

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
August 1, 2022**

Roll Call of Commission Members:

Present: Denise Schmuckal, Fern Spence, Andy Hoort, Chris DeGood, Lynn Fricke, Chris Remy, and Art Bukowski

Staff Present: Deputy Planning Director Steve Hannon, Parks Steward Sean Kehoe

Call to Order: Chair DeGood called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited by all in attendance.

1. Public Comment (6:01)

Kris Galoci stated that the Boardman Lake Loop Trail was a wonderful asset to the township.

2. Review and Approval of the Agenda – Conflicts of Interest (6:03)

Spence moved and Hoort seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Yeas: Spence, Hoort, Bukowski, Schmuckal, Remy, Fricke, DeGood

Nays: None

3. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 6, 2022 (6:03)

Spence moved and Remy seconded to approve the minutes of June 6, 2022.

Yeas: Spence, Remy, Hoort, Schmuckal, Fricke, Bukowski, DeGood

Nays: None

4. Correspondence (6:04)

None

5. Reports (6:04)

a. Commissioner Reports

Schmuckal noted that the pavilion roof at River East will now be enclosed and it was rebid for half of the original price.

DeGood said that he and his dog like the Boardman Lake Loop Trail.

b. Staff Report/Updates

The Planning Department attended a celebratory donor reception for the Boardman Lake Loop and were given a framed painting by Glenn Wolf. There will be a public ribbon cutting for the Boardman Lake Loop Trail on August 19.

i. **Parks Steward Report**

Kehoe said that the Silver Lake Park playgrounds have been mulched and tennis courts have been readied for resurfacing. There are now reservation boxes at each pavilion in the parks to alleviate confusion over reservations. The Parks Department is keeping up with enforcement and cleanup of encampments.

6. **Old Business**

a. **PD 2022-72 – Grand Traverse Commons Natural Area Design Plan – Update (6:16)**

The next public engagement event will be Wednesday August 10 from 3-6 PM at Kirkbride Hall and hosted by Garfield Township and Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc. (ECT). The next open house will seek public feedback on a more refined site design concept. The draft design shows a more separated trail network between hiking and biking, with some defined areas where these two activities would overlap. Three main trailheads would exist: Copper Ridge, Red Drive and North Long Lake Road. Commissioners discussed the design plan and asked questions about the draft design. They discussed trails with overlapping activities. All agreed that signage and wayfinding is very important and map overlays of new and existing trails would be helpful.

b. **PD 2022-73 – 2023 Priority Parks Projects Discussion (6:54)**

Commissioners conducted a preliminary discussion on the 2023 priority projects at their June 6, 2022 meeting. Some ideas for priorities included added dog park space at Silver Lake Recreation Area; the next phase of River East Recreation Area including the bathrooms, trails, and sidewalks; and projects to implement the Commons Natural Area Design Plan. The previous cost estimates for River East need to be updated to account for any potential effects of inflation. Commissioners discussed the possibility of seeking grants, especially for implementation of the Commons Natural Area Design Plan and suggested talking with TART about potential grants. Commissioners scheduled a meeting for Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6:00pm to discuss 2023 priority projects and the Commons Natural Area Design Plan and were also interested in having ECT at this meeting.

8. **Public Comment (7:21)**

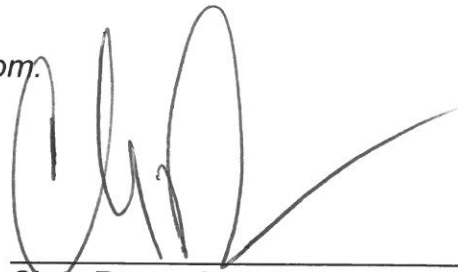
Steve Largent of Grand Traverse Conservation District indicated that they are available to help with any projects.

9. **Items for Next Agenda – October 3, 2022 (7:22)**

2023 Priority Projects and Commons Natural Area Design Plan.

10. Adjournment

DeGood adjourned the meeting at 7:25pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chris Remy, Secretary
Garfield Township Parks & Recreation
Commission
3848 Veterans Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684