

## **Thornapple Area Parks and Recreation Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Monday, Oct. 17, 2022, at Thornapple Township Hall**

President Catherine Getty called to order at 6:03 p.m.

In attendance: Getty, Eric Schaefer, Jeff Kenyon, Anne Hamming, Tom DeVries, Nick Iveson, and Tom Hamilton (via phone)

Staff in attendance: Director Emily Dock

Motion by Kenyon, seconded by DeVries to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Devries, seconded by Hamming to adopt the minutes of the March 17,2022 meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Tom Hamilton presented the treasurer's report. TAPRC will end the calendar year with a \$5,000-\$6,000 surplus. Sign-up revenue for next year's select teams is already coming in. Getty recommended that the net proceeds from the canoe race which were donated by Bradford White go to a yet-to-be established TAEF fund for Sheridan Park.

Motion by Hamming to adopt the treasurers report covering all financials since the March meeting, seconded Devries. Motion carries 6-0

President's report: Getty reported that Director Emily Dock is unable to continue in the director position because of increased work hours at her primary job. Getty recommends dissolving the role of TAPRC Director so the board can split the director job up into four positions, three paid – field maintenance, youth program director, lead umpire -- and the fourth a non-staff stipend for a select coordinator. Dock has agreed to take on the select coordinator role, which largely involves handling registration and scheduling umpires.

To further reduce the workload, Dock approached high school softball coach Ashleigh Garrett about taking over middle school softball and she is agreeable to taking it.

Now that she is no longer an employee of TAPRC, Dock would like to come back on the board in January to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of Jacki Schneider.

By ceasing to have a TAPRC director, board members will have to take on duties such as United Way grants, events, and sponsorships. For this program to succeed, board members will have to commit to actively participating.

Getty shared position descriptions for the position and recommended compensation.

Getty also recommended that Brian Hammer serve TAPRC in an advisory role rather than a board role. After some discussion, consensus emerged that Nick Iveson should also serve in an advisory role rather than serving on the board. The change frees up the board to seek two appointees who can actively engage in duties that were formerly completed by Dock.

The arrangement with four employees dividing the tasks will get the program through until the time growth or increased funding steers us back to having a TAPRC director in charge of the entire program.

Getty said Mike Bremer performed most of the field maintenance as a volunteer and he would be interested in the paid position. A lead umpire candidate has also been identified.

The total cost for wages will be the same as in the past. They will just be split up three ways and the select coordinator stipend with will be free registration for the coordinator's children.

With the board's review of the positions complete, Getty asked that the baseball / softball program director role be posted right away with the hope of hiring someone by January.

Last, the Heritage Day canoe race was a wash financially in terms of registrations. It was fun and people liked it. Need better timer system next year and more volunteers. Getty suggested considering a kayak division for people who bring their own kayaks.

Charity shed volunteers are needed for October and November. Dock offered to take it to raise funds for Select teams. Getty will ask for one-week commitments in a signup sheet she will create.

Next meeting 6 p.m. Nov. 17

Getty adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.