



**Village of Spring Lake
Parks & Rec Committee
Wednesday, October 9, 2015
7.00pm Village Hall EOC Room
Minutes**

I. Call to Order

Roll Call: Clair Groenevelt, Vice Chair, Curt Brower, Lee Schuitema, Michele Yasenak and Megan Doss (Village Liaison)

Absent: Erik Poel and Bill Core

Also present: Roger Belknap (DPW Director) and Maryann Fonkert (Deputy Clerk)

Bob McCulloch, Board Chair, gave his resignation. Mr. McCulloch moved out of the Village.

Motion by **Yasenak**, seconded by **Schuitema**, to except Bob McCulloch's resignation. All in favor, motion passed

Yes: 4 No: 0

Motion by **Yasenak**, seconded by **Schuitema**, to elect Curt Brower as the new Chair for the Parks and Recreation Committee.

II. Approval of the Agenda: Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Yasenak**, to approve the agenda with the following amendments:

- Excepting Bob McCulloch's resignation;
- Electing Curt Brower as the new Chairperson;
- Removing item #4 - Dave MacKenzie's Live Wall presentation;
- Adding Nathan Gelderbloom and his Eagle Scout project presentation.

Yes: 4 No: 0

III. Approval of the Minutes: Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Yasenak**, to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2015 regular meeting with corrections.

Yes: 4 No: 0

IV. New Business

1. **Boy Scout Project Proposal (Austin Twa)**

Austin Twa, Troop 14, presented his proposed Eagle Scout project of a new brick pathway to the new flag pole. Twa passed out drawings of his proposed brick pathway in Central Park and explained the process for installation he was planning. The **Board** discussed fewer angles for easier mowing and having the bricks go in the same direction as the current bricks. **Belknap** said he would check the Villages supply of bricks and would be Twa's contact person for the project.

Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Yasenak**, to approve Austin Twa's Eagle Scout project of a new brick pathway to the new flag pole. All in favor. Motion carried.

Yes: 4 No: 0

2. **Boy Scout Project Proposal (Nathan Gelderbloom)**

Nathan Gelderbloom, Troop 37, presented his proposed Eagle Scout project of a new park bench for Central Park. Gelderbloom explained that he would be making a metal frame with wood cross beams and a plaque to remember a POW that he knew of unless the mother of the POW did not want it, and if that was the case the plaque would be a memorial to all POW's. **Brower** suggested using composite material instead of wood because composite would not need to be maintained and it would be in keeping with the other bench's in the Village. The **Board** agreed with **Brower** and thought the bench would be great located at the end of the new brick pathway. **Belknap** will be Gelderbloom's contact person for the project.

Motion by **Yasenak**, seconded by **Brower**, to approve Nathan Gelderbloom's Eagle Scout project of a new bench for Central Park. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 4 No: 0

3. **Dog Park - Discussion of gate closures between small dog/big dog sections.**

Belknap reported that the gates in the Dog Park for Consumers Energy use were supposed to be locked but they have not and people are using them to enter and exit the park with their dogs causing a potential escape route for other dogs in the park. The **Board** felt those gates should be locked and people be redirected to use the correct entrance/exit for the safety of all the dogs in the park.

Yasenak asked about putting wood chips in the entry area to the dog park because it gets so muddy. **Belknap** said he was concerned that weeds would grow through the bark. **Yasenak** also mentioned that Alex and Danny Brower's names are missing from the Dog Park sign.

4. Tanglefoot Park -

Belknap reported that the proposal from LanKamp for cement pads had been accepted and should be starting this week. **Belknap** also said that lot 27 has a tree that needs to come down and they will have to be careful not to disturb the pads on either side.

5. Whistlestop Park Playground Equipment -

Belknap informed the Board that complaints had been received on the playground equipment at Whistlestop Park and after investigating found several beams rotted so he had his crew remove the equipment. **Belknap** said that Chuck Michaels, from Shape Corporation, is always looking for community projects for their group to work on and that they have the money, time and people to do a nice job of rebuilding the park. **Belknap** and the **Board** members agreed that since the Park is named Whistlestop it would be great to have a train themed park. **Belknap** said he would like a committee formed to create and design the new park and possibly enlarge the area.

6. Lakeside Beach -

Belknap reported that Lakeside Beach has been winterized and restrooms closed for the winter. **Belknap** also reported that the swim ropes need to be replace.

7. Mill Point Park -

Belknap said they Village received their soil erosion permit from Ottawa County to repair the sink hole. **Belknap** also reported that they took down the flag during the high winds on Wednesday and that they would be monitoring evening temperatures to determine the restroom closing. **Belknap** informed the Board that they found a use for the black fencing, donated by Ernie Petris, behind the south end of Cutler Street along the Grand River Greenway. **Yasenak** asked about the 200 trees that were supposed to be planted there. **Belknap** said he didn't know about the trees because that was before his time. **Yasenak** said that Berry's Nursery donated all the planting for the Grand River Greenway and would be a good source for the new nursery.

8. Central Park - Belknap said the survey marks were in to delineate where Parkview connecting to Rotary Drive will be relocated.

V. Tree Board Meeting

- 1. Village Tree Maintenance - Belknap** reported that he had received back 9 or 10 assessment forms so far and explained how he determines whether a tree comes down or not. **Belknap** said there were 2 more trees to add to the list to come down, one at Tanglefoot and one on Mark St. The **Board** discussed the trees removed at Tanglefoot Park and replanting. **Belknap** said that park tenants do not want trees planted near their RV's.

Tree Planting Program - Belknap said that he and his Foreman, VanHoeven, would be meeting with Landscape Design to discuss transplanting the 36 trees left in the old tree nursery.

- 2. Tree Nursery - Belknap** reported that some of the site prep work had been completed for some of the new trees going in. **Belknap** said he had a conversation with the staff at the Country Club and they are going to make a physical connection from their irrigation so that the Village can make their irrigation system from that.

Schuitema asked about the Oak Tree at the Middle School. **Belknap** said that arborist looked at the tree on August 19th and said it did not have Oak Wilt and looked to be doing well. **Belknap** said the arborist will check the tree again in March 2016.

Other Miscellaneous Business to Come Before the Board

Belknap read a letter he had written to Village Cove Marina in response to their request that the Village remove the Cottonwood trees along their property line in the wet lands.

The **Board** agreed that if Village Cove was willing to pay for the removal the Village would look into it. The **Board** directed **Belknap** to send the letter.

VI. Adjournment

Motion by **Brower**, seconded by **Yasenak**, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Clair Groenevelt, Vice Chair

Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk