



**Thomas Township Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 25th, 2022
6:30pm
8215 Shields Drive
Saginaw, MI 48609**

1. The regular commission meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by Chairman, Scott Branch
2. PRESENT: Alworden, Aimar, Blower, Branch, Hoffman,
ABSENT: Sova
3. Pledge of Allegiance recited.
4. Motion made by Blower, seconded by Hoffman, to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA
THOMAS TOWNSHIP REGULAR PARK COMMISSION MEETING
April 25th, 2022
6:30pm
Public Safety Building
8215 Shields Drive
Saginaw, MI 48609**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of February 28th minutes
6. Approval of Expenditures
 - i. March 2022
 - ii. April 2022
7. Public Comment
It is requested that you state your name and address for the record.
8. Public Hearing
None
9. New Business
 - a. Approve use of Thomas Trail for fundraiser 5K Saturday May 14th 2022.
 - b. MI STR EAT food truck has requested to be at the summer concert series.
10. Old Business
 - a. None
11. Reports
 - A. Parks Report: *Nature Center Update*
 - B. Sports Committee report:
 - C. Concert Committee Report:
 - D. Finance Committee Report:
 - E. Commissioners:
12. Other Business
13. Adjournment

5. Motion made by Alworden, seconded by Hoffman, to approve February 28, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

6. A. Motion made by Aimar, seconded by Alworden, to approve Expenditures for March 2022 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion made by Blower, seconded by Hoffman, to approve Expenditures for April 2022 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Public Comment: None

8. Public Hearing: None

9. New Business:
 - A. Motion made by Alworden, seconded by Blower, to approve use of Thomas Trail for a 5k fundraiser on Saturday May 14, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Heather Flora, a Thomas Township resident, has requested use of the Thomas Trail for a fundraiser for the research of biliary cancer through the University of Michigan. Cheri Dobschensky, a local resident and former graduate from Swan Valley High School, is battling gallbladder cancer. This is the reason this event is being held.
 - B. Motion made by Hoffman, seconded by Aimar, to approve local food vendor, MI STR EAT, to be at Picnic in the Park in Roethke Park. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Local food truck vendor, MI STR EAT, has requested to be at the concert series at Roethke Park. The vendor has a menu providing quality, low-cost food. The vendor also will make a donation to Roethke Park at the end of the season based on sales.

10. Old Business
 - A. None

11. Reports:
 - A. Parks Report:
 - **Roethke Park:** Park usage is starting to pick up and trees have been removed by the train tracks to install tracks to install additional track for the 2nd train.
 - **Roberts Park:** Park usage is picking up with the warm weather. We are getting the soccer fields ready for the upcoming recreation programs and the Swan Valley Girls Varsity season has started.

- **Community Park:** We added a Porta Jon near the courts since there are no restroom facilities near the Community Park.
- **Day Park:** Usage of Day Park has come to a trickle as all the snow has melted.
- **Thomas Train:** Preparing to add tracks to allow both trains to be loaded at the same time. This is in the same location, but with a second track next to the current track.
- **Sports and Programs:** Girls' Basketball and the Soccer Clinic has just finished. Spring Soccer and Flag Football programs are all set to start on April 30th and between the two programs we have 36 teams and approx. 350 kids. Men's Softball registration is open and the Tuesday Night league is already full. We are looking to another night for any other teams that sign up. Sand Volleyball registration is open we have 3 nights full at the Roberts Park league and the Tuesday night league at Roethke is starting to fill up as well. Swim Lessons and Day Camp registration is open as well and registrations have been coming in quick. Swan Valley Youth Football wants to play four games in Roberts Park this September. Pricing was discussed. John will send our new field prices to committee. Blower recommended for us to invite them to our next meeting in May.
- **Nature Center Preserve:** Construction at the Nature Center has been moving along rather quickly these past couple months. The interior bathrooms are almost completed along with the plumbing and electrical work for them. The exterior porta Jon enclosure is completed, the entranceway to the building has new concrete poured along with the sidewalk which had to have the slope changed due to meeting ADA requirements. The trail in the back is cut in and has gravel on it as well as a split rail fence, the back deck is complete and two new benches are built and ready for use once the trail is done. The entrance drive paving should be done any day and the existing drive removed. Bathroom enclosure is finished, and painting began in restrooms. Observation deck will begin on May 16th. DNR notified us that grants awarded to Thomas Township are held up by the appropriation committee and they are not sure when money will be released.
- **Events:** None

- B. Sports Committee report: none
- C. Concert Committee report: none
- D. Commissioners: none

12. Other Business: none

13. Adjournment: Motion made by Blower, seconded by Hoffman to adjourn the meeting at 7:21p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Craig Aimar, Secretary

Dated

The next regular Park Commission Meeting will be Monday, March 28, 2022 at the Public Safety Administration Building, 8215 Shields Drive, Saginaw MI 48609.