



MINUTES OF THE TEXAS TOWNSHIP PARKS & TRAILS COMMITTEE

Held on September 26, 2023

A meeting of the Charter Township of Texas Parks & Trails Committee was held on September 26, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

ITEM 1 & 2. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

James Whittaker called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and the following committee members were in attendance: James Whittaker, Ellen Hector, Tricia Keala, and Jennifer Bussies. Also present was Deputy Superintendent Brooke Hovenkamp and Superintendent Eric Wilson. Emily Beutel and Larry Loeks were absent.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM 4. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Whittaker offered a motion, supported by Ms. Bussies, to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried.

ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Ms. Bussies, seconded by Mr. Whittaker, motion carried, to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2023, meeting.

ITEM 6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation from Jake Stommen at B-45: Texas Drive Baseball Field

Jake is a township resident of the district and coaches travel softball. The ball field has some maintenance needs and B-45 would like to adopt the park ball field to coordinate upkeep. There would be no cost to the township. The proposed improvements that they would like to coordinate include:

- Weeding/edging the field
- Weekly field dragging
- Replace pitchers' mound/home plate (14u distance)
- Recondition/replace bases
- Extension of first base fence line

The timeline would roughly be in March, 2024. In exchange, they would like to have the ability to rent the field for 2 times per week during the summer at the normal rental rate for the next two years. Jake indicated that if the township would like to donate field dust, they would be happy to spread and maintain it throughout the summer.

Deputy Superintendent stated that all reservations reset on January 1. Superintendent Wilson inquired about limiting play for baseball. Jake indicated that he could do a less permanent structure, but that would increase the possibility of threat.



B. Pickleball Courts: Request for Windscreens

Michael Mair, resident of the community and a member of the Pickleball Outreach Association of Kalamazoo. There is a need for windscreen due to the open exposure and southwest exposure. There is a proposal for a windscreen needed on two sides of the courts. The total cost would be roughly \$1500. The organization will share in the expense for the township.

Ms. Hector inquired about installation. Mr. Mair indicated that their organization will install and uninstall the new wind screens each season along with the nets. Ms. Kaela inquired about a lighter color with more visibility. There would be half moon perforations to help with the wind. There is an option for lettering on this type of material. Ms. Kaela would like to request more visibility friendly on the side by the parking lot. Mr. Mair indicated he would research and get back with the township. Deputy Superintendent stated that we will research and get in contact with Mr. Mair.

C. Pickleball Courts: Rules Signage

Mr. Mair explained that the honor system is working well and no one is waiting for more than 5 minutes to get on a court. Doubles is the most popular way of playing this sport.

Ms. Bussies indicated that a QR code on signage would be beneficial, this could include rules, how to get on a court, and how to report any concerns.

Deputy Superintendent Hovenkamp stated that in the spring there can be a social media campaign with education for our community.

D. Local Donation: Shade Trees for Splash Pad

Mr. Whittaker indicated that there is a local company, Mulders, that is willing to donate shade trees for the splash pad. There is a drainage issue that needs to be addressed prior to planting. October is a good planting month. Mr. Whittaker indicated that he would be in contact with placement.

ITEM 7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Maple Hill Splash Pad

Signage is up and winterization has occurred.

B. 6th Street Restroom Design

Bosch Architecture and the County are working to confirm the drain field size.

C. 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan

This was passed by the township. The trail study connection and the improvements to phase one have been approved. The parking lot resealing has also been approved for 2024.

ITEM 8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Whittaker, seconded by Ms. Bussies, motion carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:52 p.m.

Next meeting date: October 24, 2023, at 5:00 pm

Submitted
Jennifer A. Bussies, Secretary

Approved: