding the significant difference in the quotes received, and the factors that can impact the work to be done in a historical home.

Ms. Schantz – I also forgot to tell you, I planted another river birch. I bought it and Dean planted it. We put it behind the duck barn on the riverfront, so it will shore up and take the water from that area. Whenever I see them at a good price, I've been buying them. Is there any other tree that you would like to see on the property?

Mr. Krueger – I thought we had to get permission from the board.

Director England – They had permission to plant that specific tree before.

Ms. Schantz – River birch, because it shores up the riverbank.

Mr. Krueger – Yes, I was going to donate a tree too. I was told that it has to be approved by the board.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – What would you recommend?

Mr. Krueger – I'm fine with birch trees. I have to look at the area. One of the things that I've always thought is, when you look at the exposure, that area between the road and the river where the bridge is, it would be really cool to clean that out so you could see the farmhouse. You're almost past it before you can see it.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – That's mostly phragmites there, isn't it?

Director England – Not anymore, we've cleaned that up.

Discussion continued regarding trees to plant at Byers, working with the Oakland County Drain Commissioner to do a river clean-up, and efforts to address soil erosion.

Director England explained that EGLE permission would need to be sought if anything changes the flow of the river.

**ITEM 8: KAYAK LAUNCH**

Director England – Two things on this. First, we need to come up with a name for the park, and we need to put a sign out there. Larry told me that this is your job to come up with a name for the pocket park we have there.

Mr. Berkheiser – Union Lake Pocket Park.

Ms. Waterworth – If it's not Commerce Kayak Park, it's Union Lake Kayak Park.

Mr. Berkheiser – I don't know about Kayak Park because you can do more than just that.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – It's an unmotorized boat park.

Mr. Berkheiser – Once you get the rules sign up, then you put all of those details on there, such as nonmotorized launch. There were a bunch of vehicles in there launching stuff. I turned around and went over just to see if they were moving boulders to drop boats in because the other launch was full. They were putting in canoes and fishing.

Director England – We can bring the name back next month.

Ms. Waterworth – No, it's on Union Lake Road, so why not have Union Lake Pocket Park?

**MOTION** by Waterworth to name the park Union Lake Pocket Park.

Discussion took place regarding alternatives. Berkheiser encouraged that the Committee think it over and address it next month.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN**

Director England – The next thing is that they are finalizing the project to send it out to bid. We have \$183,803 through CDBG funds that will pay for this project. We have also budgeted, out of the Parks' millage funds, \$150,000 to go toward this project. What you have in front of you is the worst case scenario.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – The \$117,000?

Mr. Berkheiser – Explain the differences, because one looks like it's just the launch stuff.

Director England – One is just the launch, and one is the parking lot.

Mr. Berkheiser – Okay, so you split them. I thought the second one included the launch.

Director England – No.

Mr. Berkheiser – So you're looking at nearly \$280,000.

Director England – Which we have budgeted, but I wanted to bring it to you because the numbers are changing. When they went out and did their survey and got their geotech back, the parking lot was in pretty bad shape, which is going to require us to do more work as far as removal and putting a new base down so we don't have sinking issues. You need a good base.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – I thought we were just leaving that gravel.

Director England – In order for CDBG to cover it, you have to meet certain specs that make it ADA accessible. In the worst case scenario, you can use limestone, but we would prefer to have asphalt because you have less vandalism and easier maintenance.

Discussion continued regarding gravel versus asphalt and maintenance tasks.

Director England – Again, this is worst case scenario. We have not sent it out to bid.

Mr. Berkheiser – I think we need to move forward with this. This is asphalt?

Director England – Yes.

Mr. Berkheiser – The whole purpose of this, with thousands of people passing there per day, and with the millage coming up, this was one of the projects we pushed forward from the Township Board, along with Bicentennial.

Director England – It was priority #3.

Mr. Berkheiser – What was the original estimate?

Director England – It was between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Mr. Berkheiser – So we will get another look at it when the bids come in?

Director England – Correct. I'm just looking for support; a motion to move forward with the kayak launch with the numbers you have in front of you.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Not to exceed?

Director England – That's hard to do without any bids, but this is an estimate.

**MOTION** by Waterworth, supported by Vecellio, to move forward on the Kayak Launch Pocket Park project.

Discussion –

Berkheiser – A total value of approximately \$280,000, between CDBG and budgeted funds.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 9: PARKS PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS**

Director England – Larry, George and I have put together outlines of what we would like our short videos to look like. We have reached out to an individual who does drone footage. He did some drone footage at the Library, and he is looking for projects to get more experience. We have reached out to him to see if he would be interested in flying over some of our parks when the ball teams have tournaments and to get that live action footage of people. We will reach out to Andrew so we can get a better scope to him, so he knows exactly what we're going to provide to him and what we want him to do so we can come to fair terms.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Andrew is that gentleman we saw that demonstration from?

Director England – Correct. So, we are moving forward with it.

**ITEM 10: PARK EVENT UPDATES**

Ms. Kennedy discussed the following with the Committee:

- Concerts are all set and ready to go. I believe I sent the flyer to all of you.
- Emily provided the update on the 5K, so we are all set for next year for that. Everything seemed to go pretty smoothly this year.
- The first pickleball tournament is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Director England – We have started discussions about a Bicentennial Celebration for next year. We are tentatively looking at June 14<sup>th</sup>. I'll be in touch with you, Karen, as it would be right in that area and obviously we want to incorporate Byers into that. There will be more updates to follow, but Larry's vision is to have a big celebration and possibly shut down the road there to have all day activities for the community. We will keep you updated on that.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Very good.

**ITEM 11: OTHER MATTERS**

Mr. Berkheiser – Is there an update on the AED topic?

Director England – No. I need to get with Stacy on that.

Mr. Berkheiser – We have talked about solar cameras. Are we still looking into that?

Director England – We have one that we need to put up and test with the service that we have.

Mr. Berkheiser – It seems that as we are expanding and improving parks, we ought to be including cameras to address issues.

Director England – If this is a good camera, then we have the ability to purchase more and put them up where they are needed.

Mr. Berkheiser – The last is the brush at Dodge Park. Is that something we're still looking at?

Mr. Schoder – There should be very little there. We're chipping away at it twice a week with the chipper.

Mr. Berkheiser – Thanks.

Director England discussed tall plants for screening with Mr. Krueger.

**The next Parks and Recreation Meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2024, at 7:00PM at the Township Hall, after the park visits at Robert Long Park & the Sledding Hill.**

**ITEM 12: ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Waterworth, supported by Krueger, to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Krystal Schwartz, Secretary