



Thomas Township Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 23rd, 2019 (6:00 p.m.)
Nature Center Building
6660 Gratiot Road
Saginaw, MI 48609

1. The regular commission meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman, Scott Branch.
2. Present: DJ Sova, Angela Alworden, Scott Branch, Carly Rusch, Dean Rusch.
Also Present: John Corriveau, Parks Director, Tyler Sutherlund, Assistant Parks Director
Absent: Eric Whelton
3. Pledge of allegiance.
4. Approval of the August 26th 2019 meeting minutes: No questions or comments. Motion was made by D. Rusch, supported by DJ Sova, approving the August 26th, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Approval of Expenditures: No questions or comments. Motion was made by A. Alworden, supported by C. Blower, approving the August 26th, 2019 expenditures. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Public Comment:
 - a. none
7. New Business:
 - a. Haunted train and Haunted House Update: The Haunted Train event will be taking place on October 11th, 12th, 18th, and 19th. This is one of our biggest events of the year. We will be changing the loading location to the walkway to pavilion one. With adding the additional train car(s), the train is too long to load behind the depot building so in order to have a large enough area we will use that section of track. The new train cars are back from Garber now. We have also converted the old haunted trailer into a ticket booth that will sit next to the road entrance leading back to the pond, that way we can pre sell tickets and be able to load the train more efficiently than before. We will begin decorating the Haunted House in the next few days.
 - b. Bid results for Roberts Park projects: We sent bids out for two of our capital projects and received them back in time to be approved at the September 9th Board Meeting. I have sent both companies contracts and once we have those back they can begin work. The first project is the repaving of about 410 linear feet of trail located at Roberts Park along the small parking lot by diamond 3. The second project is replacing the metal roof

on the big pavilion at Roberts Park with a green metal roof. Both bids came in under our budgeted amounts.

8. Old Business:

- a. Rebel Magnolia Flea Market update: Rebel Magnolia hosted their fall flea market at Roberts Park on September 6th and 7th and the event went really well. The attendance was about the same as the spring event and with the lack of rain fall the grass parking area was able to be used as it was very hard. With the repeat vendors, food trucks and patrons the event runs really smooth and we did not have any issues reported to us.
- b. Evening in the Park update: We held our first Evening in the Park fundraiser at Roberts Park on September 16th. We had close to a hundred people in attendance which is up over the past couple years. There were many compliments on the event and how beautiful Roberts Park is. There were several people say that they have not been to Roberts Park before and couldn't believe how nice it was. We have made notes on how to improve the event for next year.

9. Reports:

- a. Parks:
 - Roberts Park: The bids were approved for the repaving of approximately 410 linear feet of trail and the installation of a new green metal roof on the large pavilion. Soccer is in full swing and we hosted our first Evening in the Park event there on September 16th.
 - Roethke Park: We are working on the train and getting things rolling for the Haunted Train Ride.
 - Community Park: Nothing to report.
 - Nature Preserve: The previous owners have moved out and the building is empty and that is why we wanted to host this meeting there to be able to see it firsthand.
 - Day Park: Nothing to report.
- b. Recreation Programs: Boys Basketball and the Basketball Clinic will begin January 4th. Archery classes begin January 9th.
- c. Sports Committee report: None.
- d. Concert Committee Report: None.
- e. Finance Committee Report: None.

10. Adjournment: It was moved by D. Rusch, supported by DJ Sova, to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

The next regular Park Commission Meeting will be Monday October 28th, 2019, at 6:30 pm at the Public Safety Administration Building, 8315 Shields Drive, Saginaw, MI 48609.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly Rusch, Secretary