

Superior Township Park Commission
Regular Meeting
April 27, 2015

Adopted Minutes

- I. Call to Order
Chair Jan Berry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- II. Roll Call
Park Commissioners present: Jan Berry, Marion Morris, Mirada Jenkins, Terry Lee Lansing, Sandi Lopez, Martha Kern-Boprie

Park Commissioners absent: none

Others present: Trustee Alex Williams; Keith Lockie, Park Administrator; David Buterbaugh, Maintenance Supervisor; Patrick Pigott, Recreation Coordinator; Nahid Sanii-Yahyai; Carla Bisaro
- III. Flag Salute
Chair Jan Berry led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- IV. Agenda Approval
It was moved by Sandi Lopez and supported by Marion Morris to approve the agenda with the addition of:
Communications – letter from Carla Bisaro and Park Usage Form from Christopher Cole
New Business – Use of Oakbrook Park by Christopher Cole for baseball and Superior Day Plans Update. The motion carried.
- V. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval
 - A. March 23, 2015
It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Sandi Lopez to approve the minutes of 3/23/15 as drafted. During discussion on the motion, Sandi Lopez noted that the proposed minutes contained an error in the Board Liaison Report, as the second paragraph of this reports reads “A parcel on Plymouth Road across from Vreeland was re-zoned to residential from commercial.” Sandi stated that Plymouth Road and Vreeland Road are not near each other at any point. Martha Kern-Boprie responded that the report submitted by Trustee Alex Williams contained that text, and thus the minutes are an accurate reflection of the meeting and this report. Trustee Williams was present today, and commented that he made an error in his report, that he intended to report on a parcel on Plymouth Road across from Vorhies Road. The motion to approve the minutes as drafted carried.
- VI. Citizen Participation
Chair Jan Berry introduced the two candidates for appointment to the Park Commission, to fill the remainder of the term open since the passing of Uva Wilbanks. The candidates are Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and Carla Bisaro. Chair Berry informed the Park Commissioners that the actual appointment will be made by the Township Board. The Township Board however asked that the Park Commission interview the candidates, and make a recommendation to the Township Board.

Nahid Sanii-Yahyai has been a resident of Superior Township since 2006 and worked as a research scientist for Pfizer, until that company moved away from this area. She also holds a degree in Fine Arts. She is especially interested in children’s programs. She is fond of the rural atmosphere in Superior Township and its proximity to Ann Arbor. She has a positive track record of accomplishing

new programs. At Pfizer, she advocated for a day-care center and a lactation room for staff members, both of which the company implemented. Her volunteer work includes service to Meals on Wheels, United Way and the Science Fair at Ann Arbor Huron High School. Nahid stated she is very passionate about her commitments.

Carla Bisaro moved to Superior Township in 2002. She serves on the Citizens to Promote Superior Township, and has volunteered on Park Commission planting days, with the nature conservancy and as a cub scout den mother.

VII. Board Liaison Report

Trustee Alex Williams reported that State Representative David Rutledge gave a presentation to the Township Board on Proposal #1 which will appear on the May 5 state-wide ballot. Rep. Rutledge reviewed many aspects of this proposal, and recommended a "Yes" vote on it. Problems continue to occur at Fairfax Manor. Citizens for Oil Free Backyards gave a presentation at the Matthai Botanical Gardens. Townships may be able to regulate pipelines. A food truck selling produce and cheese will operate weekly near Sycamore Meadows. The food truck is operated by a group called "Peaches and Greens". Owners of the party store on MacArthur went to court seeking re-instatement of their liquor license, and were denied. The report on consolidation of the Ann Arbor Township – Superior Township Fire Departments is complete, although it has not been released yet. The Shock property will be cleaned and replanted. The Township Board renewed the contract with Charles Swanson for sidestreet roadside mowing. The Township Board approved the Farmers Market in Dixboro. The Vorhies Road project was not approved, due to budget concerns.

VIII. Park Reports

A. Chairperson

Chair Jan Berry reported that **Park Commissioners** requested action from the Township Supervisor to protect parks in Superior Township. The Egg Hunt on April 4 was successful, with 800 eggs filled with candy given away. The controlled burn in Cherry Hill Nature Preserve (CHNP) was successful. The deck on a boardwalk in CHNP was marked with graffiti. Park Commissioners suggested installing security cameras. A University of Michigan class was in CHNP.

B. Administrator

Keith Lockie submitted a written report.

The 2014 financial audit occurred the week of March 2. Results will be presented to the Township Board on May 18. The Park Fund put \$12,509 into general reserves, which is largely due to budgeting for a replacement mower that was not purchased.

2015 Park Improvements discussed at The January commission meeting included:

Fireman's Park Pavillion	Schroeter Park Fencing
North Prospect Park improvements	Schroeter Park Boardwalk
CHNP Boardwalk Continuation	

A check for \$100.00 was remitted to Oakbrook Park, LLC to help with their equipment purchases.

Maintenance Update

Invasives were cleared in Schock Park

A bench for Oakbrook Park, donated by the Millen Family, was constructed by Park staff. The bench will be installed in the near future.

Spring cleanup in all parks continues.

Spring equipment was prepped and winter equipment was stored.

C. Board Meeting Attendees

Marion Morris reported that the food truck operated by Peaches and Greens will make fresh produce, cheese and bread available to residents of Sycamore Meadows and Danbury Park Manor beginning 6/01/15. Bridge and SNAP cards will be accepted by Peaches and Greens. Marion also reported that a significant source of the problems at Fairfax Manor are patients with mental health and substance abuse histories. She reported that a classic car show is scheduled for 6/27/15 in the township hall parking lot. Dead trees on Prospect Road will be removed and lighting in the township hall parking lot will be improved. Sandi Lopez added that Washtenaw County will conduct a controlled burn in the Kosch Nature Preserve on April 30th at 3:00 pm

D. Park Steward – no report

E. Safety

David Buterbaugh reported there were no accidents or injuries in the past month.

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Mirada Jenkins to receive the Parks Reports. The motion carried.

IX. Communications

- A. Email from Jan Berry about Uva Wilbanks' funeral
- B. Letter of interest from Nahid Sanii-Yahyai for open Park Commission seat
- C. Letter of interest for Carla Bisaro for open Park Commission seat
- D. Park Usage Form from Christopher Cole for Oakbrook Park

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Mirada Jenkins to receive the Communications. The motion carried.

X. Old Business

A. 2015 Park Projects

Commissioners discussed priorities for 2015 park projects.
Schroeter Park – deal with wet areas. Repair/improve fencing after reviewing county plans.
Cherry Hill Nature Preserve – boardwalk improvements
North Prospect Park – fill in low areas, potentially improve parking
Community Park – repair the tennis court

Park tours are planned during May and June Park Commission meetings.

B. Fireman's Park Pavillion

The Building Official informed the Park Department that architectural drawings are needed for the pavilion in Fireman's Park. This requirement will add expense to the project and time to complete the pavilion

XI. New Business

A. Open Park Commission Seat

Park Commissioners discussed the attributes each of the candidates for Park Commission would bring to the commission. Commissioners were reminded that the appointment would fill the position through November 2016. All Park Commission seats, including this open seat, will be up for election in the 2016 Primary and General elections. It was moved by Sandi Lopez and supported by Martha Kern-Boprie to recommend to the Superior Township Board that Nahid Sanii-Yahyai be appointed to the open Park Commission seat. The motion carried.

B. Use of Oakbrook Park by Christopher Cole for baseball

Approved by Superior Township Park Commission on 5/26/2015.

Christopher Cole submitted a form request use of Oakbrook Park on Saturday mornings for baseball practice. This use does not conflict with any other scheduled uses. Park Commissioners concurred with letting Mr. Cole use Oakbrook Park as requested.

C. Superior Day Plans

Marion Morris provided an update on plans for Superior Day 2015. This event is scheduled on June 13. Exhibits including farm animals, Ypsilanti District Library, Superior Land Conservancy, Citizens to Promote Superior Township, the Human Society and Congresswoman Debbie Dingell will be present. A flyer to promote Superior Day is in development.

XII. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Sandi Lopez to pay the bills totaling \$8,850.26. The motion carried.

XIII. Financial Statements

It was moved by Sandi Lopez and supported by Mirada Jenkins to receive the March 31, 2015 Financial Statements. The motion carried.

XIV. Pleas and Petitions

Jan Berry recommended that a park bench in memory of Commissioner Uva Wilbanks be installed in a township park, perhaps Harvest Moon Park.

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Mirada Jenkins to install a park bench in memory of Commissioner Uva Wilbanks in Harvest Moon Park. The motion carried.

XV. Adjournment

It was moved by Marion Morris and supported by Mirada Jenkins to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. The motion carried.

Submitted by,
Martha Kern-Boprie, Park Commissioner and Secretary