

**Parks and Recreation Committee**  
Clearwater Township, Kalkaska County, Michigan  
Regular Meeting of January 2, 2024 at 6:00 PM  
Clearwater Township Community Center, 5407 River St, Rapid City, Michigan  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
*Approved February 6, 2024*

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**Mission Statement:** *We work to provide clean and safe recreational areas for our residents to enjoy the outdoors and provide diverse recreational opportunities for the social, cultural, and physical well-being of our residents for present and future generations. We strive to protect the natural habitat and special outdoor places that enrich our lives and community.*

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- A. Call to Order - 6:03 PM
- B. Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors
  - a. Kristi Spencer-Nemec -remotely via Zoom, Kelli Melenyk, JoAnne Childs, Mike Spann, Margret Spann, Craig Van-Loom
- C. Public Comment (3 minutes)
  - a. Craig Van Loom - Would like to see a community night again at the gym: basketball, floor hockey, volleyball 2-3 nights a week or a movie night. Said outside people shouldn't get first priority.
- D. Additions/Approval of Agenda
  - a. MOTION to move maintenance report up to E. by Melenyk, seconded by Spann, motion unanimously approved.
- E. Maintenance Report
  - a. Proposed having a damage deposit for gym rental with the newly refinished floor. Also proposed a rate increase for non-resident rental.
  - b. Presented a security locker and net storage rack for the new volleyball system.
    - i. MOTION for Security lock at \$409.95 plus shipping from Global Industrial by Melenyk, seconded by Spann, motion unanimously approved.
    - ii. MOTION for Jaypro storage cart for net at \$359.95 from Anthem Sports by Spann, seconded by Childs, motion unanimously approved.
- F. Corrections/Approval of Minutes from last meeting
  - a. MOTION to approve meeting minutes by Melenyk, seconded by Spann, motion unanimously approved.
- G. Committee Reports
  - a. Chairperson: Michael Spann - Chromebook was ordered.
  - b. Vice Chair: Kelli Melenyk
    - i. Grant updates - waiting for BoardSupervisor to sign contract for grant application contract for Freedom Park grants.
    - ii. Need to hold a Public Input Session for grant application requirements
    - iii. MOTION for Public Input Session to be held Feb 20th 6-7pm at LRSH (Community Hall) by Spann, seconded by Childs, motion unanimously approved.
    - iv. Need to work on the rest of the grant requirements -Melenyk will contact the board about the contract and paperwork needed.
  - c. Secretary: Kristi Spencer-Nemec -no report
  - d. Board Member: JoAnne Childs
    - i. Garden Group - paused until Spring

- ii. Would like to seek grant funding for improving safety hazards at the lake accesses. Will work with Lisa Leedy on this.

#### H. Other Reports

- a. Heritage Festival Committee ([www.rapidcityheritagefestival.org](http://www.rapidcityheritagefestival.org)):
  - i. Spaghetti Dinner will be held February 10th with live music from the Darrell Boger Band 5-8pm

#### I. Old Business

- a. Freedom Park / Old Iron Bridge relocation - GFA drew up conceptual plans and cost estimates. Seeking grant funding to assist.
  - i. Nature Playscape, partnering with Kalkaska Conservation District - review in 2024
  - ii. Stairs and handrails to Footbridge will need to be replaced in 2024.
- b. Gym Floor Restoration with Sports Floor Restoration is complete and volleyball floor sleeves are installed. The old Volleyball Net System has been donated to SEEDS.
- a. Heritage Park concept design - approved, waiting on GFA to draw up contract and Board to sign.
- c. Lamp Post Banners
  - i. Lisa Lirones provided new vertical images. Pictures were reviewed. 4 pictures were selected for use in the banners.
  - ii. MOTION for the 4 images to be used for lamp post banners with 12 banners total by Spencer-Nemec, seconded by Spann, motion unanimously approved.
  - iii. Spann seeking an updated Pro Image estimate #2099
- d. Park rules and signage - Ordinance #20 of 2007 - amendments adopted
  - i. Logos were approved at the December 2023 meeting by vote.



- ii. Spann seeking Pro Image estimate for 6-14 signs
- e. North Region Active Transportation Plan (non-motorized transportation)
- f. Heritage Roadside Park (the Vietnam Memorial property off M-72) volunteers want to develop mountain biking/multi-use trails, a disc golf course and a small ski/snowboard run.
  - i. Kiel filed a FOIA - looking into whether the foundation or township has authority on what happens at the parcel
- g. 2024 Budget Planning - Final Township Budget Meeting on January 6th at 10 AM.
- h. The Watershed Center of Grand Traverse Bay requested to post signs at our access points along Rapid River to increase awareness and education about the New Zealand mudsnail.
- i. *Future meetings:*
  - i. *Spring:*
    1. *Heritage Walking Trail, repairs and resealing, edging needed*
    2. *Heritage Park- water spigot/hose bib needs to be installed on the outside of the pump house, drinking fountain needs to be ordered and installed.*
    3. *Water quality to be tested and potable water signs posted.*

4. *Tree bladders to be re-installed at Heritage.*
- ii. *Webpage updates needed: donations for projects, lists of what can be sponsored, individual park pages (use gtrlc.org as an example website).*
- iii. *Memorial Benches, Bricks, and Plaques*
  1. *Switch to memorial plaques that can be installed on benches.*
  2. *Need to find metal frames similar to existing benches.*

J. New Business

K. Public Comment (3 minutes)

L. Adjournment - MOTION to adjourn at 9:00 PM by Spann, seconded by Melenyk, motion unanimously approved.

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 6:00 PM

P&R Budget 2023-2024 fiscal year: \$30k, remaining = \$11,894.44

- \$42.34 - Youth Basketballs (P&R approved 4/4/23)
- \$129 - 2 women's / 2 men's Basketballs (P&R approved 4/4/23)
- Up to \$350 - DNR plaque (P&R approved 7/11/23)
- \$132.22 - ReLeaf expenses: auger rental, soil, mulch, hauling, etc. (P&R approved 9/5/23)
- \$16,300 - Sports Floor Restoration for Gym Floor (Board approved 10/21/23)
- Up to \$500 - Tarps and Lumber for Heritage Pavilion (P&R approved 11/7/23)
- Up to \$500 - Overseeding fields at Heritage (P&R approved 11/7/23)
- \$161 Samsung Galaxy Chromebook (P&R approved 12/5/23)