

Ross Township  
12086 M-89  
Richland, Michigan  
269-731-4888

Ross Township Park & Recreation Committee Meeting

**Minutes**  
**September 3, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Donna Tellam, Committee Chair, called the regular meeting of the Ross Township Parks and Recreation Committee to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Ross Township Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Donna Tellam, Chair  
Peggy Sattler  
Gail Hurn  
Cathy Knauf  
Diana Langshaw - Ross Township Trustee (Committee Advisor)

Absent: Christopher Gottwald

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Diana moved to approve the agenda. Seconded and **passed**.

**MINUTES FROM June 2, 2020 and August 5, 2020**

Changes and clarifications to the June Park Committee minutes were discussed, and Gail moved to approve the June minutes as amended. Seconded and **passed**.

Minutes from the August Park Committee meeting were reviewed, and Diana moved to accept them as presented. Seconded and **passed**.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Dave Senkewitz submitted Treasurers reports for June, July and August, 2020 by email. Expenses for the sewer repair in July and the additional donation of \$5,000 from the Gull Lake Area Rotary Club were added. Including the GLARC donation, Park entrance revenue came to \$48,888.49 for these three months. Expenses for June, July and August, including bathroom and major sewer repairs, Park employee salaries, beach improvement, and maintenance, came to \$44,677.06.

End of August Cash Balance is \$32,312.38. YTD 2020 Income is \$ 51,535.57, with YTD expenses of \$ 44,677.06, excluding Gilmore Grant income and purchases. YTD 2020 Net Income is \$ 6,858.51.

The Gilmore Foundation and Gull Lake Area Rotary Club grants continue to fund Park improvements and the new Playground area, which are scheduled to be completed in September, in time for a Dedication Ceremony on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Diana moved to accept the Treasurer's Reports as presented. Seconded and **passed**.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None presented

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **a. I.S. Gilmore Foundation Grant**

The grant of \$17,000 from the Gilmore Foundation has been expended to cover:

- New playground equipment and Little Library
- Installation expenses and materials
- New grill, ADA picnic table and bike rack
- Plumbing repairs

### **b. Gull Lake Area Rotary Club Grant**

The grant of \$5,000, and also many volunteer work hours by GLARC members, has covered:

- Landscape supplies, timbers, site excavation, sand, cement and to build a secure and safe foundation for the new playground equipment: \$5,782.17

### **c. Playground Updates**

- On the most recent Work Days, volunteers excavated and built the foundation for the playground area, and, upon delivery of the playground equipment, placed and cemented in the swing set and Spinami.
- On Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, the park hosted the Athletic Mentors Adult Triathlon, which was a great success. They may be interested in making this an annual visit, perhaps with children's competitions as well.
- The next Work Day will entail installation of remaining equipment, tables, benches, etc. as these pieces and supplies are delivered in September.
- A site map of the placement of memorial benches which have been donated was distributed.
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## **NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Park**

Park Manager Nick Margol left as of 8-11-2020. After that date, Rob Baker and Donna Tellam have supervised attendants, and opening and closing. After Labor Day, Gail and Peggy were recruited to open and close the Park between 7:00 to 5:00. Park fees will be collected in the drop-off box. The Park will close on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**b. Board/Park Committee Reset of Rules and Regulations for the Park**

Peggy and Cathy were drafted to look over and make recommendations on a series of changes to Park rules (such as cigarette smoking), fees, times and Park Manager qualifications, recruitment, salary, and supervision.

**c. Volunteer Clean-up/Close-up Day, First Week of October**

This work date will cover park clean-up, and storage of buoys, picnic tables and other equipment.

**d. Playground Dedication**

The date chosen for the Playground Dedication/Last Day of the Season Party will be October 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. It would honor the GLARC, Gilmore Foundation, Boy Scouts and many volunteers for making so many wonderful improvements possible. Cider, donuts, and apples will be served. Cathy suggested that we offer those who attend the option of pre-buying 2021 Park passes.

Peggy will work on a press release/article to be sent to area newspapers, and many suggestions of good outlets were given. Donna will prepare an announcement to send out to interested persons and groups.

**Member Time**

- a. Cathy Knauf was officially welcomed to the Committee.
- b. No paper surveys were handed in to the Township office, but Peggy interviewed several park visitors. This may be a more productive way of gaining feedback, as people hate filling out forms. Visitors often have multigenerational history with the park, and enjoy how clean and quiet it is. They often come for birthdays and other family events, and look forward to having fun at the playground.
- c. The Little Library materials have arrived, and Luke is currently in the midst of construction on it.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.  
Next meeting will be October 17, 2020.

Respectfully submitted: Peggy Sattler