



**Village of Spring Lake  
Parks & Rec Committee**

**Monday, May 1, 2017**

**7.00pm**

**102 West Savidge Street (EOC Room)**

**Minutes**

**I. Call to Order**

**Roll Call:** Curt Brower (Chair), Claire Groenevelt (Vice Chair), Cal Braun, Erik Poel, Lee Schuitema and Megan Doss (Village Liaison)

**Absent:** George Barfield

**Also Present:** Chris Burns (Village Manager), Maryann Fonkert (Deputy Clerk)

- II. Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Groenevelt**, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 5      No: 0

- III. Approval of the Minutes:** Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Braun**, to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2017 regular meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 5      No: 0

- IV. Finance Reports:** **Burns** went over the finance reports with the Board, reporting that they were tracking well as they neared the end of this fiscal year. **Burns** also shared that, with the costs of disincorporation, they were having to rob Peter to pay Paul to cover expenses but, so far, they have not had to take from the Parks budget but by June it might happen as these expenses mount. **Schuitema** asked if the guy that damaged the life guard chairs insurance was paying for repairs. **Burns** said that a claim has been turned in and that his insurance would be paying.

- V. Whistle Stop Park:** **Doss** shared that May 19<sup>th</sup> was the potential arrival date and that the 2 trees were down, the area was being prepped and the old drinking fountain had been removed and donated to the Presbyterian Church's Dinosaur park. **Doss** said that as soon as they had solid times for delivery and setup they would share them with everyone.

**VI. Parks Updates**

- Central Park – **Burns** reported that Grand Haven Township has looked at our pickleball courts because they are contemplating putting in 8 to 10 pickleball courts because of the popularity.

**Burns** introduced Deb Mascarin, who was present to ask the Board to amend the Pickleball court rules. Ms. Mascarin said that she was the new Pickleball Ambassador of Spring Lake and, as a neutral party, asked the Board if they would consider allowing players to reserve courts for 2 hour increments instead of the 1 ½ hours that was allowed per the rules. **Burns** explained that the 1 ½ hours was decided on to keep players rotating out to avoid monopolization of the courts. **Poel** said that he had researched on line nationwide to find the average of rental fees and reservations and they ranged from 1 hour, 1 ½ hours to 2 hours, so they split the difference with 1 ½ hours. The **Board** felt they had already spent a lot of time on Pickleball and its rules so they were not interested in changing them. The **Board** did clarify that, where the rules read: *Social Groups: No charge; up to two 90-minute sessions per day allowed during non-peak times for up to 6 courts*, to mean two 90-minute sessions consecutively per day, allowing the players to reserve the courts a total of 3 hours. Ms. Mascarin was very happy with that and thanked the Board for their time.

Motion by **Poel**, second by **Schuitema**, to keep the Pickleball rules as written for the summer of 2017, with the clarification of two 90-minute sessions consecutively per day. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 5      No: 0

- Lakeside Beach – No update at this time.
- Mill Point Park – **Burns** shared that they have asked the DDA to consider budgeting for resurfacing the parking lot and if the budget was approved and the DDA approved paying for it, they would see that project after July 1, 2017.
- Lakeside Trail – **Burns** reported that the Village shared the cost of repairs for the Connector Path with Ferrysburg and the City of Grand Haven and there was a large repair project scheduled to take place after the busy summer season. **Burns** explained that this would consist of a complete removal and replacement of the guard rail and repairs to the concrete decking.

- Tanglefoot – **Burns** reported that Wally was back, the park was open and docks were in. **Burns** also shared a couple of anonymous complaint letters regarding the Park Manager, but felt that if the person that wrote them could not own them, then she did not feel the need to address the complaints or bring them to Wally.

1. **Miscellaneous** – **Burns** shared a draft letter to Council with the **Boards** stand against disincorporation. **Brower** shared a version that he and his wife edited with language they would like to see added. The **Board** discussed the loss of parks should disincorporation be voted in. **Doss** encouraged the Board to read over the letter, tweak it, and give it back to **Burns** to deliver to Council. **Doss** also encouraged the **Board** to educate family and friends on the ramifications of disincorporation, because there would be no going back.

## VII. Tree Board Meeting

1. **Tree Nursery Plaque** – **Burns** shared that she had received an email from Gary Verplank saying that he had a donation of \$10,254 to the Tree Fund as part of the Victoria Verplank Tree Memorial. **Burns** said that, because the trees in the tree nursery were not big enough to replant yet, she hoped to take bids for the purchase of trees and planting. **Burns** asked the **Board** for their ideas on how they would like to allocate this donation. **Doss** shared that the North Bank Communities Fund said yes to a grant for a plaque for the Tree Nursery to honor Vickie Verplank.

## VIII. Adjournment

Motion by **Groenevelt**, second from **Braun**, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Curt Brower, Chair

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Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk