

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GARFIELD  
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 7, 2022**

**Roll Call of Commission Members:**

Present: Denise Schmuckal, Fern Spence, Lynn Fricke, Andy Hoort, Chris DeGood, Chris Remy, and Art Bukowski

Staff Present: Planning Director John Sych, Deputy Planning Director Steve Hannon, and Parks Stewards Sean Kehoe and Derek Morton

**Call to Order:** Chair DeGood called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**Election of Officers:** *Schmuckal moved, and Bukowski seconded to retain current officer positions for the 2022 year being Chris DeGood – Chair; Fern Spence – Vice Chair; and Chris Remy – Secretary.*

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Bukowski, Spence, Fricke, Hoort, Remy, DeGood  
Nays: None*

**1. Public Comment (6:02)**  
None

**2. Review and Approval of the Agenda – Conflicts of Interest (6:02)**  
*Spence moved and Remy seconded to approve the agenda as presented.*

*Yeas: Spence, Remy, Schmuckal, Bukowski, Hoort, Fricke, DeGood  
Nays: None*

**3. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 6, 2021 (6:03)**  
*Hoort moved and Remy seconded to approve the minutes of December 6, 2021.*

*Yeas: Hoort, Remy, Spence, Fricke, Bukowski, Schmuckal, DeGood  
Nays: None*

**4. Correspondence (6:07)**  
None

**5. Reports (6:07)**  
**a. Commissioner Reports**  
None

**b. Staff Report/Updates****i. Parks Steward Report**

Morton stated that trail maintenance was the focus for Staff at this time. Any downed trees are being removed and an email has been set up to connect park users directly with the Township Staff for comments or concerns about the parks. The parking area at River East was discussed in terms of plowing.

**ii. Grand Traverse Commons Natural Area Design Plan – Update**

Hannon stated that Staff met with the consultant team from ECT for the design plan. A first community open house is planned for late April to present information on existing conditions of the park and to gather initial input. Staff will also meet with stakeholder groups in March and April. Future community open houses will seek input on specific design scenarios and eventually a preferred scenario. Commissioners stressed the importance of public input. Sych also talked about the feedback sessions and gave further suggestions about moving forward with the plans for the area.

**iii. Michigan State University Urban Planning Practicum – Update**

Hannon stated that MSU urban planning students in the practicum course are analyzing the Township's non-motorized transportation system, including creating an inventory and creating a framework for priorities to expand the system. The township is excited for the work that has been completed thus far. Students will present their findings on April 27 at the Planning Commission study session.

**c. Grand Traverse Conservation District Report**

None

**6. Old Business (6:40)**

None

**7. New Business (6:41)****a. Fees for River East Recreation Area Pavilion**

Morton explained the fee structure for the new pavilion at River East.

*Schmuckal moved and Fricke seconded TO RECOMMEND to the Township Board to accept the Rental Fee for the River East Recreation Area Pavilion of \$20 Resident, 4-Hour Period; \$35 Non-Resident, 4-Hour Period; \$40 Resident, All-Day Rental; \$50 Non-Resident, All-Day Rental*

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Fricke, Remy, Hoort, Bukowski, Spence, DeGood  
Nays: None*

**b. PD-2022-10 – Parks and Recreation Commission 2021 Annual Report**

Hannon presented the Parks and Recreation Commission 2021 Annual Report, which summarized work done on each park throughout the 2021 year and provides information on facility rentals, hunting permits issued, and other topics.

*Schmuckal moved and Remy seconded THAT Planning Department Report 2022-10 BE RECEIVED and FILED and FORWARDED to the Township Board.*

*Yeas: Schmuckal, Remy, DeGood, Fricke, Hoort, Bukowski, Spence  
Nays: None*

**8. Public Comment (6:48)**

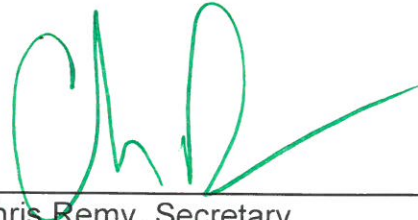
None

**9. Items for Next Agenda – April 4, 2022 (6:48)**

Updates will be provided on the MSU Urban Planning Practicum project and the Grand Traverse Commons Natural Area Design Plan, including information on meetings with stakeholder groups and details on the first community open house.

**10. Adjournment**

*DeGood adjourned the meeting at 6:55 pm.*



Chris Remy, Secretary  
Garfield Township Parks & Recreation  
Commission  
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