

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE  
SPECIAL JOINT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
WITH THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**May 1, 2018**

2009 Township Drive  
Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

**CALL TO ORDER:** David Scott, Supervisor, called the meeting to order at 7.00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: David Scott, Supervisor  
Melissa Creech, Clerk  
Molly Phillips, Treasurer (arrived 8:45 p.m.)  
Robert Berkheiser, Trustee  
George Weber, Trustee  
Vanessa Wagner, Trustee  
Rick Sovel, Trustee

Absent: None

Also Present: Jim Dundas, Fire Chief  
Emily England, Parks and Recreation Director  
Lt. Schroeder, Oakland County Sheriff's Office

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

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Bill Petsch, Chairperson  
Rachel Kast, Vice Chairperson  
Michelle Holmes, Secretary  
Barb Garbutt  
Timothy Wichert

Absent: Linda Champagne

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**ITEM 1: TRAIL WAYS AND PATHWAYS**

Discussed developing trails and pathways through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and connecting to the Michigan Airline Trail. Also discussed a walkability study.

**ITEM 2: CW3 SOCCER – AGREEMENT AND PROPOSAL OF 3<sup>RD</sup> FIELD**

Supervisor Scott asked the Board how they want to manage use of the Township's parks. A discussion followed regarding the Township developing park facilities or partnering with various non-profit organizations, costs, management of facilities, and resident access.

Chris Haney and Todd Lamb with CW3 Soccer were present and gave a power point presentation regarding CW3 Soccer's mission and proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> soccer field at Dodge Park V. The timing of building a 3<sup>rd</sup> field was discussed and the need for a development

**ITEM 2: CW3 SOCCER – AGREEMENT AND PROPOSAL OF 3<sup>RD</sup> FIELD  
(continued)**

Agreement with CW3 Soccer. Supervisor Scott asked Director England to work with Township Attorney Phil Adkison on the development agreement.

**ITEM 3: WISE WOODS & VICTORY PARK – ENTRANCE/TRAILHEAD**

Trustee Berkheiser said the Parks and Recreation Committee wants to apply for a grant next year to obtain funds to put a trail head in off of Wise Road.

Chairperson Petsch said a parking lot is also needed on the Victory Park side to reduce the number of cars parking along the road.

**ITEM 4: DISC GOLF**

Trustee Berkheiser said an organization wants to install a disc golf course in either Wise Woods or Victory Park.

**ITEM 5: MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION**

Director England said the MMBA submitted a new memo of understanding to Phil Adkison, Township Attorney, which is under review. The Board discussed the MMBA's use of Hickory Glen Park.

**ITEM 6: BRIDGES**

Trustee Berkheiser said the Township needs to address the storm water retention pond at Mill Race park. In addition, an entrance sign and additional parking spaces are needed, and the bridge needs to be repaired and made ADA compliant.

Treasurer Molly Phillips arrived at 8:45 p.m.

**ITEM 7: MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND GRANT and  
ITEM 8: LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT**

Director England updated the Board on the grant application process indicating Township Attorney Phil Adkison came to an agreement with the DNR regarding the boundary map and parcel of land being used for Scarlet's Smile Park.

**ITEM 9: HICKORY GLEN 2<sup>ND</sup> ENTRANCE – EMERGENCY ACCESS/EXIT**

Trustee Berkheiser said during an emergency situation rapid egress from Hickory Glen Park is not possible and a second exit needs to be built on the east side of the park and said the cost estimate is \$25,000.00.

**ITEM 10: LEAGUE AGREEMENTS**

Trustee Berkheiser indicated the Township needs 1 general/standard agreement used by all the organizations using Township parks.

Chairperson Petsch said he would like to see a 5-year term with a 5-year renewal option as the standard agreement.

**ITEM 11: INDEPENDENT PARK REVIEW**

Committee Member Wichert reviewed the status of Maple Glen Park. He said it's a tough left hand turn near the rock at the entrance of the park.

**ITEM 11: INDEPENDENT PARK REVIEW (continued)**

Supervisor Scott asked if the park patrons drive on the bike path and asked if the Township needs to install a bollard?

Chairperson Petsch said yes and Parks and Recreation is in the process of getting one.

Secretary Michelle Holmes reviewed the status of Byers and Mill Race Park indicating it's too muddy at Mill Race and some trees need to be removed at Byers and at the cemetery. Also, she wants to digitize the historical records and put them online. Making the farm house safe and usable is a priority.

Vice Chairperson Rachel Kast reviewed the status of Dodge Park V indicating there are some falling trees that need to be addressed soon and that she would like to see the 3<sup>rd</sup> soccer field built.

Committee Member Barb Garbutt reviewed the status of Long Park indicating the entrance and parking lot need to be re-done and the phragmites are still a problem.

Chairperson Bill Petsch reviewed the status of Bicentennial Park indicating that use of the park has increased and that he would like to see the tennis courts improved and a general sprucing up of the picnic tables and grills, and the grass needs reseeding.

**MOTION** by Wichert, supported by Holmes, to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting at 9:40 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 12: FIRE STATION ROOF REPAIR UPDATE**

Supervisor Scott approved an emergency expenditure of \$2,480.00 to fix a sag in the roof of Fire Station #4.

**MOTION** by Berkheiser, supported by Sovel, to approve additional funds of \$2,480.00 to complete the roof repair at Fire Station #4.

**ITEM 13: FIRE SAD**

Chief Dundas reiterated his commitment to have 2 fire fighters staffing every station 24/7.

Trustees Sovel and Weber discussed personnel and equipment costs and how to calculate the millage rate for the Fire SAD.

**ITEM 14: POLICE SAD**

Lt. Schroeder used the ratio of current deputies to current population to extrapolate the number of deputies needed in the future as the population continues to grow.

**ITEM 15: UNION LAKE BOAT LAUNCH**

Supervisor Scott said the Township would have the opportunity to purchase the parcel and could use it as a pocket park.

**ITEM 16: OTHER MATTERS**

Trustee Magner would like a list of the property owned by the Township.

Supervisor Scott said he would forward the list to her.

Trustee Magner asked when the snow fence at the roundabout would be replaced with a permanent solution.

Supervisor Scott said the RCOC does not have the funds for that project.

**ITEM 17: ADJOURNMENT**

As there were no other matters to come before the Board.

**MOTION** by Magner, supported by Creech, to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Creech, CMMC  
Clerk, Charter Township of Commerce