

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE
2009 TOWNSHIP DRIVE
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP, MI 48390**

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Bicentennial @ 6:00PM
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2011 @ 7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

COMMUNICATIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 26, 2011

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ITEM 1: Waiver Request: Lakes Area Athletics; Saturday December 3rd

ITEM 2: League and Community Service Organization Report

ITEM 3: Parks and Recreation Department Report

ITEM 4: Township Board Report

ITEM 5: Maintenance Report

ITEM 6: Eagle Scout Project

ITEM 7: Lakes Athletics Storage Unit

ITEM 8: Lakes Athletics Memorial

ITEM 9: Naming of Sledding Hill

ITEM 10: Concert in the Park

ITEM 11: League Contracts

ITEM 12: 2011 Remaining Projects

ITEM 13: Revenue & Expenditure Report

ITEM 14: Agenda Request

ITEM 15: Other Matters

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

Monday, October 24, 2011

2009 Township Drive
Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Petsch called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Commerce Township Offices.

ROLL CALL: Present: William Petsch – Chairperson
Dave Schultz – Vice Chairperson
Michelle Holmes
Tim Wichert
Dick Zemmin
David Law

Absent: Peter Pace – Secretary (excused)
Emily England, Director of Senior Services/Parks and Recreation

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Law, supported by Zemmin, to approve the September 26, 2011, Parks and Recreation Committee Regular Meeting Minutes, as written.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ITEM 1: WAIVER REQUEST: LAKES AREA ATHLETICS; SAT. DECEMBER 3RD

Duane Jerore, Competitive Director addressed the waiver request for a euchre event fundraiser for the Lakes' LCB Division.

Mr. Petsch – Are you aware of the cleaning fee that will need to be paid?

Duane Jerore – Emily did explain that there was a \$300 fee, and members receive a rate of \$150 with Committee approval. I was not aware it was a cleaning fee.

MOTION by Wichert, seconded by Zemmin, to approve the Waiver Request by Lakes Area Athletics for the fundraiser scheduled for Saturday, December 3, 2011.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
October 24, 2011

ITEM 2: LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORT

Lakes Athletics – Kenneth LeMarbe, Vice President

Mr. LeMarbe addressed the following with the Committee:

- Irrigation is complete and in working order.
- All fields will now be hydrated.
- A lot of the work was done through volunteers, including a subcontractor who donated his time.
- Tree trimming is planned in the next couple weeks.
- Vandalism is down this year.
- Equipment will be moved out of the boxes and into winter storage during the first week of November.

Commerce Little League – Mike Snyder, President

No representative was present.

Lakes Area Hawks – Pete Lesner

No representative was present.

Soccer – CW3, John Varcie

Mr. Varcie arrived after reports had been discussed. He stated that his only comment was that the soccer fields at Dodge Park are in better shape than last year.

Friends of Byers – Cheryl Quinn, President

No representative was present.

Interlakes Girls Softball – Tim Bailey, Vice President

No representative was present.

Michigan Mountain Bike Association

No representative was present.

Chairperson Petsch stated that there were no additional reports in the packet. The Committee would need to follow-up with Ms. England regarding any others that may have been submitted.

ITEM 3: PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

No report in Ms. England's absence.

ITEM 4: TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT

Mr. Law provided the following:

- Martin Parkway and the roundabout are on schedule.
- The Board has a budget meeting scheduled tomorrow night.
- At the last meeting, funds were approved to improve, update and expand the Library.

Open discussions ensued regarding the Library improvements.

**Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
October 24, 2011**

ITEM 5: MAINTENANCE REPORT

No report in Ms. England's absence.

ITEM 6: EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

No report.

ITEM 7: LAKES ATHLETICS STORAGE UNIT

Kenneth LeMarbe, Vice President, stated that Lakes has chosen to retract their storage unit proposal upon further review of the costs to renovate it. They are working on a new proposal which they hope to present at the next meeting. He will call Ms. England to make these arrangements.

ITEM 8: LAKES ATHLETICS MEMORIAL

Duane Jerore, Competitive Director, was present with Cassie Jerore and Kenneth LeMarbe, Vice President. Duane Jerore addressed the Committee.

Duane Jerore – Ken LeMarbe brought this to the attention of our board. We understand that the Committee has requested removal of the monument. The Board asked me to present you with the facts, scenario and history so that you could see their intentions and give consideration. (Reviewed a packet of information provided to Committee members.)

Lakes was misinformed on the Committee's approval or acceptance of the monument, and Frank spoke to that. The people that were on the board then are gone now. We want to abide by your rules, and we don't want to upset the community.

The reason the monument was installed was for Justin when he died. Justin served as an umpire and was in the league for 15 years. The monument serves as a reminder and an inspiration to young players. The picture in the packet shows a young man looking at and reading the sign. This image portrays what we are trying to use the monument for. We hope they will take the message and apply it to themselves. Our goal is to preserve that.

We raised \$11,000 during the event and as part of the memorial, Kohl's for Kids sent out hundreds of volunteer workers to assist. Those funds have been earmarked for the concession stand. We continue to raise funds for that long-term goal, along with annual scholarships.

The next page shows the inscription, and the next is an essay of one of our players on why he would like to be a recipient of a scholarship. This gives an idea of what the scholarship is about and what they are trying to accomplish. There are a lot of positive results from this. There was also a lot of news coverage there that day.

The family continues to celebrate annually at the site of the monument with a picnic and a hundred people in attendance.

I would also like to communicate about Commerce Little League's plaque. I know it was done the proper way, and we do apologize for not getting proper approvals. However, these are similar in nature, size and design as depicted in the photos. The Commerce Little League represents Coach Gino. We are also aware of the Board approving another monument for a tree recently.

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
October 24, 2011

We want to present this information so that you can weigh the benefits of having the monument there as opposed to the negatives of removing it. The positive is that it can remain there with a good message to be sent. We humbly request that you reconsider the mandate to remove it.

Committee Comments:

Mr. Petsch –

- At the last meeting, we requested that you come back with a new plan and we offered suggestions.
- The minutes were explicit as to what could be done and what could not. This is truly in direct violation and it's a dilemma we face every year.
- We understand the cause, and your passion for it, but it sets a precedent.
- When comparing with Maple Glen, note that theirs is put into a piece of equipment that is not a fixture of the park. The CLLB installed batting cages that belong to them and placed their memorial on the structure. If they abandon the cages, they become part of Commerce Township and we don't know that we want the responsibility of maintaining them. Therefore, they could be torn down and the memorial would go with them.
- In the case of a monument on a baseball diamond – the diamond belongs to the people of Commerce Township. Having the field dedicated to Justin is a problem.

Mr. Schultz –

- Bill is correct on what we had discussed.
- The package is informative.
- Maple Glen did their memorial as part of a park enhancement.
- This monument was done on the existing field.
- My question is, if Lakes built a concession stand next year, could they take the monument and move it to the stand? Funds raised would be dedicated to this project and that would be an alternative. We may be able to live with it until then.

Ms. Holmes – The memorial for Gino was much more than expected.

Mr. Petsch – We addressed that by asking to have it toned down.

Mr. Schultz – When comparing the pictures, you can't decipher between the two.

Mr. Petsch – But the monument is 4' high and the other is ground level.

Duane Jerore – They are identical, and both are meant to be permanent.

Mr. Petsch – But that is not the issue here.

Duane Jerore – It is difficult. We never receive the minutes. We never see them and there is no record to reflect upon.

**Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
October 24, 2011**

Mr. Petsch – The Committee presented their thoughts to you on the matter, and the minutes were presented again.

Ms. Holmes – If you are not receiving minutes currently, you can request to be put on the list.

Duane Jerore – I'm on the agenda list, but I don't receive the minutes. It would be helpful to clarify in the future.

Mr. Petsch – The members of the boards receive drafts; however, the final minutes are not available until they are approved the following month.

Mr. Law – And then they are available on the web site.

Duane Jerore – Our Board sends ours out regularly.

Ms. Holmes – We do have a list and minutes are automatically sent out to people on that list.

Mr. Petsch – When we visited the park, the monument was a total surprise to all Committee members.

Mr. Schultz – And this was rehashed with Frank. You know our stance. We need to come to an agreement and it has to be moved at some point.

Duane Jerore – We would appreciate being able to leave it there, then move it to the stand once it is built.

Mr. Petsch – I do not see the negative. It may be to you, but we have to hold our position. It's not because I don't like it. We have to look out for everyone. This is a small group asking for something, and we have every taxpayer to consider.

Ms. Holmes – We need to reach a compromise through suggestions. If Lakes presents a plan for development of their concession stand to include relocation of the monument, we may be able to grant a temporary agreement. This could stipulate that if it is not relocated by a certain date, it will have to come out. This will allow the memorial without setting a precedent.

Mr. Petsch – We have asked you to come up with an idea, such as the storage unit or the concession stand, and incorporate this into it. Something that is a piece of property that belongs to Lakes until you abandon it. But these fields belong to everyone and it is a community park. You get first priority, but there has to be a compromise.

**Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
October 24, 2011**

Duane Jerore – We respect that and we are not trying to make it sound like we own the park or have any rights to it. I did not come in to anger the board. I only wanted to show you the facts in hopes that you would grant us the opportunity to leave it there.

Mr. Petsch – We cannot do that.

Ms. Holmes – It has been dragging on for so long. We need to see your plans. There was a storage unit option going, but that was retracted. We don't want to set a precedent.

Cassie Jerore – You say that you don't want to set a precedent, but how was the memorial by Commerce Little League allowed?

Mr. Petsch – That is not part of our property. It is part of their project, the batting cages, which are removable. The memorial is a plaque. The baseball diamonds are not movable. This monument dedicates the field. Permission was granted with a one-year stipulation.

Mr. Schultz – Renaming of a field was discussed but it cannot be done. The field is a stationary part of the Township property and cannot be dedicated.

Cassie Jerore – The concession stand will be built because of the money raised on his behalf.

Ms. Holmes – And we will need to see your plan and negotiate. Some have their team pictures inside the building along with memorials. We need to meet your needs, and the sign ordinance, so that it does not have the perception of naming the field.

Mr. Zemmin –

- It's a great partnership with you and your leagues.
- I know and remember the meeting when we decided to try this for one year. I don't know how it could have been misinterpreted originally. It was very clear.
- We need to get past this and reach a compromise. We ask that you honor the partnership and understand that it cannot stay the way it is. It will need to be built into a new plan.
- You need to bring back something that we can all live with.

Mr. Law –

- It's clear that you need to come back with some type of compromise.
- Today appears to be back to square one and that is why you are picking up on some frustration.

Mr. Schultz – We are not necessarily saying that it needs to be removed in 30 days.

Cassie Jerore – We are family of Justin.

**Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
October 24, 2011**

Mr. Zemmin – It's hard not to respect the passion that goes along with this tribute. However, it needs to fall in line with the Township objectives.

Duane Jerore – So we don't have to agree.

Mr. Schultz – You need to look at the new plan as a positive. It will be a beautiful concession stand with park benches, and the memorial can be placed right between them because these funds have helped to build this. It is good for all those involved. This is not about the size and shape of the memorial – it's about what is allowable and what is not.

Duane Jerore reiterated the positives and negatives.

Ms. Holmes – We need to review the plans so that we can get this moving along. And, we don't approve anything unless it is presented in writing before us.

Mr. Petsch – This is constructive direction being provided. And it should be aesthetically pleasing; not obtrusive or gaudy. I know it can be done.

Mr. Law – Is there a problem with having the plaque above ground?

Ms. Holmes – It can be on the wall (of the concession stand).

Mr. Petsch – What we do there will pertain to all parks.

Mr. Wichert – And we cannot have permanent markers anywhere in the parks. They must be removable.

Open discussions continued regarding reaching a compromise, memorials at other parks, budgeting, maximizing grant dollars, the master plan, concepts for the park, and potential flexibility of these concepts to allow for the concession stand.

Mr. Petsch directed Duane Jerore to present the plan to Ms. England and she will distribute it to the Committee members for review.

ITEM 9: NAMING OF SLEDDING HILL

Mr. Zemmin – This is a unique thing for the Committee, and it's a big deal. I think there should be publicity and public relations. I suggest a contest for all elementary schools in the area. We could choose a name from the entries and the winner receives a sled.

Ms. Holmes explained that the Committee was directed to come up with the name.

Open discussions continued regarding this contest idea and progress at the sledding hill. Grading is done, however it is not likely that it will be open this winter.

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
October 24, 2011

ITEM 10: CONCERT IN THE PARK

Mr. Zemmin stated that the bands are lined up for next year. He also submitted a letter to Emily to be mailed to prospective vendors and partners of Commerce Township for the events. The letter outlines last year's success and invites them to become a sponsor. Ms. England was reviewing the correspondence with Supervisor Zoner.

ITEM 11: LEAGUE CONTRACTS

No report in Ms. England's absence.

ITEM 12: 2011 REMAINING PROJECTS

No report in Ms. England's absence.

ITEM 13: REVENUE & EXPENDITURE REPORT

No report in Ms. England's absence.

ITEM 14: AGENDA REQUEST

- The Committee indicated that the agenda for the next meeting should be the same as today's.
- Mr. Schultz also added another item later under other matters, "Electronic Packets – Going Paperless".

ITEM 15: OTHER MATTERS

Local History Project – Ms. Holmes

Ms. Holmes informed the Committee that the Local History Project Books are on display at the Library. She is also meeting with the Fire Chief and Fire Marshall tomorrow for additional information.

Community Trails – Mr. Schultz

Mr. Schultz discussed the trail at Dodge Park and inquired about other similar paths that may be planned to extend into other communities.

Ms. Holmes directed members to visit www.oak.gov for maps of the trails. These maps show proposed trails, existing, and county connectors.

Electronic Packets / Going Paperless – Mr. Schultz

Mr. Schultz feels that the Committee should push to become electronic with the meeting packets and league reports. Instead of printouts, information should be scanned and emailed. Mr. Petsch discussed iPads as an option, and adding this as an agenda item.

ITEM 16: ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Holmes, supported by Zemmin, to adjourn the meeting at 7:52pm.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Peter Pace, Secretary

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE
APPLICATION FOR RICHARDSON COMMUNITY CENTER USE

Use subject to policies and procedures attached to application

Call: 248-926-0063 for Rental Information
Monday-Friday: 8:30a.m. -5:00p.m.

APPLICATION CANNOT BE ACTED UPON UNLESS COMPLETED IN FULL

NAME: DUANE JERORE / LAKES ATHLETICS

If organization, contact person: DUANE JERORE

ADDRESS: 5720 RECREATION DRIVE

PHONE: 248-860-7184 PURPOSE* FUND RISER

*NOTICE: If food will be served and the function will be open to the general public, applicants **must** contact the Oakland County Health Department at (248) 926-3305, as a Temporary Food License may be required.

DATE REQUESTED: 12/3 TIME: FROM 6 TO 12 pm

ANTICIPATED ATTENDANCE: 100

I have read the attached policies governing the use of the Richardson Community Center and agree to abide by all those policies established for its use. I understand that I have the use of the building only on the date I have reserved, that I must obtain a key for the Center from the Richardson Center and that I am responsible for return of the key.

I also understand that we are responsible for setting up for our group and for taking down the equipment we set up. Cleaning up after ourselves will be our responsibility immediately after our event, and we agree to leave the building in good condition.

I pledge that I am a resident of Commerce Township and that I will be in charge of the activities taking place at the Center during this use. I understand that if this information is found not to be true, I WILL FORFEIT THE SECURITY DEPOSIT TO THE TOWNSHIP AND THE DATE FOR THE EVENT THAT I HAVE BOOKED.

I agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Charter Township of Commerce for any claim, demand, suit, loss, cost or expense, or any damage which may be asserted, claimed or recovered against or from the Charter Township of Commerce by reason of any damage to property, personal injury or bodily injury, including death, sustained by any person whomsoever and which damage, injury or death arises out of or is incident to or in any way connected with the performance of this contract, and regardless of which claim, demand, loss, cost, or expense is caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the above named group and /or individual(s), or by third parties, or by the agents, servants, employees, or actors of any of them.

[Signature]
Signature of person requesting use
DUANE JERORE

10/13/11
Date

[Signature]
DATE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

REQUEST TO WAIVE RENTAL FEES AT RICHARDSON CENTER

Failure to notify Township of cancellation within 14 days of event will result in a \$150.00 cancellation fee.

Requested Date: 12-3-11 Hours: 6-12pm

Group Requesting Fees Waived: LAKES ATHLETICS

Person Representing Group: DUANE JERORE

Day Phone: 248-860-7184

Evening Phone: 248-866-9136

Affiliate: LAKES ATHLETICS

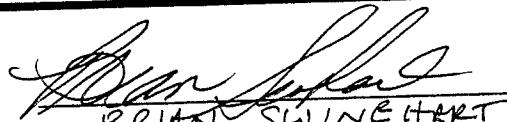
Non-Profit: School: _____


Senior: _____ Other: _____

Reason for the Request

10/13/11

Date


BRIANT SWINEHART
Signature of Group Representative


DUANE JERORE

FOR PARKS AND RECREATION USE ONLY:

Date Request came before Committee: 10/23/11

Reply from Parks and Recreation Committee: _____

Favorable: _____ Non-Favorable: _____

Conditions: _____

Emily S. Dubey, Director
Senior, Park and Recreation
Charter Township of Commerce

GENERAL RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE RICHARDSON SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER

By the use of the facilities and services of the Charter Township of Commerce Richardson Senior Citizen Center ("Center") and/or by my attendance at any of the programs, activities or functions of the Center I expressly agree that the Charter Township of Commerce ("Township"), it's elected officials, officers, employees, and agents shall not be liable for any injuries, damages, and/or losses arising from personal injuries or other damages or losses sustained by me or my guests in, on or about the property of the Township, Center, or in connection with any of the programs, activities, or functions regardless of where such injuries, damages, or losses may occur. By the execution of this General Release and Waiver of Liability, I accept full responsibility for any such injuries, damages, and/or losses which may occur to me or my guests, on or about the property of the Township, Center, or in connection with any of the program, activities, or functions regardless of where such injuries, damages or losses may occur.

I hereby release the Charter Township of Commerce, its elected officials, officers, employees, and agents from any and all responsibility or liability for injuries, damages and/or losses to me resulting from my participation in programs, activities or functions of the Center regardless of where such injuries, damages or losses may occur.

I agree not to make a claim against nor sue the Township, its elected officials, officers, employees, and agents from injuries, damages and/or losses relating to my participation or use of the Center's facilities or incurred in connection with any of the programs, activities, or functions of the Center regardless of where such injuries, damages, or losses may occur.

I have carefully read this General Release and Waiver of Liability and fully understand its contents. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a contract between the Township and me, and sign it of my own free will. I understand that this General Release and Waiver is intended by the township to disclaim liability of all negligence, including its own.

Print Name: DUANE JERO RE BRIAN SWINEHART

Signature: [Handwritten Signature] [Handwritten Signature]

Date: 10/13/11

Witness: _____