

# ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

MEETING THURSDAY November 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Richard Lapinski.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robert Blackmore, Leann Burger, Michelle Ervin, Kevin Hughes, Richard Lapinski, Paul Mueller, Mary Reed, Al Reitman, Al Taylor

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Steven Brooks

**MINUTES:** Al Taylor made a motion to approve October minutes, Leann Burger second. Minutes approved. Michelle Ervin to forward approved meeting minutes to Shelli Johnson for posting on the Onekama Township Website.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Bruce Brooks spoke to the Committee regarding public access across the Brook's families private property along Lake Michigan and the descriptions of Langland Park which appear on the website and in the Recreation Brochures. The Brooks have given permission to the Township to allow for public access across their property to connect walking Langland Beach to the North Pier. They have not given permission for the public to use their property as a public beach. The Committee is currently in the process of updating park maps and descriptions for the new parks brochures.

**ITEMS TO ADD TO AGENDA:** None

**NORTH POINT PARK UPDATE:** Paul Mueller - All purchased trees from Crystal Gardens have been planted by Steve Hull and there are just a few tree cages left to install. Leann offered 7 fences/cages not needed at Glen Park. Park is now winterized. Paul, Michelle, and Ms Renny Steenwyk walked the park and discussed 5 year plan. There was open discussion regarding evidence of motorized use of park and dumping of debris and trees in park.

**LANGLAND PARK UPDATE:** Rich Lapinski - Beachcombers have used the Doggy Doo canister to deposit beach trash. Dave Meister is still working with State of Michigan EGLE for follow-up of the Townships application for dune removal on the west side of the parking lot. Vault Toilet is closed for season and will be will be pumped out. A considerable amount of driftwood and debris has accumulated on the beach. Beach clean-up will be reviewed in the Spring of 2020.

**VILLAGE:** Al Reitman - Al relayed the general concept of The Cut 150 Celebration to the Village board. They await future information before a response. Al Taylor shared that the pedestrian crosswalk at Portage Road and M-22 in the Village has been MI DOT funded.

**GLEN PARK UPDATE:** Rich Lapinski - Due to the inclement weather and limited site access, the damaged gazebo will be re-built in the Spring 2020. The Five Year Plan for park will be completed by Leann prior to deadline for application to State of Michigan Passport Grant. Committee believes the truncated current path should be a full loop with the construction of a new bridge over the creek. Klaus Heinert, P.L.A. and Kevin Krogulecki, P.L.A. of Gosling-Czubak will present the Phase 2 scope development options, updated cost estimates and work required for the submission of the 2 grants for Glen Park after this Committee meeting today.

**EAGLES VIEW WETLANDS UPDATE: Richard Lapinski** - The Township Board approved the contract for Gosling-Czubak to complete initial soil borings and propose possible UA trail routing. Mary Reed offered that the Portage Lake drone survey completed by the Watershed would be helpful in evaluation and design of the UA Trail routing. Consideration for this project was given because of the popularity and use of the Arcadia Marsh UA Trail and how that might predict use it's use and the need for additional parking at this location. Gosling-Czubak will present their results of their initial study work after this Committee meeting today.

**KAYAK LAUNCH: Al Taylor** - Al assured that the design of the new launch addresses the possibility of future Portage Lake shoreline erosion. Three bidders will be sought for the purchase of the specified "EZ Dock" hardware along with installation bids. Plan to compete the project in the Spring/Summer 2020.

**ROAD ENDS UPDATE: Bob Blackmore** - Upon follow up Bob found the initial order had not been processed for new public access posts. Twenty-four galvanized public access posts are now confirmed to have been ordered. Delivery estimated to be Spring 2020.

**PARK FIVE YEAR PLAN: Leann Burger** - Leann will complete the Glen Park survey to coincide with the Gosling-Czubak Phase 2 Scope development. North Point Park should be completed by next meeting. Remaining surveys to be completed by Spring 2020.

**SCHOOL UPDATE: Steve Brooks** - Steven indicated that he has resigned from our committee with an e-mail to Michelle Ervin. Rich Lapinski to follow-up with Sally Koons, School Board President, to confirm Gary Madden as the new school representative on our committee.

**PLA: Al Taylor** - The Christmas in Onekama Celebration will be this weekend, November 23 and 24, 2019. The utility poles Christmas Decorations Lights have been installed with a few requiring corrected timers and new batteries. The contract to install these lights will continue for at least 3 additional years. There will be soil remediation for petunia parade beds in the spring of 2020.

**PARKS BROCHURE: Michelle Ervin** - Bob shared that the Township has surveys of each of the parks. Michelle will follow up with Shelli to arrange to obtain copies. Michelle to develop a scope of work and budget for this project to be submitted with the 2020 Parks & Rec budget request.

**PORTAGE LAKE CHANNEL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - Michelle Ervin** -The November 20, 6:00PM meeting at the Township Hall was attended by 19 people. Response was that the event would be good for the community. There was discussion as to whether all of the parties would support a large event, based on dates, scope, and available funding. The groups then brainstormed and found there was significant consensus between the group's thoughts. Michelle will compile the ideas from the posters and send them out to the participants for review. Then when completed, the document will be sent to Onekama Township, the Village of Onekama, and possibly posted on the Onekama Facebook page for review and feedback.

**WATERSHED UPDATE: Mary Reed** - The Shoreline Erosion Meeting has been postponed to December 3, 2019, 6:00pm at the Little River Casino. The Watershed Annual Meeting was held and new officers were elected. There was a record crowd at the Portage Lake Drone Survey

meeting to review the drone photography of the perimeter of Portage Lake. There are very good quality photos showing areas of concern.

**MANISTEE COUNTY-WIDE PARKS & REC COMMISSION:** Mary Reed - Kevin shared that Rob Carson, Manistee County Planner and Mark Miller, Economic Development Director has a background in, and is focusing on, the interconnecting trails efforts as trails bring positive economic development.

**PARKS & REC BUDGET REVIEW:** Richard Lapinski - There will be a 2020 Parks & Rec Committee Budget workshop to held in January 2020. Time and date TBD.

**OPEN DISCUSSIONS:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**ADJOURN:** 9:56 a.m.

Submitted by: Michelle Ervin - Secretary

The next meeting will be December 19, 2019 at 8:00AM in the Onkama Township Building.