

Niles Charter Township  
320Bell Road  
Niles MI 49120

**Park Commission Meeting 6:30 P.M.  
September 11, 2017  
Minutes**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Jill DeLucia at 6:35 pm. Present were Commissioners: A. Wesel, S. Craig, J. Perkins, W. Perkins and Trustee C. Vella.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner A. Wesel motioned to accept the minutes from August 14, 2017, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner W. Perkins. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.
3. **Petitions From the Public:** None
4. **Correspondence:** None
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Commissioner W. Perkins reported no change in spending. The balance remains at \$8,414.88 to date.
6. **Park Maintenance Report per Township Trustee Christine Vella:** Jim Ringler met with Selge to determine repairs to the erosion on the IMRV Trail as previously noted by Chair DeLucia. Trustee Vella will ask about the timeline for the completion of repairs.
7. **Park Reports**
  - a. Community Park: Commissioner Wesel reported there is some erosion on the trail near the water but not much can be done about it. The mini bridges still need to be installed. Chair DeLucia will contact Harry Thiabault.
  - b. Fulkerson Park: Commissioner Wesel reported the basketball courts have been resurfaced, looks great, and are being well used. There continues to be issues with trash around the park. Wesel picks up trash once a week as does the gentleman who mows the grass. Matt also picks up trash every time he is in the park. The "air bench" still needs to be addressed as it is a danger to park goers.
  - c. South Fireman's Park: Commissioner W. Perkins reported the Pickleball group has been using the courts all summer. The park is in great shape.
  - d. Samson Park: Commissioner J. Perkins reports all is well.
  - e. N. Fireman's Park: Commissioner J. Perkins reports all is well.
  - f. Trail Report: See written report submitted by Chair DeLucia.
8. **Old Business**
  - a. Sampson Park Bike Racks are still in process as per J. Perkins.
  - b. Trustee Vella reported there was an accounting challenge in 2016 due to the fact we voted to prepay the Port-a-Potty bill in advance for the 2017 season from the 2016 funds for the IMRVT.

- c. Commissioner Craig motioned to order 7 benches, matching the existing ones along the IMRVT, for installation as follows: 3 for the trail, 1 for Fulkerson, and 2-3 for the Fishing platform and new preserve section at approximately \$500 per bench (\$3,500) and up to \$2000 for installation for a total of up to \$5,500 in 2017. Seconded by J. Perkins. All in favor, motion carried. 5-0. Chair DeLucia will meet with Ringler and discuss locations for the IMRVT and seek help from Vella to place the order.

## **9. New Business**

- a. Chair DeLucia and S. Craig researched the “Safe Routs to School” grant that C. Vella mentioned Brandywine Schools might be applying for and found out New Buffalo just received one. There has been no response from Janis Exner, the President of the Brandywine School Board who Chaor DeLucia contacted last week.
- b. Future consideration by the Park Commission should be made to make a better connection off the IMRVT to Community Park since this was not able to be part of the MDOT plan.

Motion for adjournment by Commissioner A. Wesel. Seconded by J. Perkins. All in favor, motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm  
Submitted by: Commissioner Sarah Craig