

PARK COMMISSION
Erie Township
Erie, Michigan
Regular Meeting
September 12, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Erie Township Park Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Erie Township Hall, Erie, Michigan, on Thursday, September 12, 2024.

2. ROLL CALL

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| Jackie Cowdrey | Present |
| Melissa Bomia | Present |
| Jennifer Mishka | Present |
| Darlene Andrzejewski | Absent |
| Diane La Plante | Present |

Also present: Kimberly Cousino, Recording Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Diane La Plante moved, supported by Jen Mishka, to amend the agenda to add drinking fountains at parks. Motion carried.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jackie Cowdrey moved, supported by Melissa Bomia, to approve the minutes from June 13, 2024 as presented. Motion carried.

5. BUDGET

Jen Mishka moved, supported by Melissa Bomia, to approve the budget ending August 31, 2024. Discussion was held about the portable restroom charge, Kim Cousino stated she will provide a copy of that invoice to the commissioners. Motion carried.

6. STRIPE-IT-UP ESTIMATE FOR BASKETBALL AND PICKLEBALL COURT

Jen Mishka moved, supported by Melissa Bomia, to approve the estimate from Stripe-It-Up in the amount of \$1,000, to stripe a basketball and pickleball court at Morin Point

Park. Roll called; Diane La Plante – yes, Melissa Bomia – yes, Jen Mishka – yes, Jackie Cowdrey – yes. Motion carried.

7. RESIDENT COMPLAINT RE: FENCE LINE AT SOUTH ERIE PARK

Diane La Plante stated she received a complaint about the fence line at South Erie Park being overgrown with brush and vines, asked who's responsible for taking care of it. Discussion was held. Diane La Plante stated she will contact Danny Taylor and ask him to take care of the township's side of the fence, adjacent property owners will need to take care of their side of the fence.

8. PARKING AT MORIN POINT PARK

Diane La Plante stated that the township Supervisor and the police department are actively addressing the parking/storage of personal property at Morin Point Park.

9. PARKING IN GRASS AT SOUTH ERIE PARK

Diane La Plante stated she brought to the attention of the township clerk that on a particular weekend, the renters of South Erie Park had their vehicles parked in the grass, which is against park rules. Clerk Kim Cousino stated she did return their deposit and notified them of the no parking on grass rule, referring them to the park rules on the park rental agreement, and notified them that if they violate the rules again they may not get their deposit back. Discussion was held. It was suggested a 'No parking on grass' sign be purchased and installed at the park.

10. CANCELLATION AND REFUND OF PARK RENTAL FEE

Diane La Plante questioned the refund of park rental fees on multiple occasions. Clerk Kim Cousino stated refunds have been granted on a case by case basis; often times the park is reserved and paid for months in advance and the renter has a conflict arise or circumstance that they need to cancel their reservation and request a refund. Discussion was held.

11. DRINKING FOUNTAINS AT PARKS

Diane La Plante stated she recently spoke with Danny Taylor and he informed her that the drinking fountains need to be replaced at Maplewood and South Erie Park. Discussion was held, new fountains will be priced out and brought to the next meeting.

Member & Public Comment

Jackie Cowdrey stated she and Supervisor Mike Grodi have been looking at different grants to install fitness centers at Maplewood and South Erie Park. A retractable pickleball net is needed for Morin Point Park; Jen Mishka stated she will look at options and bring it to the next meeting. Bedford Fence has been contacted about providing a quote to extend the fence around the court at Morin Point Park.

Diane La Plante stated Supervisor Mike Grodi applied for a grant from the Par Plan for ADA sidewalks at the park.

Jolene Upchurch stated the vines are known to grow wild all over, in the past the township sent letters to property owners notifying them of their responsibility to keep the fence line clear of overgrowth; all renters should be informed of the park rules and encouraged to read them, park rules should be followed; Morin Point Park might not have access to water for a drinking fountain.

ADJOURNMENT

Jackie Cowdrey moved supported by Melissa Bomia to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Kimberly Cousino
Recording Secretary