

Florence Township Park Commission

Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2012

Attendance: Brad Stone, Ron Knudsen, Bill Siewert, Dean Nelson, Julie Karlsrud
Joe Ellingson

Election of Officers: Chairman – Brad Stone
Vice Chairman – Bill Siewert
Secretary - Julie Karlsrud

Previous months meeting minutes for June, July, August and September were approved as is.

Financial report: 2012 budget is \$8,000 with \$6,100 spent to date
2013 budget is \$8,000

Park Activity Application – any one wanting to use a park for a special event or to make changes to a park must complete the form, present it to the park commission and then it will be presented to the town board. An additional page will be added with a waiver for liability on park property.

Discussion was had regarding trimming the invasive growth by individuals on a small and large scale. Individuals must get permission to trim over an acre and be aware of applying Garlon or other approved toxins within proximity to the river. Bill will follow up with the DNR for rules and where to purchase. Any chemicals needed for the parks will be paid by the township and on private property by the owner.

Bill presented pictures of the playground equipment at the parks. The findings were as follows:

Wakondiota – swings – ok
slide – needs work
pavilion – ok
concession stand – ok
bleachers - ok
bathroom – needs work, rotting/unsafe
Bill will get bid to fill in the bathrooms due to poor condition and liability issues.

Frontenac Station – swing – ok
merry-go-round – ok
slide – ok
monkey bars – ok
ducks – should be removed
benches – rotting

Community Center – teeter totters – should be removed
swings - ok

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sidewalk – needs repair

Joe will check with Einar in regard to liability issues with the various equipment.

Bill is waiting on information for legal requirements on playground equipment/codes.

Valhalla -

Boat ramp – needs repair

Scrub trees, bushes, buck thorn needs trimming or removed – especially ones coming up in the rip rap. John will take care of.

Piled up & partially burnt needs to be removed.

The goal for Valhalla is to have a park design in place by spring that will present a healthier stand of trees and vegetation, be conscious of erosion along the river, keep the historical aspect for all who walk/drive along for the view and welcome the bird watchers to the fly zone.

To achieve this we will need to have public meetings for input of citizens and feedback as well as getting township involvement.

Brad will coordinate the effort to find professionals to assist with the design and work with some individuals who have volunteered their expertise in these areas.

Discussed using Sentence to Service crews and goats/sheep to help with removal of unwanted growth.

We will need to think about putting lawn mowers in the budget for 2014 when the next budget meeting is scheduled.

Email policy – When commissioners receive emails from residents they will be shared with all commissioners and attached to meeting minutes if deemed necessary by the park commission. Motion approved. An informed public is best.

John Wiech submitted his bill for time, labor and materials for July 1 through August 31.

Park Commissioners contact information:

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Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Julie Karlsrud