



*Embraced by nature. ♦ Inspired by progress.*

**Liberty Township Parks Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
6:30pm, March 28, 2017  
Liberty Township Meeting Center  
6400 Princeton Road**

**I. Call to Order by Rhonda Freeze**

- **Roll Call:** Conducted by self-introductions at 6:30pm.
  - o President: Rhonda Freeze
  - o Vice President: Michel Price
  - o Treasurer: Ron Aylward
  - o Members: Laurie Ballenger, Dave Lintner, Chuck Holliday, and Maureen Mowl
  - o Parks Liaison: Rick Plummer
  - o Guest: Marina Lennartz
- **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Rhonda Freeze
- **Introduction of Guests:** Introduction of Marina Lennartz
  - o Working on Stars and Stripes award by adding butterfly garden at Allen Park.
    - Have built benches, mulched the area, and dug the areas for the plants. Looking to purchase plants and begin planting.
    - Scraped topsoil with shovels. Used black mulch for the trail. Plans to be done by the end of May. Hoping to get plants planted in next couple of weeks. Local nurseries will be used to donate plants. Plan is to attract butterflies.
    - Marina has talked to Berns and called a few other places.
    - Having some issues finding the Paw Paw tree. Dave Lintner mentioned that that he has a Paw Paw tree in his nursery that she might be able to use.

**II. Approve Minutes (2/28/2017)**

- **Motion to Approve:** approved by Laurie Ballenger
- **Second:** Ron Aylward
- **Discussion:** Ron recommends that the balance be changed to \$1,463.0 on minutes. Explained that we receive a quarterly report, which will be out next month. Michel wants to have her name spelled correctly throughout minutes as an additional change.
- **Roll Call:** Unanimous approval by board

**III. Treasurer's Report (Ron Aylward)**

- **Motion to Approve:** Chuck Holliday
- **Second:** Michel Price

- **Discussion:**
  - o Report handed out by Ron. Balance listed as \$1,193.23.
  - o Would like to have people start to sell Buddy Cards. We are on year two of this program.
  - o The cost of tournament promo mini-disks is \$319.82.
    - Rick mentioned that there was one pre-registration for disk golf tournament.
- **Roll Call:** Unanimous approval by board

#### IV. **Report from Township Liaison (Rick Plummer)**

- **Planned/Scheduled/Completed Park Improvements**
  - o Restrooms with plumbing available on April 3rd
  - o Has current contract with Ashland with wood chips.
  - o Large tree down in Woodlands Park. Doing some smaller mulching around the park signs. Larger areas will be done April 7th. Cherokee has been washed out again. Turnbridge new grant application was submitted of new trails (approximately 20 acres). MI Homes.
- **MetroParks/Dudley Park Update**
  - o There will be a meeting to take over Dudley Park. Scheduled for April 10th at 9am.
- **Eagle Scout/American Heritage Project Status**
  - o Have not heard from Eagle Scout
- **Greater Miami Flying Disc Club/June 27<sup>th</sup> event**
  - o This is just a one-time league play for this group. Not really an event.
- **Update on Park signage (Conservation area/trail markers, etc.)**
  - o Examples are outside of room. Dave mentioned that he has a couple of Friday's open to help with that
- **General Questions to Rick:**
  - o Maureen asked about playground equipment - report by calling Rick OR online
  - o Ron asked about vandalism to Liberty Park and more police surveillance. Rick said that the police are aware. Expect more vandalism come summer.

#### V. **Reports**

- **Laurie Ballenger**
  - **Lakota Summer Fest Report**
    - o Thank you to everyone who helped out with this event. Thought it was very successful. Lots of interest. Rhonda was very impressed with how we had everything together and the volume of people who came through.
    - o We typically hand out a lot of parks maps during the event.
    - o People don't know there's a difference between MetroParks & Liberty Township parks. Feels that what we do is valuable and are able to reach any families.
- **Trails (Bill Walker)**
  - **Next meeting date:** May 1st next meeting. \*Quarterly meetings. Discussion of township connectivity and trails.

## VI. Event Updates

- **Disc Golf (Michel Price)**
  - **Location: Liberty Reserves Park**
  - **Date: 4/22/2017**
  - **Volunteer Schedule**
    - Handed out handout explaining flow of event.
    - Maybe ask Amy Martin or other residences if they are interested in participating.
      - Rhonda asked Chuck to see if he able to get some sort of network to come to this type of an event.
      - Chuck would like a copy of the flier.
        - Maureen will send a flier to Chuck.
      - It is Lakota East prom. Maureen has been working on scorecards. Chuck has cardstock. This is a rain/shine event.
      - Butler Soil & water is willing to publicize event because they are looking for Earth Day event.
        - Rick needs to contact
      - Places to put up fliers: Waffle House, LaRosas, & Krogers. Eli's Sports Bar. (Rhonda and Chuck will work together to put up)
  - Side conversation: Asking about tree sale through county. Dave mentioned he picked some up. Rick says he has a gift certificate he can give to Dave to reimburse. Been taken over by Warren County and is very good sale.
- **Barry Thiel Memorial School of Fish (Kurt Feldmann/Michel Price)**
  - **Date: 6/17/2017**
    - Michel updated: Books Blvd will donate \$5.00 raffle prizes for kids; Lakota imports will donate \$25.00 to buy apples/oranges or juice boxes to have with hotdogs; Michel said we will have 12 things to raffle off. Michel said something that would be fun is have jar of fake worms; a pallet fish to decorate. Rick mentioned timeline for raffle: when are we going to do this?
      - 10a - introduction
      - 10:05-10:40 - Steps to fishing (4 stations of 10 minutes)
      - 10:45 - Everyone fishing
      - 11:30 - Eating
      - Noon: Raffle - Use raffle tickets - maybe just put board up so that they can check back to see if raffle won.
    - Out of township supplies: Need pool and raffle tickets
  - What do we do with younger children? - Rick recommends maybe having separate area for smaller children.
  - School of Fish diploma - Everyone agreed that's a good idea
    - Michel needs six volunteers
  - Rhonda mentioned that there might be name tags
- **Chuck Holliday**

- **Wildflower Walk/Dudley Woods (4/15/2017 10a.m.-12p.m.)**
- **Return to Cherokee Park (6/3/2017)**
- **Prairie Walk/Allen Park (7/8/2017 9-11a.m.)**
- **Fall Tree Walk (9/9/2017 12 p.m.)**
  - Handout with dates distributed. Will be sent to Township to put on township website.
- **Bill Walker**
  - **Butterfly Walk/Cherokee Park (8/26/2017 12p.m.)**
- **Parade/5 K Run (Laurie Ballenger)**
  - **Date/Time**
  - **Location**
  - **Volunteers**
    - This is a township event that we support
    - Focus discussion on parade float representing Park Committee
      - No real updates. Becky Hartman ran parade float portion. Still need a volunteer to populate the float. Decorating happens on site.
      - We do not have a permanent sign that goes up.
      - Rhonda asks Laurie to come up with things to do then we can assign help.
- **Fall Festival (9/23/2017)**
  - This is a township event that we support
  - No updates
- **Breakfast with Santa**
  - This is a township event that we support
  - No updates

## **VII. Work-in-Progress**

- **Lakota YMCA – Yoga in the Park (Rhonda & Michel)**
  - Wonderful meeting with Andrew - very interested in participating in a program of yoga in the park. YMCA would supply instructors. Willing to go to other parks. Saturday morning. Anybody can come - hoping to generate interests. Andrew also mentions partnering with parks to do a 5K. Rick mentioned this would be very difficult because it requires roads being shut down.
  - Walking clubs is another partnership idea with YMCA.
  - More information to be coming.
- **Social Media (Rhonda)**
  - Recommends that we have a social media sub committee. We can have a Facebook page. Sponsored by residents of Liberty township.
  - August 3rd will have an official Township Facebook page.
    - Maureen (Chair), Michel, Rhonda on social media sub committee.
      - Add calendar onto Facebook page
- **Board Member Topics**
  - Soil & Water Butler County said they might do some sort of event at Liberty Parks at no cost to us. Might be a future partnership to keep an eye out for.

## **VIII. Board Discussion**

### **a. Letter from Michele Allen re: Allen Park**

- i. Expenditure does not involve township BUT the contract does need to go through the township because it's on township property.
- ii. Michele has \$12,000 that she wants us to spend for Allen Park.
  1. Recommends having a landscaping company help clear out invasive honeysuckle and create path.
  2. Last year Dave and his guys sprayed this area - Chuck says that it seems like it's had an impact. .
  3. Rick said we are taking Dudley back - HOA wants to have trails in back of their property. There is a machine that can be purchased to help create paths for this and could also be used to cut back honey suckle at Allen Park. If you contract out with landscaping company many members agreed that \$12,000 would not go very far.
  4. If a bridge needs to be put across - a permit is required.
    - a. Not really an option.
    - b. You can do stepping stones.
  5. Chuck will be in touch with Michele. As of now - we want to see what has happened since last year.

### **b. Board Member Topics**

- i. Dave Lintner – Re: Wildflower walk: are we selling plants? Chuck said he hadn't planned on it this year.
- ii. No other discussions.

## **IX. Next Meeting:**

- **April Meeting 4/25/2017 @ 6:30 p.m.**  
**Liberty Township Meeting Center 6400 Princeton Road**

## **X. Motion to Adjourn - 8:15pm**

- **Motion:** Chuck Holliday
- **Second:** Ron Aylward
- **Roll Call:** Unanimous approval.
  - o Meeting Adjourned at 8:15pm