

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

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.*

- A. Call to Order at 6:05 PM
- B. Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors
 - a. JoAnne Childs, Mike Spann, Kristi Spencer-Nemec, Kelli Melenyk, Tim Lund, Margret Spann, Dave Halachukas
- C. Public Comment (3 minutes)
- D. Additions/Approval of Agenda - MOTION to amend and add Tim Lund to the agenda by Spencer-Nemec, seconded by Spann, motion carried.
- E. Corrections/Approval of Minutes from last meeting - MOTION to approve the minutes by Spencer-Nemec, seconded by Melenyk, motion carried.
- F. Special Guest - Tim Lund - Gave brief history of parks committee and previous DNR grant site manager that helped to fund creation of Heritage Park. Traverse Bay Outdoors, Elmers, and Tri-Turf were the companies used with the initial build. Original DNR grant required funds be set aside for maintenance and used contracted companies to maintain it. When maintenance canceled the company contract to “maintain in-house”, care went downhill and the parks eventually deteriorated into their current condition. MOTION to recommend to the board to hire Tim Lund for restoration and maintenance of Heritage Park by Spencer-Nemec, seconded by Spann, motion carried.
- G. Maintenance Report: Craig Van Loon - No updates
 - a. Grass seed for Spring/Fall will cost \$1,000 per application, top soil needs to be added.
 - b. Determining lake accesses property boundaries to take out rotting fencing.
 - c. Updated/Missing rules signs to be posted in parks
 - d. Freedom Park West dugout to be removed and the existing fence moved to the property line.
 - e. Heritage Park:
 - i. Sprinkler system -will be attended to June 10 by Traverse Outdoor Maintenance
 - ii. Water quality needs to be tested and potable water signs posted at Freedom and Heritage Parks
 - iii. Walking trail repairs scheduled for July 15-18 to be completed by Picture Perfect
 - iv. Well - Need to ask about a new pump cost and if that would work to increase water for Heritage Park as we are seeking to install a multi use water station.
 - v. Electrician for Scoreboard repairs.
 - f. Look into removal/donation of Anne DeVol’s outdoor volleyball net
- H. Committee Reports
 - a. Chairperson: Michael Spann
 - i. Volleyball Ratchets/Velcro Straps - TBD
 - b. Vice Chair: Kelli Melenyk
 - i. Inquiry request submitted to Carter’s Kids Foundation for more information on assistance with Playground Equipment
 - ii. Requesting to work with a grant writer to apply for the Great Lakes Sports

- Commission grant - Lisa Leedy agreed to help 6/1/24
- c. Secretary: Kristi Spencer-Nemec
 - i. Banners - ready for pick-up next week
 - d. Board Member: JoAnne Childs
 - i. Garden Group
 - 1. Receipt needed for \$50 delivery of Get Chip-Drop Mulch
 - ii. Bid sheet for Freedom Park footbridge iron-work handrails and stone or stamped concrete stairs.
- I. Other Reports
- a. Heritage Festival Committee (www.rapidcityheritagefestival.org) - July 11th kicks off evenings on Rapid River, Heritage Festival takes place August 22-25.
- J. Old Business
- a. Freedom Park
 - i. Bob Underhill should be submitting bids for dugout removal and footbridge
 - ii. Playground Equipment
 - b. Heritage Park - Supplies to ordered:
 - i. Chalk, Stencil, Spray Paint
 - ii. Ballfield drag
 - iii. Pitching machine balls
 - iv. 2 small soccer nets
 - c. 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget and Millage
 - i. This years budget is our millage only. Clerk will start sending monthly snapshots of account statements.
 - d. *Future meetings:*
 - i. *Heritage Park - Concept design approved, waiting on GFA to draw up the contract, and then Board to sign.*
 - ii. *North Region Active Transportation Plan (non-motorized transportation)*
 - iii. *Heritage Veterans Park - volunteers want to develop mountain biking/multi-use trails, a disc golf course and a small ski/snowboard run if authority returns to township.*
 - iv. *Webpage updates needed: donations for projects, lists of what can be sponsored, individual park pages (use gtrlc.org as an example website)*
 - v. *501.c.3 Friends of Clearwater Township is in creation.*
 - vi. *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.*
- K. New Business
- a. Look into concrete forms/molds in place of actual boulders for park barriers
- L. Public Comment (3 minutes)
- M. REVIEW ACTION ITEMS
- a. Spann to look into Volleyball Ratchets/Velcro Straps
 - b. Melenyk to work with Lisa Leedy to apply for the Great Lakes Sports Commission grant
 - c. Spencer-Nemec/Melenyk to work on Flyers for playground, google form - sign up to volunteer or pledge time/materials, should schedule a public forum this fall for input on playground equipment
 - i. Sponsorship/plaques to adopt a boulder, bench, table, playground equipment, etc.
 - d. Childs to collect bid sheets for Freedom Park footbridge iron-work handrails and stone or stamped concrete stairs.
- N. Adjournment - MOTION to adjourn by Spann at 8:45 PM

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, August 5, 2024 at 6:00 PM