



**Village of Spring Lake  
Parks & Rec Committee  
Tuesday, May 4, 2015  
7.00pm Village Hall (EOC Room)  
Minutes**

**I Call to Order**

**Roll Call:** Bob McCulloch, Claire Groenevelt (7:50), Curt Brower, Lee Schuitema, Erik Poel

**Absent:** Bill Core, Michele Yasenak, Steve Nauta

**Also present:** Chris Burns (Village Manager) and Roger Belknap (DPW Director)

**II Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Schuitema**, to approve the agenda as presented.

Yes: 4 No: 0

**III Approval of the Minutes:** Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Schuitema**, to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2015 meeting.

Yes: 4 No: 0

**IV Tree Board Meeting**

**1. Spring Lake Public Schools (SLPS)**

As part of their construction/renovation project that is taking place at the Intermediate School, Superintendent Dennis Furton has requested permission to remove a large Oak tree along Hammond Street. It is recommended that the Tree Board members take a few minutes to evaluate the tree(s) and the request prior to coming to the meeting. Dennis will be in attendance to answer any questions the board may have.

Superintendent Dennis Furton was present and showed the Board drawings of the proposed construction/renovations of the intermediate school and explained that their Arborist felt that trying to save the large oak tree was not an option since the root system was so large that any construction around it would compromise the tree's health causing it to eventually die and become a safety issue to the children and school.

After some questions and discussion the Board agreed that saving the tree was not an option but hoped that the school would use the wood from the tree, to in some way, preserve the memory of this beautiful tree.

Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Poel**, to approve the school district's request for removal of two trees including the large oak tree in the right-of-way along Hammond Street.

Yes: 4      No: 0

## 2. All Shores Wesleyan Church (ASWC)

ASWC is collaborating with Spring Lake Township and Spring Lake Village to offer safe connectivity to Lakeside Trail from Krueger Street. There are two possible routes for the trail; one is along east-bound M-104 shoulder and the other follows the ASWC property which ultimately exits on to Fruitport Road. If ASWC is unsuccessful or unwilling, for whatever reason, in placing the trail on their property then ultimately several old growth trees would have to be removed along the M-104 ROW. While the trees are not within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Village, staff felt it was important for the Tree Board to weigh in the potential removal of the trees. As Parks & Recreation Board Members you will be asked to weigh in on connectivity of the trail as well.

Lukas **Hill**, Planner for Spring Lake Township was present and showed the Board drawings of the two proposed bike path options to connect at Krueger Street. **Hill** explained that the preferred option, which would include a permanent easement from ASWC, was along the bayou on the church's property for safety reasons and to preserve several trees along M-104. **Hill** also said the church was planning to create a park like setting along the path.

Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Schuitema**, to sign a Resolution of Support for a Non-Motorized Pathway along M-104 and through All Shores Wesleyan Church that will connect the end of the Krueger Street bike path to Fruitport Road, not contemplating the proposed driveway construction.

Yes: 5      No: 0

## 3. Forestry Budget

It's that time of year again when we start putting budgets together. Attached please find the proposed budget for the newly-created "Forestry" department.

DPW Director, Roger **Belknap** explained to the Board the proposed budget for fiscal year 2015/2016 and why they created the Forestry department and how it would help track expenses in the future. **Belknap** also told the Board they would be re-establishing the tree nursery at Spring Lake County Club after July 1, 2015.

#### 4. Updates

- Banner Contest Update
- Arbor Day Celebration

Manager **Burns** reported to the Board that the Banner Contest and Arbor Day celebration were a huge success with many participants. **Burns** also said she appreciated Dr. Brad Massey and Doug Heins for sponsoring prizes for the kids that participated.

### V New Business

#### 1. Dog Park

- Expansion (Diane Schindlbeck)

Diane Schindlbeck presented the Board with a new drawing and quote for the proposed small dog park addition. Schindlbeck reported they had raised enough money to complete the project and would try to have it done by June 5th. Schindlbeck also asked about the addition of a drinking fountain for the small dog park to match the one in the large dog park and that they would have a fundraising table during the dog walk to raise money for it. **Belknap** said they should be able to tie into the existing water line for the fountain.

Motion by **Schuitema**, seconded by **Poel**, to approve the addition of a small dog park to the existing dog park. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Signage (Michele Yasenak)

Yasenak was not present to report on signage for the dog park. Because it has been close to three years without signage the **Board** voted to turn over the responsibility of ordering a sign for the dog park to **Belknap**.

Motion by **Groenevelt**, seconded by **Brower**, to give Roger **Belknap** the authority to spend up to \$1,500 on a sign for Marv's Bark Park. All in favor. Motion carried.

#### 2. Lakeside Beach

- Washout

**Belknap** reported that he had received an estimate of \$4,765 to repair the washout of the sidewalk at Lakeside Beach that would restore the sidewalk and take preventive action against this type of washout in the future. **Belknap** said that to save money they could saw cut the sidewalk to shorten it but that would not eliminate the problem from happening again.

**Burns** reported that the insurance company would not cover the washout because they considered it a flooding issue and the deductible for flooding was \$25,000. **Burns** also said the Board could ask the Township to consider paying half the costs.

Motion by **Schuitema**, seconded by **Brower**, to restore and take preventive action to the Lakeside Beach sidewalk and to seek financial assistance from Spring Lake Township. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Lifeguards

**Burns** reported that Josh Silvis, the Village's Liability insurance agent, sent wording that needs to be signed by SLARA in order for the Village to be covered in regards to the lifeguards at Lakeside Beach.

- Restrooms

**Belknap** reported that since they had the same seasonal employees as last year they would be raising the bar and adding more accountability for keeping the parks restrooms clean. **Belknap** said they were also looking at adding Saturday and Sunday cleanings.

### 3. Lakeside Trail

- Connectivity to Krueger

### 4. Tanglefoot Park

- Rates 2016

**Burns** reported that Council was considering raising rates at Tanglefoot Park and Mill Point dock rentals. **Burns** said rates had not been raised in years and Council was also considering higher rates for the 4th of July and Coast Guard week.

The **Board** agreed it was time rates were raised. The **Board** also discussed the fact that harsh winters the last two years have prevented docks from being installed by April 15th and felt that May 1st was a more appropriate date to have them in by.

### 5. Central Park

- Capital Campaign

**Burns** reported that close to \$85,000 has been raised so far.

## 6. Mill Point Park

**Belknap** reported that he had followed up with the original engineer for the Mill Point dock project and was told that budget cuts and design changes by previous management terminated their agreement with the Village. The engineer said they did what they were asked to do so they felt they were not responsible for design failure. **Belknap** said that he agreed with them and the Village was responsible for repairs.

## 7. Park Budgets

Individual budgets for Mill Point Park, Tanglefoot Park, Central Park, Non-motorized Trails, and the General Parks were shared. **Belknap** highlighted some of the notable projects proposed in these budgets, including the steel roof for Lakeside Beach, removing the broken floor tile at the Tanglefoot Clubhouse, and establishing a new storage mechanism for the docks at Mill Point and Tanglefoot Parks. Lighting the bike trails and Mill Point Park was also discussed.

## VI Statements of Citizens

Dr. Sylvia Ruscett was present and asked the Board to consider a vertical garden along Lakeside Trail and the cemetery. Dr. Ruscett thought this would be a beautiful addition to the trail and that as a member of the Grand Haven Community Foundation she felt sure they would be willing to make a contribution.

## VII Adjournment

Motion by **Groenevelt**, seconded by **Brower**, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

---

Bob McCulloch, Chairman

---

Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk