



## Minutes

**Village of Spring Lake  
Parks & Recreation Board Meeting  
Monday, March 2, 2020  
7:00 p.m.  
102 West Exchange Street  
Spring Lake, MI 49456**

### **I. Call to Order**

**Roll Call:** Curt Brower (Chair), Claire Groenevelt (Vice Chair), George Barfield, Darcy Dye, Eric Poel, Lee Schuitema and Susan Petrus (Village Council Liaison).

**Absent:** None

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

- II. Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by **Poel**, second from **Barfield**, to approve the agenda as amended, postponing items 6 through 9 until the April 6th, 2020 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 6                      No: 0

- III. Approval of the Minutes:** Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Barfield**, to approve the February 3, 2020 regular meeting minutes with amendments to **Dye's** statement regarding possible financial help painting a port a potty. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 6                      No: 0

- IV. Finance Report: Postponed until the April 6, 2020 meeting.**

- V. DNR Trust Fund Grant Application (Public Input) – Burns** explained that the focus of this meeting was the grant application the Village would be submitting to the DNR Trust Fund for renovations at Tanglefoot Park and that one of the requirements of the application was to obtain input from the community. **Burns** introduced DDA Director, Angela Stanford-Butler and intern from Grand Valley, DeMario Johnson, who were writing the grant along with the help of a consultant on details. **Burns** explained that a focus group had been established and have met to discuss details and budget but they have not landed on a design or exact specifications yet and that a couple of the members of that group were in attendance.

**Angela Stanford-Butler** explained that the 3 grants from the DNR they were looking into were the DNR Trust Fund Grant, Land, Water & Conservation Fund Grant and Recreational Passport Fund Grant. **Stanford-Butler** said the grant funds available to the Village were to be used exclusively for outdoors, primarily park areas with waterfront, an ecosystem that the community could benefit from and ADA accessibility such as wheelchair accessible and visually impaired. **Stanford-Butler** shared concept boards showing ideas for Tanglefoot Park which included open green space, moving the kayak launch and making it ADA accessible, an overlook to make the most of the water front, Art in the Park possibilities, way-finding signage and possibly a splash pad.

**Dye** asked if someone could give an idea for what the Citizens Committee had been working on. **Burns** shared that the committee had covered a lot of ground and initially started out dreaming rather big but money was an object. **Burns** said they had explored a couple of different options for the farmers market, public space, indoor/outdoor very flexible space that could be used more than one season. Increasing pedestrian crossings and safety along Exchange Street and connectivity, with their primary focus on the structure. **Burns** introduced the members of the Citizens Committee to the Parks Board and said they were probably 2 meetings away from settling on anything specific and probably 3 community engagements away from having a joint meeting with Council, Planning Commission, Parks Board and DDA. **Petrus** asked if the grant application give them the leeway to continue the plan. **Stanford-Butler** explained that the applications were due on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and the soonest they would hear from them was October and no moneys would be delivered until December of this year or beginning of next year and then they would have 2 years to complete the project, however, they would need to have cost estimates of the conceptual amenities such as improved parking, seating, way-finding, green space and overlooks for the applications which they were waiting on from the consultants.

Chairman **Brower** opened the Public Hearing at 7:18 p.m.

The following residents spoke during the Public Hearing.

- Christine Hunt, 214 W Exchange St.
- William Doolittle, 234 S Buchanan St.
- Elizabeth Wheeler, 120 N Lake
- David Dye, 114 N Fruitport Rd
- Catherine Maki, 708 Winter
- Richard Martinus, 207 S Park
- Tommy Callen, Carriage Way
- Cheryl Carlisle, 223 E Savidge
- Marianne Martinus, 207 S Park
- Gary Hanks, 116 S Jackson

Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Groenevelt**, to close the Public Hearing at 7:56 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 6                      No: 0

**VI. Miscellaneous Parks Updates – Postponed until April 6, 2020 meeting.**

**Tree Board Meeting**

**VII. Tree City USA – Postponed until the April 6, 2020 meeting.**

**VIII. Miscellaneous – Postponed until the April 6, 2020 meeting**

**IX. Board Member Comments – Dye** said the she wanted to go on record as saying she knows the work that goes into projects like this and that she was in Village Hall often enough to see how much work a small staff puts in to make things happen. **Dye** said the Board and the citizens at large need to be grateful for the work that staff does and, that being said, **Dye** thought that there needed to be better ways to keep the public informed as projects unfold, keeping everyone in the loop, so they can take ownership of these projects even if plans change.

**Schuitema** updated the Board on the muskrat situation.

**Adjournment**

Motion by **Schuitema**, second from **Barfield**, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 6

No: 0

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Curt Brower, Chair

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Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk