

Thornapple Area Parks and Rec Commission Agenda

Wednesday, February 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Thornapple Township Hall

Chairwoman Catherine Getty called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Board members present: Dock, Getty, Hamilton, Hamming (late), Schaefer, Williams

Absent: Kenyon

Staff present: Fischer

Members of the public present: None

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Schaefer, seconded by Dock to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carries 5-0

Approval of minutes: Motion by Williams, seconded by Hamilton to adopt the December meeting minutes. Motion carries 5-0

Election of Officers

- A) Getty nominated Dock for Vice Chair. Motion by Getty, seconded by Williams to nominate Dock for Vice Chair. Motion carries 5-0.

Public Comments: None

Treasurer's Report: Tom presented the activity statement and trial balance. He noted that registration dollars are hitting the account. He also pointed out that our deferred Select registration fees and sponsorship dollars that came in at the end of 2022 are now recognized in our 2023 budget. Finally, he reminded the board that we have \$10,500 in a special project fund from the Paddle for Parks events that is designated for Sheridan Park. We need to officially set up an account with TAEF.

Motion by Dock, seconded by Williams to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carries 5-0.

Chairwoman's Report

- A) TAPRC has a couple of board vacancies. There are two school positions open. There were four applications. Catherine Getty is currently a township representative, but due to a job change hopes to move to a school representative. There are 3 other applicants, including Kristen Cove. Hamming plans to recommend Getty and Cove to the school board as TAPRC school reps.
- B) 2022 Annual Report is complete. Getty and Dock plan to visit entities and share at upcoming meetings.
- C) Used Sports Equipment Sale is always in March. Due to many factors the sale will not happen this year. The board plans to run a good marketing campaign to collect equipment in 2023. There was also discussion of broadening the items we accept to include larger items like tents, camping gear and kayaks. Sale will resume in 2024.
- D) Paddle for Parks – we'd like to continue this event. The status of Heritage Days will determine when TAPRC will host this event. The inaugural event was well received.

The only downfall was that it had many other Heritage Days events to compete with the same day/time.

- E) Charity Shed – Fischer has a volunteer who will return cans in February. Board will resume responsibility in March.

Exchange Student Program – Susan Dutcher contacted Emily Dock about this referral program/fundraiser. If you promote the exchange program and there is a placement then your organization makes \$250. The board does not want to do this. It sets a precedent for marketing other organizations.

Insurance Renewal -- Tom Hamilton will take on the responsibility of renewing the TAPRC insurance. Emily Dock said she would get with Tom to explain the steps and information he needs to complete the renewal.

Director report – Nate Fischer thanked us for welcoming him into his role as softball/baseball program manager. He said is learning a lot even though he already had working knowledge from serving on the board in the past. There are 150 completed registrations so far and another 40 applications started and not turned in. After discussion, there was consensus that the director will have the leeway to waive the \$10 fee for scholarship and \$30 for reduced lunch category if there is a clear hardship. Response from parents to volunteer for coaching has been strong so far. Deadline for registration is March 9. Skills day for 10U and 12U is March 4. Fischer and the board discussed the needs for that day for equipment, supplies, and volunteers. At a recent Tri-Comm meeting, representatives from the participating entities determined that they would play 13 games this season.

Adjournment -- Motion by Schaefer, seconded by Dock to adjourn. Motion carries 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.