

## Parks and Recreation Committee

Clearwater Township, Kalkaska County, Michigan

Regular Meeting of May 11, 2021 from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Meeting held in-person at the Little Red School House, 5407 River St, Rapid City, Michigan

MEETING MINUTES

Approved May 18, 2021

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**Mission Statement:** *The Parks and Recreation Committee works 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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Welcome! We're glad you are here to support our community. We respect your time and strive to start and end all meetings on time. All attendees are encouraged to participate and be conscientious of time.

- A. Call to Order – 6:02 PM
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Moment of Silence
- D. Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors
  - a. Committee Members: all present, Kristi Spencer-Nemec, Jordan Acker, Kelli Melenyk, JoAnne Childs, Israel Garza
  - b. Subcommittee and Community present: Norma Mariage, Joan Bonino, Christine Johnson
- E. Additions/Approval of Agenda
  - a. MOTION to approve agenda by Melenyk, second by Childs, motion carried.
- F. Corrections/Approval of Minutes from last meeting
  - a. Request to amend spelling of Acker in minutes. MOTION to approve amended minutes by Spencer-Nemec, second by Acker, motion carried.
- G. Reports
  - a. Chairperson: Kristi Spencer-Nemec
    - i. No update on Tina Fields interview
    - ii. No updates on creating by-laws
    - iii. Parks and Recreation email: parksandrec@clearwatertwp.com (Not yet working)
    - iv. Tom's report on requests:
      - 1. Heritage Park
        - a. Grounds and field maintenance from April to November
        - b. Including chalking, fertilizing, mowing, weed whacking, dragging infield, irrigation
        - c. Secondary line off well pump and new pressure tank to add water hose and drinking fountain
      - 2. Pond liner for ice rink at fire station in the winter
      - 3. DNR / Conservation dept - how much brush can we remove for trail use/visibility?
      - 4. Possible locations for old iron bridge with view of river
  - b. Interim Vice Chairperson: Kelli Melenyk
    - i. Submit requests for Parks and Recreation Master Plan by email
    - ii. DNR
      - 1. Not giving a permit to remove tree/logs in the water
      - 2. No permits needed for existing trail maintenance as long as it doesn't

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interfere with waterway or high water mark.

3. Beavers are protected animals.
    - a. Consider highlighting the fact they are here, benefits to the environment and changing landscape
  - iii. Waivers for SEEDS signed
  - iv. Sign for sign-in at work-bee created
  - v. Proposed moving Heritage Park sign lettering from barn to store at Township Hall, keeping it easily accessible to Board.
- c. Secretary: open position
- d. Zoning Administrator: Jordan Acker
- i. Updates on maintenance
    1. Fertilizer
      - a. Look into legal requirements for township grounds maintenance
      - b. Noexisting signs/notices to post after spreading fertilizer for kids/people/pets to remain off the grass
      - c. Discourage maintenance from using Round-Up
    - ii. Purchasing gloves, sanders/sandpaper, and paint brushes and rollers
    - iii. Seeking bids to repair the Freedom Park East boardwalk entrance and separate bids for the entire boardwalk.
    - iv. Cemetery spruced up for Memorial Weekend
- e. Board Representative: JoAnne Childs
- i. Updates on Civil Engineer to inspection to the Freedom Park boardwalk for safety.
    1. Prein&Newhof grant writer proposals to present to the Township Board
    2. Survey of the NW corner of Freedom Park where hopefully the Old Iron Bridge will go.
  - ii. The Sprinkler system at Heritage Park needs to be checked and adjusted to turn on at night and not during the day.
  - iii. Permission from one homeowner, allowing the garden gals to use his water outlet.
    1. MOTION to approve \$149 for purchase of water bladder for garden gals by Spencer-Nemec, second by Melenyk, motion carried.
  - iv. Jordan's wood chipper is down - ordering wood chips for work-bee
  - v. Terry Starr, superintendent of, and Marne Homberg interested in putting a foot bridge on the east end of Freedom Park over the river to school property. Terry asked to communicate with the grant writer.
  - vi. Requested to Terry Starr to give P&R option of purchase of old school playground equipment when it gets replaced at the Rapid City School.
  - vii. Water pumps should be inspected and tagged for safety as listed in the maintenance agreement
- f. Events Coordinator: Israel Garza
- i. Updates on lunch needs for Work-Bee
    1. Ice
    2. Lunch served from 11:30-1:30
- H. Other Reports
- a. Juniper Garden Club

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- i. Plant sale end of May
  - b. Garden Gals
    - i. SEEDs helping from Valley Rd. to River St.
  - c. Clearwater Clean-up Crew
    - i. Saturday, May 1 - 11 volunteers took over 15 loads to the dump
- I. Old Business
  - a. Parks and Rec Budget: \$5k, remaining = \$3,251
    - i. \$500 towards flowers and flags for cemetery
      - 1. \$279 spent on 288 flags for the cemetery
    - ii. \$250 supplies/material for Freedom Park Work-Bee
    - iii. \$200 Heritage Park ball fields diamond dust (2 tons) and delivery
    - iv. Heritage Park sprinkler system contract \$650
    - v. \$149 Garden Gals - Water Bladder
  - b. Freedom Park Work-Bee
    - i. May 15, 2021 from 9am - 4pm
      - 1. Projects
        - a. Welcome/ Sign-In Station with waivers (Kristi)
        - b. Trash clean-up (JoAnne) - may including other parks
        - c. Photos (JoAnne)
        - d. Limb lopping / Chainsaw crew (Kelli)
        - e. Spreading wood chips (Kelli)
        - f. Brush removal (Kristi)
        - g. Sanding graffiti off hand rails (Jordan)
        - h. Painting under the bridge (Jordan)
      - 2. Materials needed to purchase
        - a. Gloves
        - b. Sanders/SandPaper
        - c. Paint brushes and rollers
        - d. Lumber
  - c. Scheduling Lake Accesses Clean-up and Repairs
  - d. Future meetings:
    - i. Updates on local businesses sponsoring or designing banners for downtown
    - ii. Updates on grants
    - iii. Adopt-A-Road suggested at Meeting of Electors on March 27, 2021
    - iv. Our goal is to have at least part of Freedom Park become handicap accessible.
    - v. Fall Clean-Up Event to dispose of tires, metal, and brush
    - vi. Look into local artists or NMC arts classes to paint mural under bridge (after May 15 Work-Bee)
    - vii. Painting pavilions at Freedom Park East and West and Birch St. Access
    - viii. Official bid (\$3,700) from local welder (Creative FabWorks) to build matching metal rails on each side of the stairs to the Freedom Park West footbridge.
      - i. Look up Road End Laws of the township for Paddle Antrim and developing Aarwood Trail non-motorized launch, Birch St. and Cedar St. accesses

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- ii. Fundraising Events
  - iii. Letterhead and Logo for Parks and Rec
  - iv. What projects are prisoners able to assist with?
  - v. Should the township create an ordinance for Food Trucks?
  - vi. Mobile township concession stand (food truck)
    - 1. Renting Coca-Cola or Budweiser trucks
  - vii. ATV/ORV and non-motorized recreational trails to be marked and advertised
  - viii. Dog Park - converting Freedom Park West ballfield to also be used as a dog park, installing signs and dog waste stations, and cost of gates/fencing, dog waste stations, signs, and additional trash cans.
  - ix. Install dog signs and more dog waste stations with trash bins around the walking path at Heritage Park
  - x. Look into putting back up the Rapid City sign south of town by up.
- J. New Business
- a. Veteran's Day, Thursday, November 11 - plan a pinning ceremony with luncheon
  - b. Fundraisers for Parks and Rec
    - i. Flea Market
    - ii. Spaghetti dinner
- K. Public Comment
- L. Adjourn - MOTION to adjourn at 7:49 PM by Spencer-Nemec, second by Childs, motion carried

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM