

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017, 8 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. by Chairman Jon Phillips.

Members present: Supt. Kevin Hughes, Leann and Roger Burger, Mary Reed, Al Taylor, Ken Franklin, Mary Lou Millard, Sally Koon, Phillips. Also present: Township Trustee Robert Blackmore.

MINUTES: Motion by Leann Burger, second by Taylor to approve the March 16, 2017 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

ITEMS TO ADD TO AGENDA: Add Appreciation Day under Old Business, add North Point Park Vandalism, under New Business.

TREE COMMITTEE: Mary Reed met with the Northwest Invasive Species Species Network Committee and Josh Shields, forester for Manistee and Mason-Lake Conservation Districts, who recommended tree restoration of Glen Park and North Point Park. A grant for the project was received by the NWISPN, who offered to finance the restoration project. The group will submit a plan for the project, which is free to the township.

Reed also reported on Arbor Day plans. The event will be Friday, May 19 at 11:45 a.m. at the school. Shields will speak at the event, a bus will take the attendees to a walk-through at Glen Park led by Shields. Refreshments will be served.

EXPLORE THE SHORES: Taylor said an Impact Survey is being prepared and will be available after May 20.

MAINTENANCE CONTRACT: The Township has hired Steve Hall as the new maintenance man; he needs to be contacted for any work in the parks.

KAYAK LAUNCH: Taylor said there will be a 6 to 8 week delivery time for the kayak launch from the time it is ordered. The committee thanked Taylor for his hard work and effort in helping to achieve the goal of the launch.

COUNTY-WIDE PARKS & REC TRAIL COMMITTEE: The next meeting is May 8.

VANDALISM AT NORTH POINT PARK: Phillips said 15 white pine trees were cut one foot from the ground, branches and boughs were also cut. He said two forts using the small trees and boughs were found by the pond off the primitive trail.

APPRECIATION DAY: The group discussed ways to raise funds for refreshments.

SCHOOL: Hughes discussed the two issues on the May 2 election ballot—an expected zero mill increase bond proposal and a 1 mill sinking fund millage over 10 years.

Leann Burger announced that a new class, "Couch to 5K" will be offered for 8 weeks in the adult education program at the school, date to be announced.

PLA: Petunias will be planted on June 24, rain date is June 25. Taylor said the concert contracts are all signed for the Concerts in the Park this summer.

VILLAGE: Roger Burger said the village is working to clean up the parks, and wants to add 10 picnic tables to the park.

WATERSHED: Taylor said the Watershed Plan will be updated by a project steering team and community stakeholders, with public forums scheduled.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

ADJOURN: 9:20 A.M.

Submitted by

Mary Lou Millard,

Acting Secretary