

**Charter Township of Van Buren  
Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes  
August 14, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:37p.m. by Chairperson Belanger.

**Members Present:** Denise Willoughby, Kimberly Nofz Clerk Wright and Daniel Belanger.

**Excused:** Todd O'Neill, Tammy Wall and Charles Coleman.

**Unexcused:**

**Staff Present:** Director Wright, Deputy Director Zaenglein and Secretary Price.

**Audience:** Trustee Miller

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion Wright, Nofz seconded to approve the agenda of August 14, 2018 as presented.

***Motion Carried.***

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion Wright, Willoughby seconded to approve the minutes from June 12, 2018 as corrected.

***Motion Carried.***

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Space Needs Assessment: Director Wright reported that the findings from Fishbeck and Associates are being discussed at a special work-study. Trustee Frasier and Miller requested tours of the Recreation Center Clerk Leon Wright assured the committee that the Board of Trustees are committed to looking at long term needs of the Parks and Recreation Department.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Presentation from Mr. Covington about a memorial at Quirk Park in honor of his daughter: Mr. Covington shared with Committee information regarding the loss of his daughter. It is the families' wishes to create a memorial for her at Quirk Park. Covington shared pictures of red bud trees and a bench along with a small plaque honoring Egypt. Covington will hire Davey Tree for planting and maintaining the trees. Quirk Park is the location of choice due to his daughter playing at that park as a young child. Committee indicated that the Board of Trustees should have a policy for memorial requests.

*Motion Belanger, Willoughby second to consider plans from Mr. Covington as detailed in his presentation to plant 5 red bud trees, bench and a small monument honoring Egypt. with understanding that professional tree company plant and maintain the trees. Location of memorial is to be determined within Quirk Park. **Motion Carried***

## General Discussion:

### 1. Recreation Updates:

Director Wright discussed budget hearing 2019 budget consists of an additional fulltime employee that will be assigned to the Parks Department in the summer month an assigned to Building and Grounds in the winter months. Summer Day Camp program ended week of August 10th. There was 85 campers, terrific camp counselors. We are still waiting to hear regarding the Iron Bell Trail. In the meantime the Huron Waterloo Pathway is doing a feasibility study to see how to connect boarder to boarder to the east of the Metro Parks. Van Buren Township purchased the Department of Natural Resources property north of the bridge for \$20,000 with commitment that VBT will install a fishing dock. Committee indicated this would be a great location for a passive park. Fall winter brochure is underway. Presented a magazine to the members as an example that would be mailed out with information about Van Buren including Parks and Recreation, 2 pages would be dedicated for the department. Invited all members to the Candy Loop which will be held on October 27th 4pm-6pm rain or shine.

### 2. Park Updates:

Director Zaenglein shared 2019 Concert series \$12,500 for 3 concerts Board of Trustees working out details, dates of the concerts will not interfere with Belleville Area Council for the Arts concerts. Riggs Park will undergo a prescribed burn this will help control invasive trees. Park season winding down preparing for winter. Working with Ordinance team on form park rules/ordinance which will enable police department to have enforcement.

**Adjournment:** Motion Belanger, Willoughby second to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m.  
***Motion Carried.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Price  
Recording Secretary