

**Village of Spring Lake
Parks & Rec. Committee
Monday, February 3, 2014
7.00pm Village Hall
Meeting Minutes**

I. Call to Order

Roll Call: Groenevelt, Yassenak, Schuitema, Brower, Poel

Excused: McCulloch, Nauta

Committee Review: Meeting Minutes – Motion by Brower, support by Schuitema, to approve the Minutes of the December 2, 2013 regular meeting. All in favor, motion carried

II. Agenda

New Business

1. **SLARC** – Manager Burns informed the Committee that Bill Core had been appointed the new SLARC Director and that the next SLARC meeting had been moved to Wednesday February 12th at 7.00pm and all were welcome to attend.

The Committee said they would like to see SLARC consider additional programs at Central Park for all ages, including Senior Citizen activities, and utilize the hockey rink in winter and in-line rink in the summer.

2. **Tanglefoot Park Update** – Manager Burns said reported that due to the wet fall weather, the cement pads were not able to be installed so this project was pushed to fall of 2014. Normally this type of concrete work was done in the fall so the concrete has all winter to cure and become its strongest before the big rigs move in.

Burns also reported that the Tanglefoot's community buildings new roof had been installed and the skylights removed, TruGreen had taken care of the fall lawn treatment and the play area was removed. Burns said that the numbers were up for 2014 and the renters were all happy.

The Committee discussed the wonderful work that Wally had been doing at the park, and without his extra efforts, it would not have been as successful of a season. Kudos to Wally.

3. **Lakeside Beach** –

- a. **Buoy Placement** - Burns explained the placement of the buoys at Lakeside Beach. Burns said Larry, Aldridge, the outgoing SLARC director, felt there needed to be more buoys placed but DPW Director, Roger Belknap, filed the

proper paperwork with the Army Corp of Engineers and the Village and Township were in compliance with the regulations to have 3 buoys.

Motion by Yasenak, support by Schuitema, to approve no change to the number of buoys. All in favor, motion carried.

- b. **Lifeguards** – The Committee discussed the issue of lifeguards at Lakeside Beach. It was noted that the lifeguards failed in part of their responsibilities last season. The restrooms were often found in terrible condition, the walk ways were not cleared of debris and it was noted that on several occasions the lifeguards were using cell phones. Schuitema felt there was more liability to the Community having lifeguards than to not have lifeguards and post that swimming was at your own risk. Schuitema also said that state and county parks do not have lifeguards.

Motion Groenevelt, support by Yasenak, to not hire lifeguards and have Village DPW maintain the restrooms at Lakeside Beach. All in favor, motion carried.

4. **Park Fees** - After years of working on a fee schedule and presenting the Village Parks ideas at the joint meeting with the SLTWP parks members, the TWP has decided a fee schedule should be in place for our parks and usage of the structures. The board recognized Clare Groenevelt for her lengthy research in contacting the surrounding communities and inquiring about their fees. Yasenak mentioned that she spoke with the Ottawa County Parks regarding listing our facilities on their site for a fee. The Parks Board asked Council to re-review the fee structure and using the Ottawa County parks website for booking of the facilities.
5. **Central Park Restoration Campaign** - Burns reported that Yasenak and Belknap met with Ryan Arends, the Village Engineer, to put together a formal quote and plans that would be used to file for grants for the project. Burns also said there was over \$11,000 earmarked for this project. Burns stated that there was a small grass roots committee forming to discuss different options and this needed to happen soon because the different grants needed to be submitted within the next 2 months.
6. **SNOWJAM** – Rotary will be using Central Park for the 3rd Annual Snowjam. Burns mentioned that the new rink liner was working very well.
7. **SHINDIG** - Burns reported that there had been a request to use Mill Point for a Shindig. The committee was in favor of them utilizing the park.
8. **Heritage Festival** –Yasenak gave a brief update of the status of the festival and everything was moving along great. Yasenak asked if anyone would like to join the committee or volunteer at an event.
9. **Tree Trimming** –Burns talked about the tree trimming policy in the Village. Burns said she and DPW Director Belknap were not aware that the Village Charter appointed the Parks Board responsible for reviewing the trees and their health. Burns reported that they were currently developing a plan that should make everyone aware when trees needed to be removed due to safety and/or disease. Yasenak mentioned that many years ago the board would walk and review the

different trees and that most of them had a silver tag, but this hasn't happened since Mr. DeLong was Manager. Yassenak said she had a list of Consumers Energy recommended trees and that Tonya Tuntevski or Pat Munenstrmann, from Consumers Energy, would be happy to attend a meeting and discuss the correct type of trees and the different variety's that should be planted. Yassenak said that the trees that were planted in the Central Business District were all the same type with a life span of, approximately, 15 years – 20 years and were starting to die. Yassenak suggested that the Board think about replacing them and staggering the type of tree.

10. **Mill Point Park** –Brower stated that an Eagle Scout that had expressed an interest in working on the flag pole project at Mill Point and he would be making a presentation shortly.

III. Adjournment

Motion by Schuitema, support by Brower, meeting adjourned at 8.45pm

Michele Yassenak, Secretary