



**Chikaming Township Park Board Meeting, Monday, December 16, 2019**

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

Monday, December 16, 2019 6:30 p.m.  
Chikaming Township Hall  
13535 Red Arrow Hwy  
Harbert, MI 49115

MINUTES	INDEX to MINUTES
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.	Call to Order
Members present: Deborah Hall-Kayler, Jill Underhill, Arthur Anderson, Janet Schrader, Joseph Reed, Kathy Sellers and Shelly Taylor were present.	Roll Call
Approval of the meeting's agenda.  Hall removed the comments from Pat Fischer from the agenda and added 2 items to correspondence.  <b>Moved by Sellers, seconded by Anderson, to approve the meeting agenda as amended.</b>  <b>CARRIED</b>	<b>AGENDA APPROVED</b>
Motion to approve preceding regular and special meeting minutes.  <b>Moved by Sellers, seconded by Anderson, to approve the minutes of the November regular meeting.</b>  <b>CARRIED</b>	MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES  <b>MINUTES APPROVED</b>
Sellers presented the treasurer's report. She informed the board that \$42,278.21 remains in the budget.  Sellers presented the plans for the 2020 - 2021 budget. She informed the board that a salary of \$24,000 annually was added for a park manager. The budget will need to be approved in the January 21st township budget meeting.  <b>Moved by Sellers, seconded by Hall, to approve the revised operating budget for the 2020-2021 budget year for the Park Board.</b>  <b>CARRIED</b> <b>Schrader abstained from the vote.</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>
Hall thanked Al Nuti for creating the new phone box at Cherry Beach. She also thanked the New Buffalo choir for singing on December 7th.	<b>Acknowledgements</b>

<p>The DNR grant for \$1.65 million was awarded and all involved were acknowledged.</p>	
<p>Robert Dievopis residing on Evergreen Lane wrote in support of the beach on Harbert Beach Rd being used for equipment.</p> <p>Don Bridgeman wrote stating he feels it is important to be neighborly but that he is concerned access at Harbert Rd. would be damaged by equipment and the stream would be disrupted causing further erosion.</p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p>
<p>Barbra Ryan was present to request further details on where the property requiring the work is located.</p> <p>Schrader stated that at the next month's meeting they may consider the possibility of naming a trail after Kirk.</p> <p>George Lucas spoke in support of William Webb using the Harbert Beach access.</p> <p>Sarah Doty expressed that she is happy the Cherry Beach grant was awarded and invited the board to a sunset salute at Cherry Beach on December 26th.</p> <p>Joe Sipek stated that he feels using equipment on the beach would allow for a new walking access to the beach.</p> <p>Sherry Curry stated that she is in favor of her neighbors using the access.</p> <p>George Webb stated that there may be other families interested in using the access.</p>	<p>Public Comment</p>
<p>Hall explained to the public where the path would go for the proposed equipment access to the beach. She added that if Berrien were used permission would need to be obtained from every homeowner and the equipment would not make it past Pier St.</p> <p>Schrader stated that in 2017 a gate access form was created in conjunction with the township. She questioned if this procedure was followed.</p> <p>Underhill stated that she was told by Kim Livengood that Webb had gone through all the proper channels.</p> <p>The board determined that the gate access permit needs to be reviewed and using the beach for equipment access should be further considered.</p>	<p>Special Presentation</p>
<p><b>Harbert Beach</b> – The beach access is currently closed.  <b>Cherry Beach</b> – There was nothing additional to report.  <b>Berrien Beach</b> – Underhill had nothing additional to report.  <b>Miller Beach</b> – There was nothing additional to report.  <b>McKinley Beach</b> – There was 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.</p>	<p>Beach/ Park Reports</p>

<p><b>Chikaming Park and Preserve on Warren Woods Rd.</b> – There was nothing additional to report.</p> <p><b>Harbert Rd. Park and Preserve</b> – Hall had nothing additional to report.</p> <p><b>Harbert Community Park</b> – There was nothing additional to report.</p>	
<p>Tom Hackley came forth to explain to the board that the Master Plan has been reviewed by the public for the past 30 days. He shared some of the suggested revisions.</p> <p>Sarah Doty suggested adding a climate resilience plan. Anderson suggested she write the proposed wording.</p> <p>Schrader stated that a Costal Management Plan should be added. It was considered that the Planning Commission may be the appropriate commission to write the plan.</p> <p>Hall informed the board that Bruce Graham declined to quote on the tree trimming at Cherry Beach. CNA Arborist is proposing the use of a crane for trimming along with the suggestion of growth hormone injections.</p> <p><b>Moved by Underhill, seconded by Anderson, to approve the winter pruning not to exceed \$940.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p>Underhill and Schrader will work on wording for a policy around commercial filming on the beach as well as smoke bombs.</p>	Old Business
<p>Anderson, Hall, and Taylor formed a committee to review HR items and prepare a facility manager job description.</p> <p><b>Moved by Hall, seconded by Anderson to send a Park Board member to attend the January 2020 Education Conference for M-Parks in Novi, MI. The Park Board will pay for travel and per diem not to exceed \$750.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p>A special meeting is tentatively planned for the beginning of January to review the status of the Webb project as well as the Master Plan.</p>	New Business
<p>Higgins suggested the board research the Michigan triangle.</p> <p>Sarah Doty questioned if park property is really considered accessible for private equipment and use.</p> <p>Hall announced that January 18th is the launch of the skating rink.</p>	Public Comment
<p><b>Moved by Underhill, seconded by Schrader, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 P.M.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>	ADJOURNED
<p>Monday, January 27th, at 6:30 P.M.</p>	NEXT MEETING