

**Charter Township of Van Buren
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chairperson Coleman. **Members Present:** Clerk Wright, Mark Duff, Speed Gant, Kimberly Nofz, Tammy Wall and Charles Coleman **Absent:** Sam Villa **Staff Present:** Director Wright, Deputy Director Zaenglein and Secretary Harman. **Members of the Audience:** Barbara Miller.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion Wright, Duff second to approve the agenda of August 13, 2013 as presented. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion Duff, Wright second to approve the minutes of June 11, 2013 as presented. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Recreation Updates:** Director Wright gave updates on the 2013 Fireworks Display at Beck Ballfields, the upcoming Takin' it to the Streets program at Tyler Elementary School on August 23rd, a 5% budget cut to the department, the Fall/Winter 2013-2014 Recreation Program brochure, informed no fall little league due to construction at Beck Ballfields, and introduced the new fall program Touch a Truck.
2. **Park Updates:** Deputy Director Zaenglein reported that \$20,000 dollars in millage funding will finish the bike path at Van Buren Park this fall. Other park updates: the Deputy Director is in the process of getting quotes for updated electric at all pavilions in Van Buren Park, submitting an application to the Civic Fund for new picnic tables, looking for a better buoy system and swim line for the beach area, discussing the possibility of non-resident rate for park entry, potential changes to the beach area and informed committee members that seasonal staffing ends labor day weekend.
3. **Cultural Advisory Committee:** Barbara Miller attended the meeting to discuss the importance of reforming and bringing back the Cultural Committee to Van Buren Township. The Director and Supervisor will be in discussion about the possibility of reforming the Committee in such a way the committee would seek out alternative funds instead of relying on landfill tipping fees to function.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. **Van Buren Park Beach roundtable discussion:** The committee discussed different ideas for the beach area at Van Buren Park, possibly changing the area for a different use, expanding the beach, and offering different types of activities/special events. The department will seek public feedback by polling the residents of Van Buren Township to see what they would like at the beach area to improve it. Committee members will submit ideas to Deputy Director Zaenglein.
2. **Enbridge Environmental Stewardship Grant:** Deputy Director Jennifer Zaenglein informed the Committee of a \$25,000 grant with Enbridge in which \$3,000 will go to the

grading of the roads at Van Buren Park. Other possible improvements to the park system funded by the grant include: improved signage in all parks, a better front entrance sign for Riggs Heritage Park, shoreline cleanup. Committee members were encouraged to suggest/present improvement ideas to Deputy Director Zaenglein for the grant funding.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion Duff, Gant second to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Harman
Recording Secretary