

**LENOX TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 6, 2023**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:31 PM
MEMBERS PRESENT: Reeder, Sheehan, Walker, Swiatkowski, Kandell Thompson
MEMBER EXCUSED: Turchi, Meissen
TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEES PRESENT: 0
OTHERS PRESENT: 0
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**
Motion: Swiatkowski Support: Sheehan
Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented. All Ayes. Motion passes.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Motion: Kandell Support: Swiatkowski
Motion to approve the minutes as presented. All Ayes. Motion Passes.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
There was no public comment at this time.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **MEETING RULES AND ORDER OF DISCUSSION**
J. Walker detailed the establishment of meeting ground rules as well as how the meeting should be run.
K. Thompson inquired if the comments should be directed towards the chair.
Reeder reminded that Roberts Rules of Order has different sets of rules for different types of meetings.
Kandell inquired if Public Comment should be limited to three minutes, due to the instance of an audience member talking and asking questions during a previous meeting.
Walker stated that he believes that the committee can only request that the public keep their comments to three minutes rather than require it.
 - b. **COMMITTEE PURPOSE AND MISSION DISCUSSION**
J. Walker stated what he believes should be the committee's purpose.
Sheehan stated that the Committee should help with the setting up of the events as well as staffing them.
Walker stated that he and others did not volunteer to be event planners and event staffers. Should volunteers be needed for events, then volunteers should be solicited.

Kandell believes there is a big disconnect between certain people and others to what the original intent was for the committee when it was formed.

Reeder read an excerpt from the Board of Trustees meeting held on April 4, 2022 where the Parks and Recreation Ordinance was first considered.

Walker detailed that he was originally excited about being included in the planning of the parks but was dismayed when the first park plan was passed without the committee. He reported how Township residents are going to other Municipalities for their recreation activities.

Kandell reported that a five-year plan was set up from the 2016 Parks and Recreation Survey, which was approved before the Committee was formed. She sees no reason for the immediacy of the committee for baseball fields.

Walker stated that he had not been informed of the five-year plan; he was using baseball fields as an example.

Kandell stated that the original plan was put together by the Planner, Engineer and DPW Superintendent. She met with the Planner and Engineer to create the new Park Plan that is before the Committee tonight.

Walker stated that he believes that conversation should have been with the Committee as a whole.

M. Swiatkowski stated that the plan she would like to focus on is the Parks and Rec Master Plan, discussing how the Committee gets to one point to another, with the steps that can be taken.

K. Thompson believes that the Committee should have access to the Township Planner and Engineer so that they can make informed decisions regarding the placement of the items on the map. He stated that he is not fully aware of the current five-year plan.

Kandell stated that the only thing missing in the concession stand is a grill.

Reeder stated that he would like to see some more equipment in the stand.

Walker stated that the City of St. Clair has an Ice Cream machine in one of theirs and believes it would be a good addition.

Thompson stated that he would like to see some direction from the Board of Trustees.

Kandell believes that it was never clear.

Swiatkowski stated that there are plenty of grants available for the improvement of parks.

Walker inquired if there were any requirements for taking a grant.

Kandell stated that there are some requirements for receiving grants from the State of Michigan.

Thompson suggested that the Township Board should give direction to the Committee on how it wants the Committee to proceed. He also stated that he would like to see assistance from the Township Planner and the professionals that the Township contracts with.

c. TONS O' TRUCKS DATE CHANGE

Reeder stated that the current date of September 9, 2023 would not be advisable, as it is during the Richmond Good Old Days Festival, and it could bring a lack of availability.

Motion: Reeder Support: Thompson

Motion to change the Date of the event to September 16, 2023 and to bring it to the Board.

All Ayes. Motion Passes.

d. SURVEY RESULTS REVIEW

J. Walker inquired if this was the survey that the five-year plan was based on.

Kandell stated that it was not.

Swiatkowski stated that she believes that a report of the survey is missing.

Thompson stated that he would like to see a report and a summary of the survey results.

Walker believes that the Committee cannot get a true fix on what the people want with such a small number of people participating in the survey.

Kandell stated that she believed that the number of people who participated was greater than the one in the 2016 survey.

Swiatkowski recommended other methods of surveys going out and preferred to see how the Township residents responded compared to the non-Township residents.

e. PARK PLAN PROPOSAL

The Committee went over the new Park Plan that was proposed and discussed the plan and its new additions.

Motion: Reeder Support: Thompson

Motion to recommend the new plan to the Board of Trustees. All Ayes. Motion passes.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Kandell Support: Sheehan

Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:52 PM. All Ayes. Motion passes.

Recording Secretary
Supervisor Anthony Reeder