

**Charter Township of Van Buren
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Chairperson Coleman.
Members Present: Tammy Wall, Rondell Sherman, Clerk Wright and Charles Coleman.
Excused: Kimberly Nofz. **Unexcused:** Mark Duff and Sam Villa. **Staff Present:** Director Wright, Deputy Director Zaenglein and Secretary Harman. **Others in attendance:** McKenna Associates Patrick Sloan and Steven Hanna and Superintendent Bill Turner.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

*Motion Wright, Wall second to approve the agenda of October 13, 2015 as presented.
Motion Carried.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

*Motion Wall, Wright second to approve the minutes from April 10, 2015 as presented.
Motion Carried.*

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Recreation Updates:** Director Wright gave updates on the recent Touch A Truck event, the upcoming Candy Loop on October 24th, presented the 2015-2016 Fall/Winter Recreation Program, discussed the possibility of an online or printed version of the Lake Ledger (township newsletter) and discussed \$6,600 received from the Van Buren Civic Fund to build a shed for baseball equipment storage. Members were invited to volunteer for the upcoming Candy Loop event.
2. **Park Updates:** Deputy Director Zaenglein gave updates on the demolition of the Riggs farm house, cabin and stage at Van Buren Park, the Great Monarch Butterfly Adventure and Kids Fun Run event, DTE coming out to Van Buren Park to cut trees, \$15,000 Wayne County Parks millage funding repairs to the sled hill and the winterization of restroom facilities at all parks.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **McKenna Associates – Master Plan Kickoff:** Patrick Sloan of McKenna Associates gave a presentation on updates to the 5 year Master Plan that expires on December 31, 2016. Van Buren Park is eligible for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding due to being located in a low-moderate income area. Mr. Sloan presented maps of the existing park facilities and listed potential improvements.

Committee members discussed the following improvements: beach area erosion, re-opening the old entrance to the park to have two entrance/exits in case of emergencies, demolishing the log cabin, stage at Van Buren Park to tear down or repair, demolishing the Riggs farm house and possibly saving bricks, repairing fishing pier at French Landing Park, new playstructures at Van Buren Park, new kiosk signage at Riggs Park, butterfly house or nature center at Riggs Park, basketball courts at Quirk Park.

McKenna Associates will be conducting an online survey to reach out to residents for their input on park improvements.

- 2. Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement for Van Buren Park front entrance improvements:** Director Wright discussed the Intergovernmental Agreement for Van Buren Park front entrance improvements. \$15,000 in grant funding was received to clear up the entrance area into the park, add improvements to the sled hill such as break-away fencing, new benches and directional signage. A recommendation from the Recreation Committee is necessary to move forward with the approval process of the intergovernmental agreement to receive the funding for these improvements.

Motion Wright, Wall second to recommend to the Township Board approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement for Van Buren Park front entrance improvements.

Roll Call:

Yeas: Wright, Wall, Sherman and Coleman.

Nays: None.

Absent: Duff, Nofz and Villa.

Motion Carried.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Deputy Director Zaenglein discussed the upcoming Jan Brett book signing event on December 3rd at 5:00 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Department. Committee members discussed the Haggerty Subdivision park.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion Wall, Sherman second to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Harman
Recording Secretary