

**Ross Township  
12086 M-89  
Richland, Mi. 49083  
269-731-4888**

**Ross Township Park & Recreation Committee Meeting  
March 4, 2021, 6PM**

**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 Offices. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Donna Tellam, Chair  
Cathy Knauf  
Lynn Harmon  
Peggy Sattler

2021 Park Manager: Ken Greenwood

Attending via phone: Gail Hurn

Absent: Christopher Gottwald

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Cathy moved to approve the Agenda as submitted. Seconded by Lynn and passed.

**MINUTES FROM February 4, 2021**

Minutes from the February Park Committee meeting were reviewed, and Lynn moved to accept them as presented. Seconded by Gail and **passed**.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The March 3, 2021 Park Financial Report was submitted by Donna, having been reviewed by Ross Township CPA, Jeff Root. It listed Park Revenue and Expenses for the summer of 2020 to date. The current balance is \$14,708.

Ken offered to provide a monthly park report next month and going forward, detailing monthly revenues and expenses, and the sources of each.

Lynn moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Peggy and **passed**.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Signs for the Playground Project and Park

The Playground dedication sign listing the grantors and Boy Scouts, at 48" x 60," is available from Printex for \$370. Gail liked the logo and brown and yellow of the new sign and will check with Printex to see if they can do new signs in wood with a Park logo and same colors. Donna provided possible examples from other parks, and wording that listed "in gratitude for their generous contributions to create this ... park for the ... enjoyment of all visitors" also sounded good.

The Park Rules sign is in good shape but should be cleaned up. It is 36" x 60." Bill Tellam suggested that parts of the existing Park Rules sign could be painted over, and new decals showing a No Smoking symbol, fees for walk-ins, fine changes etc. could be applied. As for No Smoking signs, new this year, it was suggested that one could be placed west of the entrance hut, where drivers would see it, and 3 or 4 on the edge of the parking lot toward the beach. They should be white with red lettering. With a size of 12 X 18 Inches. Gail and Chris will get bids for those.

New "Ross Township Park" signs have been installed 300 yds north and south of the park north along East Gull Lake Drive, and approved by Kalamazoo County Road Commission Inspector Brian Franklin. Rathco costs for the new Park signs came in slightly lower, at \$438.

### Park Rules and Regulations

Rob Thrall, Township Attorney, reviewed our list of Park Rules and Regulations. They were approved and passed by the Ross Township Board.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Fund Raiser/Donations to Meet Matching Funds for Beach Redo DNR Grant

Cathy submitted a list of ideas that we could use to raise the match for a DNR grant. Ideas included:

- Taco Night at the Park with carry-out taco meal boxes from a local eatery
- Fourth of July with food to watch the fireworks over Gull Lake (staying open later)
- Sponsorships at various level, with bronze, silver and gold plaques (Olympic Year?)
- Coordinate with the North Country Trail to encourage hikers to stop by, such as being listed on their trail guide, plus other mutual promotion (Peggy will look into)
- Kids Art Day/Show, possibly on a nature or family theme, Juried
- Veterans Appreciation Day

### Park Manager Back-Ups For Summer

Ken has lined up four people to work as park attendants this summer, and expects to hire seven. Peggy and Gail also volunteered to provide back-up when needed, dog for geese-herding, etc.

#### Volunteer's for Athletic Mentors' TriAthlon on August 1, 2021

Athletic Mentors will be using Park space for their annual Tri Camp Triathlon on Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, for members of their six week Tri Camp for adults and youth. They will also use the park for six Camp sessions (Thursdays: 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, and 7/29). Volunteers will be needed starting at 7:00am.

#### Park Safety Lighting

Donna discussed Park lighting for safety in the evenings with Christina Hutchings, our new Township Supervisor. Christina identified this as a liability issue, one that should come out of the Township budget. Donna received one returned bid for the project, from Buise Electric. Their representative, Jeremiah, met Donna at the Park to determine what was needed. He had spoken to the neighbors about their concerns and outlined what would be needed for safety concerns. Lights would be directed downward and toward the grassy area by the lake. The project would cost between \$5K to \$10K. The bid is to follow.

#### Park Use Application Form

Donna researched and developed a form to be used by groups wishing to use the Park for gatherings, etc. It will be available at the Township Office. It will be reviewed by the Park Committee and then forwarded to the Township Supervisor for signature and date.

#### May Work Day

The Gull Lake Area Rotary Club will have a spring clean-up day at the Park on May 15<sup>th</sup>. They will assemble the ADA picnic table and bike rack, paint and repair the entrance hut. Blue with lime green trim was suggested, to match the playground colors. Scout Troop #239 will have two Tuesday evening work/cleanup times in the park, at the end of April and 1st of May.

#### Misc.

Current State guidelines for COVID as of March 5<sup>th</sup> allow outside gatherings of up to 300 people, so restrictions in the Park this year should be minimal or none.

One goose-deterrent flagpole will need to be replaced this year.

Another memorial bench is being donated.

#### **MEMBER TIME**

Ken Greenwood was welcomed as the new Park Manager.

#### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

The next meeting will be April 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Ross Township Office.

Respectfully submitted:

Peggy Sattler