

Meeting Minutes :

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

Lincoln Township Community Center Pavilion
5575 South Roosevelt Road
Stevensville, Michigan 49127

Tuesday, September 5, 2006

Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Tucker at 7:28 p.m. after public presentation by Waterplay Manufacturing representative. Noted quorum of four commissioners.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Kim Risk, Bill Tucker, John Hoskins, and Mike Lucker.

ABSENT: Todd Gardner, Rick Knight, and Rich Knapp.

ALSO PRESENT: Megan Green, Ed Schuss, Bob Elliott, Fran Elliott, Renee Foote, Seth Foote, Tom Norbey, Bruno Trapikas, Debra Trapikas, Debbie Bly, and Carol Petros.

Summary of Waterplay Presentation: Dan Perreault, representing Waterplay Manufacturing, was invited to give a presentation on water spray parks at the request of the Parks Commission and the Roosevelt Road Park Redevelopment Committee. The committee is currently working on revising the vision plan for the township's Community Center Park.

Perruealt explained the two different types of operating systems for water spray parks: potable systems (water-to-waste) and re-circulating systems. Potable systems with low-flow nozzles are chosen by 90% of communities with a water spray park. Timed sensor switches are used to program varying spray sequences, adding to the fun and holding interest longer for children ages 10 and under. Re-circulating systems significantly increase initial cost due to installation of pumps and a vault and increase ongoing maintenance costs. With re-circulating systems, there are also more contamination concerns. On average, a small- to medium-sized water spray park uses approximately 1 million gallons over a summer, about as much water as 4-5 households per year.

Perreault stated the following water spray park benefits versus a community pool: 1) the building, operation and maintenance costs are significantly less; 2) lifeguards or other employed supervision is not required; 3) expensive chemicals are not needed if city water is used.

The recommended surface for a water spray park is concrete with a slip-resistant burlap or sandblasted surface. The Waterplay Manufacturing spray units are designed to dissuade climbing and minimize falls. Further discussion of water spray park designs and maintenance; requested Perreault provide information on other water spray parks designed by Waterplay Manufacturing in nearby Michigan and Indiana.

Soccer Tournament 2007 – Vice-Chairman Tucker moved this agenda item from “Old Business”. Debra Trapikas, representing the United States Adult Soccer Association, presented a certificate of insurance and a \$100 check for use of the soccer complex June 14-16, 2007. The tournament is the USASA Midwest Regional Finals of the USASA National Cups. The contract includes provisions for the Parks Commission to collect parking fees and assume profits for concessions. Risk, seconded by Lucker, made a **MOTION** to accept the contract as presented. **MOTION CARRIED**. The commission agreed that all tournament profits, including the \$100 fee, will be put into the Soccer Capital Improvement Fund.

Trapikas announced a volunteer meeting will be held September 25, 2006, at the Park Inn in Stevensville at 6:00 p.m. Whirlpool has agreed to be a major tournament sponsor.

Treasurer's Report – No report. Vice-Chairman Tucker said bills were not picked up at the township office before the meeting and a special meeting will be scheduled to approve the bills this week.

Secretary's Report – Risk stated correction to minutes from August 5, 2006, special meeting: added John Hoskins under “Commissioners Present”. Tucker, seconded by Hoskins, made a **MOTION** to approve minutes from the August 1, 2006, regular meeting as presented, the August 5, 2006, special meeting as presented with noted correction, and the August 15, 2006, special meeting as presented. **MOTION CARRIED**.

Risk will be turning in the meeting attendance quarterly report by September 25.

Chairman Report – No report.

Commissioners' Reports – Tucker reported replacing the United States flag at the Community Center Park after receiving a call from a citizen concerned with the deteriorated condition of the previous flag. Discussed flag protocol and the need for spotlighting flags at the Community Center, North Lake Park and the Baseball/Softball Complex.

Lucker shared request from Rocket Football to have the Community Center Park's field mowed on an angle and grass kept longer during current football season. Lucker will contact Earthscapes.

Hoskins reported the parking lot at the Community Center Park will be sealed and striped on Monday, September 11. The lot will be closed for a day and a half for the work to be completed. Handicapped parking signs, missing since earlier this year, have been replaced at the parks. Low-risk inmate work crews are scheduled for September 14 and 15; Hoskins asked commissioners to forward ideas for work assignments to him.

Hoskins stated he has cut back working as the Interim Parks Maintenance Supervisor to 4-5 hours per week due to uncertainty over compensation issued through the township Treasurer's office. The Parks Maintenance employee is working 40 hours a week and making weekend rounds.

Risk and Hoskins reported on two tree-trimming estimates for North Lake Park, Pier Street Beach, Lake Street Beach, Pine Street Beach and Lincoln Township Beach. They recommended using Trees Tree Service in Benton Harbor based on lower cost

estimate and willingness to provide extra service. Tucker, seconded by Lucker, made a **MOTION** to proceed with Trees Tree Service providing a maximum of 8 days of tree work at a cost of \$9,600 with a maximum of 50% advance payment with proof of insurance provided. **MOTION CARRIED.** Risk said only dead trees or those posing a danger would be removed, with the exception of a couple of trees lining the Lincoln Township Beach parking lot which will be taken down to free up more space.

Risk reported the Rudnick Park replacement sign will be ready this week and extra paint will be provided to paint the wooden parking berm to match.

At the commission's request, Debbie Bly told about recent vandalism at the soccer fields. Hoskins will contact the Lincoln Township Police regarding locking up the complex at night. Discussed need for light poles at the soccer complex for safety reasons previously considered. Tucker, seconded by Risk, made a **MOTION** to have Commissioner Rich Knapp contact AEP to get four light poles at the Soccer Complex and one at the Softball Complex installed at no material cost to Parks. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Old Business

Use agreement between LYBSA, Parks and Township for hitting facility – Commission discussed having an attorney review the resolution to rescind the use agreement. Vice-Chairman moved to table the resolution.

Previous resolution concerning turning over parks authority to Township – Risk, seconded by Tucker, made a **MOTION** to accept the following resolution:

"Action" section of the resolution made on March 1, 2005. (See Attachment #1)
This "Action" was not accepted by the Lincoln Township Board of Trustees, nor acted upon by the Parks Commission. The Parks Commission has retained its legal authority as stated by Michigan State Laws and related legal opinions and authorities."

Roll call vote: Aye: Tucker, Risk, Hoskins, and Lucker. Nay: None. Absent: Gardner, Knight, and Knapp. **MOTION CARRIED.** (See Attachment #2)

New Business: Megan Green and Ed Schuss of the Roosevelt Road Park Redevelopment Committee have been gathering community input on improvements for the Community Center Park. They talked about the following recommendations:

- An exercise path to appeal to people of all ages, draw in nearby subdivisions, and connect to John Beers.
- A fence and benches around the toddler play set.
- A water spray play area.
- A township map with business locations marked.
- A fenced in dog park.
- A bicycle safety town.

The committee views these improvement ideas as good for local economic development, good for the regional park system, and good for the township residents. They want to know if these project ideas fit in with the township's long-term vision and if the Master Parks Plan could be revised for the Community Center Park. They are trying to gather cost estimates. Tucker suggested it is time to bring in a professional planner to assist the committee and host a community workshop. Risk will contact consultant Pam

Blough.

Announcements: None.

Audience Comments: Carol Petros, a former Lincoln Township Parks Commissioner, questioned the commission about recent newspaper articles concerning the township board's resolution to put the issue of dissolving the Parks Commission on the November ballot. Tucker responded that no one is giving up, everyone is continuing to work on the parks as a joint commission, and more information will be released soon. Petros said the community worked hard to originate the Parks Commission as an elected body, rather than an appointed one that the township would direct. Petros stated her belief that is for the common good of the community to have an elected Parks Commission.

Bob Elliott of the Ridge Road Neighborhood Association said their group is ready to work with the commission on developing a site use plan for Glenlord Beach. Tucker verified that Parks has \$5,000 set aside in Capital for hiring a consultant for the project.

Adjournment: MOTION to adjourn was made by Vice-Chairman at 9:33 p.m.

_____ Date _____
Submitted by Kimberly Risk
Parks Commission Secretary

_____ Date _____
Approved by Commission
Todd Gardner, Parks Commission Chair

*Attachments to be added shortly