

**Thornapple Area Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes
Of Thursday, March 4, 2021 6:00 PM
(held virtually)**

- **Call to Order:** Chair Getty called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members present for the virtual meeting were: Getty, Schneider, Devries, Iveson, Schaefer and Hamilton. Also, in attendance were Program Director Dock, J-ad representative Chandler and Recording Secretary Bremer.
- **Approval of Agenda as amended:** Getty requests to add 5.d. (YAC Grant) and Hamilton requests to add 6.c. (Green Grass quote) to the Agenda. **Motion** by Schneider seconded by Hamilton to approve the Agenda as amended. **Ayes, all, motion carried.**
- **Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes:** **Motion** by Schneider seconded by Devries to approve the Minutes of the February 4, 2021 Meeting as presented. **Ayes, all, motion carried.** Also, **Motion** by Devries seconded by Schneider to approved the Minutes of a Special Strategic Planning Meeting held virtually on February 17, 2021 as presented. **Ayes, all, motion carried.**
- **Public Comments:** None
- **Chair's Report:** Confirmation of the completion of the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan update! Conversations continue with the Village regarding a new park to be located along Sheridan St. between Mt. Hope Cemetery and the Village's Department of Public Works facility. The engineering firm of Williams and Works has presented a proposal to work with the Village and the TAPRC to create a "park plan". The cost for this work would be \$13,500 (see attached letter). Dock has applied for a Consumers Energy grant to help offset this expense. Other funding sources are being explored. Getty informed the Commission of her receipt of a letter of resignation from Township representative Holmes. The Commissioners accepted the letter with regrets. The Township will begin the process to replace Holmes. Getty reported that the deadline to apply for a Youth Advisory Council (YAC) grant is March 15. Iveson will work with Getty to find a TK student athlete to complete a YAC Grant application to help fund the proposed park plan work to be handled by Williams and Works.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Hamilton shared the submitted Treasurer's report (see attached report). Total income of \$6,650 which consisted mostly of baseball/softball player registrations. Total expenses were \$1,047. The current checkbook balance as of 2/28/21, is \$31,935.28. **Motion** by Schneider seconded by Schaefer to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$1,047 and to approve the Finance Report as presented. **Ayes, all, motion carried.** The 2020 Audit must be completed by June 31, 2021. Hamilton is working with Dock to complete. Hamilton presented a quote from Green Grass for 2021 weed-n-feed of the Crane Road diamonds. An early pre-payment of this \$1,147.60 annual fee would result in a \$60 savings. **Motion** by Schneider seconded by

Devries to approve the early payment for this service as proposed. **Ayes, all, motion carried.**

- **Program Director's Report:** Baseball/softball registrations are underway and slowly coming in. Thankfully a good number of volunteers are offering their time as well. Select baseball and middle school softball registrations are completed. Two (2) Select teams and one (1) middle school softball team will be playing this season. The Select teams will play in the same league as past seasons. The middle school softball team will participate in the West Michigan Softball League. The recreation teams will again be part of the Tri-Com organization. Covid safety plans and policies will be in place for all participants and their supporters. Dock and Getty are working on equipment inventory and ordering supplies. Getty has written a grant to the Thornapple Area Enrichment Foundation (TAEF) to help with the additional costs related to the current pandemic. Sponsorship opportunity letters were sent out to local businesses in the beginning of February. They are "slowly" coming in. The annual June "Throwdown Tournament" for Select Baseball was discussed. Following comments, questions and conversation related to restrictions created by the current Covid situation: **Motion** by Schneider seconded by Hamilton to cancel the 2021 Throwdown Tournament. **Ayes, all, motion carried.** Dock reported that the United Way Allocations Committee has awarded TAPRC \$11,000 to assist with scholarships and programming. Dock and Hamming will create an appropriate "Thank You" to be sent to the United Way of Barry County. Dock is on schedule to meet with each of the three entities, to introduce herself as the new Program Director, to update the entities as to TAPRC projects and programming and to thank them for past and continued future support.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - Finance & Personnel: No additional report
 - Youth: Hammer is working on a coaches training video. Work is also moving forward on virtual training opportunities for players. Google Classroom and Schoology are possible venues. Schneider will check into Schoology.
 - Development: No report
 - Community Events: No report
 - **Charity Shed:** The Charity Shed is OPEN! The TKHS National Honor Society has taken on the returning of the deposit cans and bottles as a "community service project". TAPRC is VERY grateful for their service.
 - **Closing Comments:** Bremer welcomes newcomers Devries and Iveson.

Adjournment: With no further business to come before the Commission, on a motion by Schneider seconded by Devries, Getty adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Bremer – Recording Secretary

Next meeting: Thursday April 1, 2021, 6 p.m. at the Thornapple Township Hall with a Zoom option.