Minutes
Village of Spring Lake
Parks & Recreation Board Meeting
Monday, August 3, 2020
7:00 p.m.
Dial-in number: (786) 535-3211
Access code: 571-504-333
Spring Lake, MI 49456

I. Call to Order at 7:09 p.m.

Roll Call: Curt Brower (Chair), Claire Groenevelt 7:02 (Vice Chair), George Barfield, Darcy Dye, Lee Schuitema and Susan Petrus (Village Council Liaison).

Absent: Erik Poel

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

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

Yes: 5  No: 0

III. Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the July 6, 2020 regular meeting were not included in this packet. Minutes will be included in the September 8, 2020 packet.

IV. Finance Reports: Burns updated the Board on the Finance Report.

V. Eagle Scout Project (Kyle Powers) – Chairman Brower shared that he had met with Kyle at the dog park and they went over the proposed project together. Kyle Powers shared a power point explaining details of the upgrades and repairs he would like to do in the dog park which included agility equipment and repairs to the fence, fill in low areas and plant grass. Burns said some of those repairs were on the DPW's list so she asked Kyle if he would rather they left those repairs to him. Kyle said he was okay either way because he also has another idea. Stanford-Butler explained that a volunteer week was scheduled to take place in September through Lilley Cares, and they were looking for volunteers so she would be interested in working with Kyle to coordinate projects. The Board discussed repairs, changes and additions that the Asset Management Plan had noted and park users had requested to determine what parts of these items would be an achievable Eagle Scout project for Kyle and agreed that he would reach out to Stanford-Butler to coordinate his project with Volunteer Week.

VI. Parks & Recreation Asset Management Plan Discussion – Burns shared the Parks & Recreation Asset Management Plan and explained that the potential donor was very pleased with the plan but would like to see it go a little more in depth with a more structured maintenance plan. Burns explained that the donor was very interested in Council considering a millage for parks maintenance since the Library millage would be falling off. The Board discussed a millage and the struggles residents were going to be facing with the water and sewer rates going up. Dye suggested they sort out the immediate safety issues and cost of repairs as a starting place. Petrus suggested looking for grants to help pay for high water damage. The Board agreed the Asset Management Plan was very well done.
Burns shared some of the plans that Lilley Cares has for the Village and volunteer projects. The Board discussed the Lilley Cares proposed Steering Committee’s agreement, member list and how project final approvals would be handled.

VII. Miscellaneous Parks Updates:
- Whistle Stop Playground – Burns reported that the pour and place surfacing was pealing up so the vendor assured her that they would fix it at no charge since it was still under warranty. Burns also said that a Porta Potty had been installed at Whistle Stop and that within an hour of it being placed, a complaint had been posted on Facebook, but she thought when the fence enclosure was finished, they will have a better view.
- Lakeside Trail – Burns shared that a section of black fence was being removed between Brooklyn Bagels and the trail and Consumers Energy would be removing a power pole with a transformer that was no longer being used. Schuitema asked if the section of fence could be used at the dog park. Burns said that section was much taller than the dog park fence but there were a couple other sections that Robert Lopez had asked about removing that might work for the dog park.
- Tanglefoot Park – Burns reported that the focus group would see the final design and cost estimates in the next week or so and then they would start working on the bond process.
- Central Park - Burns said a complaint regarding reservations for the pavilions had been received and one regarding rainwater shedding from the basketball courts into a resident’s yard. Burns said the water runoff was a legitimate complaint and DPW was going to take care of the problem. Burns reported that Pickleball players have said they are very happy with the new scheduling process. Barfield reported that 2 different times he has had to get off of the bike path to get out of the way of cars driving on the path to get out of Central Park.

VIII. Public Comment
There was no public comment.

Tree Board Meeting

IX. 213 Mason (Branch Removal) – Burns reported that there were branches from a Village tree hanging over the garage at 213 Mason St. that needed to be trimmed this fall. Burns said she would be working with Lee Mueller to create a comprehensive tree maintenance list and that Mr. Mueller would be preparing the grant application with a few modifications from last year’s application with hopes that it would be successful this time and a complete tree inventory would be possible to create.

X. Miscellaneous
- 715 Liberty – Burns reported that there was a smaller dead tree at 715 Liberty that had been forgotten last fall so DPW will remove this fall.
- Stumps – Burns said there were a few stumps that the stump grinder was not able to take out because of the location so the DPW would be taking them out. Barfield asked about the health of the trees at the end of Alden Street that had been standing in water for a long time. Dye said they were dead, and they would need to be removed in the spring to avoid becoming a liability. Burns said those trees were planted as part of a DNR Trust Fund Grant and, at some point, would need to be replanted.

XI. Board Member Comments – No additional comments from the Board.
XII. Adjournment

Motion by Brower, second from Schuitema, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 5     No: 0

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Curt Brower, Chair                         Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk