



**Chikaming Township Park Board Meeting, Monday, April 22, 2019**

**Chikaming Township Park Board  
Approved Minutes - Regular Meeting**

Monday, April 22, 2019 6:30 p.m.  
Chikaming Township Hall  
13535 Red Arrow Hwy  
Harbert, MI 49115

MINUTES	INDEX to MINUTES
<p>The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Members present: Deborah Hall-Kayler, Joseph Reed, Jill Underhill, Arthur Anderson, Janet Schrader, Kathy Sellers and Shelly Taylor were present.</p>	<p>Call to Order</p> <p>Roll Call</p>
<p>Approval of the meeting's agenda.</p> <p>A discussion of the facility use a agreement was removed from the agenda.</p> <p>Sellers asked that a budget discussion be added to the agenda.</p> <p><b>Moved by Anderson, seconded by Underhill, to approve the meeting agenda with revisions.</b></p> <p align="right"><b>CARRIED</b></p>	<p><b>AGENDA APPROVED</b></p>
<p>Motion to approve preceding March meeting minutes.</p> <p>Hall asked that the mention of a private session be removed from the previous month's minutes.</p> <p><b>Moved by Anderson, seconded by Underhill, to approve the minutes of the March regular meeting as amended.</b></p> <p align="right"><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p><b>Schrader abstained from the vote.</b></p>	<p>MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES</p> <p><b>MINUTES APPROVED</b></p>
<p>Sellers reported that \$123,610.80 is remaining in the current budget. She added that \$11,242.90 was returned from the previous year's budget. Sellers encourage the board members to consider maintenance expenses for the coming year.</p>	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p>
<p>Hall reported that the Harbert Community Park pavilion is being reserved on May 19th for a graduation party and May 18th is the Garden Club Plant sale.</p> <p>An anonymous person wrote to the board suggesting that visitors without parking passes not be allowed to park at Cherry Beach.</p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p>



<p>Josh Hannah wrote to the board informing them that the beach sign adjacent to his property was removed. Schrader responded that the sign was not removed but was broken.</p>	
<p>There were no public comments at this time.</p>	<p>Public Comment</p>
<p>Tom Hackley was present to provide an update on the 5 year plan. He reviewed the timeline for the project. The board agreed that their special meeting will be June 5th at 6:30 P.M. Hackely informed the board that the overall goal is to have a final vote on the master plan in October.</p>	<p>Special Presentation</p>
<p><b>Harbert Beach</b> – Reed reported that the access is still closed.  <b>Cherry Beach</b> – Taylor reported that the beach gate is open and cars left in the lot after 10 P.M. will be ticketed. Schrader reported that plans are in the works to add signage at the bottom of the stairs. Hall informed the board that beach passes have been ordered.  <b>Berrien Beach</b> – Underhill had nothing additional to report.  <b>Miller Beach</b> – A boat remaining from last season needs to be removed.  <b>McKinley Beach</b> – Taylor had nothing additional to report.  <b>Townline Beach</b> – Anderson had nothing additional to report.  <b>Pier St. Beach</b> – Sellers reported that the access remains closed.  <b>Chikaming Park and Preserve on Warren Woods Rd.</b> – Anderson had nothing additional to report.  <b>Harbert Rd. Park and Preserve</b> – Hall had nothing new to report.  <b>Harbert Community Park</b> – Hall reported that bids are being accepted for the project. Underhill reported that cushions for the chairs will be taken out. TDK will be mulching the dog park.</p>	<p>Beach/ Park Reports</p>
<p>Anderson informed the board that some law regarding electronic communication has changed as of March 29th and military members must now be allowed to participate remotely. Anderson expressed that he feels all members should have this option.</p> <p>He requested that the Park Board by-laws Article IV be amended as follows:</p> <p>Section 1: Open Meetings: Strike out “a public body” and replace it with “an elected public body pursuant to MCL 41.426”. Add “... and the Open Meetings Act Handbook: after MCL 15.261-15.275...”</p> <p>Section 2: Quorum: Strike out “of the members elected and serving...” and insert “current members physically present at the meeting...”</p> <p>Section 3: Regular Meeting: a. Strike out “with the option of meeting in the months of December and January.” and replace it with “... however, the Board shall have the option of not meeting in either January or February.”</p> <p>Add a new section after Section 4: Meeting Minutes</p> <p>5. Remote Participation:</p> <p>a. In accordance with MCL 15.261(3) CTPB members may participate in meetings by means of two-way electronic communications if unable to attend in person for specific reasons permitted by the Board,</p>	<p>Old Business</p>

provided that the requirements of the Open Meetings Handbook regarding remote participation by members of a public body are observed.

- b. Members may be allowed to participate remotely if:
  - 1. They are sick or taking care of a sick family member.
  - 2. They are caring for a family member who needs monitoring, and are unable to make alternative arrangements in advance (for example, small children or elderly relatives.)
  - 3. They are traveling and returning to the meeting place would be difficult, hazardous, or unduly expensive.
  - 4. They are currently serving in the military and unable to appear at the meeting.
- c. Members are required to notify the chair of the meeting prior to the meeting as far in advance as possible that they need to participate remotely.
- d. Members must provide their actual fixed location to the Board when participating remotely. The location must be accessible to the public if required by the Open Meetings Act.
- e. Members participating remotely may discuss and deliberate any matter before the board. They may make motions, second motions and vote on any matter before the Board providing that the requirement of the Open Meetings Act Handbook regarding remote voting are observed.
- f. The Board may utilize any method of electronic communication that meets the requirements of the Open Meetings Handbook.
- g. The minutes of the meeting will note the names and locations of members participating remotely.

Taylor stated that she feels it may be difficult to communicate effectively via teleconferencing.

Schrader questioned if a quorum will still be required at a meeting.

Anderson responded that it would still be the requirement.

Schrader questioned if passing this will cause legal action. Anderson responded that it will not and that he did not ask the township board.

Hall requested that Anderson speak at the board of trustees meeting about these changes to the by-laws.

Reed suggested that the vote could be postponed.

**Moved by Anderson, seconded by Underhill, that the motion on the by-law amendments be voted on in the current meeting and not postponed.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Roll Call Vote: Sellers - Aye, Hall - Abstained, Underhill - Aye, Reed - No, Schrader - Aye, Taylor - Aye**

**Moved by Anderson, seconded by Underhill, to approve the amendments to the Park Board by-laws as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

<p><b>Roll Call Vote: Schrader - Nay, Taylor - Nay, Anderson - Aye, Underhill - Aye, Reed - Aye, Sellers - Aye, Hall - Abstained</b></p> <p>Hall informed the board that rotary is seeking projects to assist in funding.</p> <p><b>Moved by Schrader, seconded by Sellers, to accept the offer from Rotary to help underwrite up to \$5,000 for trail signage at the preserve.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p>Sherry Curry informed the board that she is making great progress on the upcoming dog park day. Radio Harbor Country will be present and Paws of Hope will be bringing a few dogs.</p>	
<p>Hall informed the board that the port-a-john at Cherry Beach is being moved to a better location and will require a variance to add a fence.</p> <p><b>Moved by Hall, seconded by Sellers, to proceed with a fence and submit a variance application for a fence at Cherry Beach.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p>Schrader stated that she would still like to see a parking plan and spaces striped in the lot.</p>	New Business
<p>There were no public comments at his time.</p>	Public Comment
<p><b>Moved by Schrader, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 P.M.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>	ADJOURNED
<p>Monday, May 27, at 6:30 P.M.</p>	NEXT MEETING