

**Charter Township of Van Buren
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m. by Chairperson Belanger.

Members Present: Denise Willoughby, Todd O'Neill, Tammy Wall, Kimberly Nofz, Charles Coleman, Clerk Wright and Daniel Belanger.

Excused:

Unexcused:

Staff Present: Director Wright, Deputy Director Zaenglein, Planning and Economic Development Intern Grace Stamper, Intern Melissa Kalnasy with Downtown Development Authority, Director Ron Akers and Secretary Price.

Audience: 3

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion Willoughby, Wall seconded to approve the agenda of December 11, 2018 as presented. *Motion Carried.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion Wright, Nofz seconded to approve the minutes from October 9, 2018 as presented.

Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Space Needs Assessment:

Director Wright overviewed the time line, recapped improvements that will be made including the multipurpose room getting an upgraded floor, lobby closet renovated, larger lobby area and staff office area.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Presentation on concept drawings of splash pad at Quirk Park:

Intern Planning and Economic Development Grace Stamper and Intern Melissa Kalnasy Downtown Development Authority are leading the splash pad project. Stamper and Kalnasy brought light to benefits of splash pad in our community. They also explained the research that was completed including connecting with other communities as well with parents to see what amenities would be exciting to see. Marc Russell of Russell Design shared a rendering for the splash pad. Russell indicated that the splash pad will be 6,300 square feet. Russell explained in detail the amenities, landscape, playground and the location of the Egypt Covington memorial area. Committee questioned water usage, maintenance cost and staffing.

Russell and Interns responded to all questions. Committee requested that the water features come before the committee before approved. Intern Kalnasy indicated that she would make sure that the water features came before the Recreation Committee before they are purchased. DDA plan to bid the project out in February 2019 targeting an August 2019 opening date.

Clerk Wright moved, Coleman seconded to recommend the splash pad conceptual plan as presented.

General Discussion:

1. Recreation Updates:

Director Wright outlined fall programs. Shared photos of Candy Loop, 25 business volunteers, due to weather event was held inside. Announced new program Kids Crafty Saturdays one Saturday a month kids come and do an exciting craft. We have had great feedback from parents and kids. Supervisor McNamara has indicated that the policy for hiring instructors needed amending and would like the Recreation Committee to be a part of the hiring. Announced blood drive Friday December 14th 1pm - 6:30pm held in the Otisville Sheldon room. Clerk Wright requested committee to share ideas that would be conducive for the building at the golf course. Members suggested renting rooms for parties, playground, keeping range open, teen center. Committee requested tour of building for February meeting.

2. Park Updates:

Director Zaenglein indicated that park staff is preparing the parks for winter. Sled hill preparations underway. Announced a DNR grant to control Watermilfoil grant that Director Zaenglein has applied for. Watermilfoil is an invasive plant that can spread quickly and can choke out native plants and interfere with fish population. VBT is waiting for follow up from DNR to see if it will be advanced to next step of grant process.

Adjournment: Motion Belanger, Willoughby second to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Price
Recording Secretary

