



MINUTES

Newaygo Community Recreation Authority Meeting

Newaygo County, Michigan
September 10, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 am by Chair Jennifer Badgero. The meeting was held at Henning Park Pavilion located at 500 Croton Dr., Newaygo, MI 49337.

Present: Jon Schneider (City of Newaygo), Duane duChemin (Croton Twp), Erik Larsen (Garfield Twp), Jennifer Badgero (Brooks Township), Kim Goodin (Brooks Township), Greg Brooks (Garfield Twp), Jane Parsley (City of Newaygo)

Absent: Morgan Heinzman (Croton Twp), Nick Smith (County Rep)

MINUTES

Motion by Larsen, second by Parsley to approve meeting minutes from 07/09/2020. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENT

FINANCIALS

Motion by Badgero, second by Larsen to approve the current month financials and accounts payable. AIF/MC
Schneider stated that all government entities have been invoiced. He discussed water leaks that have occurred at Centerline fields.

RESERVED TIME

Mark Pitzer and Mike Pumford were present representing the Newaygo Pickleball Club. Pitzer and Pumford discussed the possibility of converting the current Tennis/Pickleball Courts into 6 Pickleball Courts. They stated that Pickleball is the fastest growing sport for Sr. Citizens and many of the people utilizing the Pickleball Courts in Fremont are from the Newaygo and Grant area and would like to play at Henning Park. Board discussed that Grant, Fremont, and Croton have tennis courts. Pitzer discussed map that was included in packets showing the proposed 6 Pickleball Courts. Pitzer and Pumford discussed quotes received for fencing and resurfacing and stated that they would like to have a handicap space added at the courts. They said the Pickleball Courts would be nationally approved allowing tournaments to be held at Henning Park. Board discussed the positive economic impact the courts and tournaments would have on Newaygo and surrounding communities. Schneider stated that NCRA and TIFA had approved funds towards the courts, but that the Newaygo County Parks Board would need to approve the change of use for the courts.

Motion by Schneider, second by Badgero approving the change of use of current Tennis/Pickleball Courts to 6 permanent Pickleball Courts, contingent upon approval by Newaygo County Parks Board, utilizing funds from NCRA, TIFA and Newaygo Pickleball Club to complete the project. AIF/MC

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Schneider, second by Larsen to approve allowing an individual to move their reservation date at Graves Lodge from December 12, 2020 to a date in 2021. AIF/MC They wanted to change dates due to the COVID-19 Virus.

duChemin stated that Little League spent 22 hours working on the Centerline fields as Newaygo Youth Softball (NYS) had only mowed the fields twice over a 9 week period. Board discussed contract that was executed between NCRA and NYS and that the contract discusses maintenance of fields. Board discussed future contracts with any organizations stating that adding additional deposit and or costs should be added to the contract for a 3rd party vendor to maintain the fields if they are not maintained properly. Consensus of Board is that Badgero, NCRA Chair, write a letter to NYS discussing the deficiencies of maintaining the fields and that NCRA will be keeping their \$200 deposit to put towards maintenance of fields and to request \$500 for a 3rd party vendor to maintain the fields for the remainder of the contract.

duChemin said very happy with TrueGreen and may increase Vegetation Control Applications next year from 3-4. He recommended skipping fall aeration and seeding this year as hard to tell if needed as the fields are not in great shape due to not being maintained properly.

duChemin discussed plans for potential new baseball/softball fields at Henning Park and briefly went through quotes obtained. He discussed drainage needed for fields and would like to get that complete this fall if possible. duChemin said Smith, Newaygo County Parks Director, told him that this entire project will need to be approved at Newaygo County Parks Board and he does not want this to be a County project, but would like it to be a NCRA project. Schneider asked duChemin to contact Smith and find out what the County would need from vendors related to insurance. Schneider said once receive approval from Newaygo County Parks Board to move forward with drainage for fields this fall. Schneider and duChemin discussed possibility of fields being done in phases and to figure out what that would entail.

Motion by Schneider, second by Goodin to approve the plans for potential new baseball/softball fields at Henning Park, contingent on approval from Newaygo County Parks Board, and allowing NCRA Chairperson to sign contracts as long as funding is secure. AIF/MC

Board discussed TruGreen Quotes and plan to skip fall seeding at the soccer fields.

OLD BUSINESS

Schneider discussed emergency well issue at the soccer fields stating that it cost \$5,800 to repair. He said that decision needed to be determined ASAP as fields needed to be watered. He expensed \$1,000 to NCRA and the remaining was expensed to the City and TIFA.

Schneider gave update on potential layout for Disc Golf Course being worked on between the City and Newaygo County Parks Board. He discussed the projected budget and stated that Leonard Johnson at Ferris State University had been awarded the bid.

No update on Recreation Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Schneider gave an update on the status of potential Pedestrian Bridge.

Badgero and board discussed Dragon Trail.

Larsen said that he has been approached by a number of individuals about the possibility of a dog park at the area where the Skate Park House was demolished. Schneider stated that the City had put out a community survey and that was a question on the survey, but the results have not been completed yet.

Motion by Goodin, second by Schneider to adjourn at 9:42 am. AIF/MC

Kim Goodin, Secretary