



## **MINUTES OF THE TEXAS TOWNSHIP PARKS & TRAILS COMMITTEE HELD ON January 25, 2022**

A meeting of the Charter Township of Texas Parks & Trails Committee was held on January 25, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

### **A/B. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Whittaker called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and the following committee members were in attendance: James Whittaker, Linda Kerr, Jennifer Bussies, Tricia Keala, and Emily Beutel. Also, present was Deputy Superintendent Brooke Hovenkamp and one interested person. Michelle Drucker Seeyle, Larry Loeks and Ellen Hector were absent.

### **C. CITIZEN COMMENT**

Dan Burton explained he was present to find out about the placement of the Splash Pad and expressed his concern over the large tree that is in the same vicinity, which he hopes will not require removal.

### **D. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA**

Ms. Kerr offered a motion, supported by Ms. Keala, motion carried, to adopt the meeting agenda as presented.

### **E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM November 23, 2021 MEETING.**

Motion by Ms. Keala, seconded by Ms. Bussies, motion carried, to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2021 meeting, as written.

### **F. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Motion by Kerr, seconded by Keala, motion carried, to appoint James Whittaker as Chairperson and Jennifer Bussies as Secretary.

### **G. SPLASH PAD FUNDRAISINGK UPTE & LOCATION SELECTION**

Deputy Superintendent Hovenkamp stated the fundraising goal was met although one of the pledges was verbal and not a formal commitment. The Committee reviewed placement options and the information provided by Ms. Keala concerning proximity to playground equipment. Members felt that the southern location, adjacent to the existing Pavilions, was the best option. The committee recommended moving the splash pad further to the southeast.

Deputy Superintendent Hovenkamp explained that funding did not include fencing and questioned if the committee felt there should be a theme. Suggestion was made that the theme could compliment the Sensory Garden or something to do with nature.

Motion by Whittaker, seconded by Keala, motion carried, to recommend the southeast placement of the Splash Pad, with an adjustment to increase distancing from the Pavilion.

### **H. 6<sup>th</sup> STREET RESTROOM BID SPEC & BID PROCESS**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Street Park Restroom project site plan is scheduled for Planning Commission approval in February. The specifications came in \$96,000 over budget so design-built vs pre-engineered is being considered. Features included graffiti resistant exterior, drinking fountain with bottle filler, and changing stations in both the women's & men's restrooms.

### **I. FY 23 PARKS GRANT**

The Committee made suggestion for grant applications. There was a strong feeling that any grant should be for the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Park to keep the momentum going i.e., pavilion, playground equipment, and expanded parking. At



7110 West Q Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
269/375-1591  
[www.texastownship.org](http://www.texastownship.org)

Texas Drive Park: add picnic pavilion, performance structure, and upgrading the pavilion. Ms. Keala suggested new amenities should address age related gaps in the current features. Ms. Kerr conveyed that the Township Board has many Capital Improvement Projects to consider, and the Committee may want to consider a smaller project for 2023.

**J. OPEN ISSUES**

- Trail Connections Prioritization
- CTS Internet Connection

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Whittaker, seconded by Keala, motion carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:45 p.m.

Next meeting date: February 22, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted

Approved: February 22, 2022

Linda M. Kerr, Secretary