

Minutes

Thornapple Area Parks and Rec Commission Agenda

Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Thornapple Township Hall

Chairwoman Catherine Getty called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Members present: Getty, Tom Hamilton, Tom DeVries, Anne Hamming, Erik Shaefer, Nick Iveson, Jacki Schneider

Absent: Brian Hammer, Jeff Kenyon

Staff present: Director Emily Dock.

Members of the public: Patricia Reyl, Village manager

2.) Getty asked to add a discussion about the Heritage Day 5K/10K Run to the agenda
Motion by Hamming to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by DeVries. Motion carried 7-0

3.) Approval of May board meeting minutes

Motion by Hamming, seconded Devries. Motion carried 7-0

4.) Public Comments Patricia Reyl shared that the village made improvements to the skate park at Calvin Hill Park.

5.) Chair's Report

A.) Sheridan Park Plan: Williams & Works representatives will be at the pavilion June 4 during the farmer's market hours to solicit community input on the park plans.

B) Heritage Day 5K/10K: TAPRC has historically run the Heritage Day 5K/10K and it has been a good fundraiser for TAPRC. Getty indicated she would reach out to DDA Director Catherine Schmidt to confirm that TAPRC will continue to operate the event. It is important to know as soon as possible because spring baseball/softball Baseball sponsors have already committed and paid to be sponsors of the run.

Getty said the event usually draws 60-70 participants. She asked the community events committee to meet soon to start planning and the get registration form approved for posting on the TAPRC website

6.) Treasurer's Report

A.) Current finances: The budget is down from last year because player fees were down by 35 players as compared to the 2019 season. The select registration was down from 2019 from four teams to two. Revenue is up from the charity barn. Uniform costs were over budget but the Spectrum sponsorship will cover the costs

B.) 2020 Audit Draft: Hamilton reported that auditors contacted him to inform him they gave TAPRC a clean report on the organization's finances for the year ending Dec. 31, 2020. He will receive a written version of the auditors' report for the board to adopt and send to member entities.

7.) Director's Report

A.) Baseball/Softball Update: Dock reported three weeks left in the baseball/softball season. So far, no games were cancelled due to rain. Unsportsmanlike conduct among parents has created stress for coaches this year. Dock said she planned to send a message to all program parents to remind them of the code of conduct they signed at the beginning of the season.

B.) Parent discipline item: Dock indicated the board would review a parent conduct issue later on the agenda.

C.) Flag football meeting: A meeting is planned for June 4 to work out how to place flag football and tackle football under one umbrella organization. This would allow parents to go to one website for football registrations. It would also put all coaches in the same training program to ensure they are teaching skills consistent with the standards in the TK Schools football program. Dock will report on progress in July.

8.) Development Committee

A.) Thank you/Receipt Letters: Dock asked the committee to review and update last year's letter to send to this year's sponsors.

B.) Used Sports Equipment Collection: Hamming will create posts for Facebook to remind people of the drop off site.

C.) Plan for year-end campaign: Hamming asked the development committee to expect discussions in late summer about year-end fundraising for the endowment fund of the Sheridan Park project.

9.) Finance & Personnel Committee

A.) Budget Amendment: Dock reported that the board will amend the budget once baseball/softball are over. Look for a request for approval in August

B.) COVID stipend: Getty recommended a \$500 stipend for Dock to compensate her partially for the extra work created by the pandemic. Motion by Getty, seconded by Schneider. Motion carried 7-0. Getty said after the baseball/softball season is over the

personnel committee and Dock will meet to talk about the tasks involved in the job and determine compensation that is in line with actual time spent. There was consensus that the position is underpaid for the hours and responsibilities.

10.) Other Business

A.) July meeting date: No meeting. Next meeting is Aug. 5.

B.) Charity Shed: We are seeing a huge increase of cans at the shed. May try to enlist volunteers through social media

C: Parent code of conduct violation: The board discussed an incident involving parent Nathan Shallenbarger. Dock presented findings that the parent violated the TAPRC Code of Conduct items 1,3,7,11 &13. All parents are required to consent to abide by the code when they register their child to play. Shallenbarger was informed of the hearing and did not attend. Motion by Hamming, seconded by Schneider that the parent be banned from all TAPRC events for the rest of the 2021 season and that any violation of the conduct code in the 2022 season will lead to an immediate ban for the 2022 season as well.

Board members discussed ways to emphasize the misconduct reporting mechanisms for coaches. Board members asked Dock to draft an additional item for the code of conduct. The item would obligate parents to report unsportsmanlike conduct to their child's coach and/or the director.

11.) Adjournment: Getty adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.