

Minutes of the  
Munson Township  
Parks and Recreation Board  
Joint Meeting with Trustees

Wednesday, January 16, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:00am by Joe Rosboril.

Present: Joe Rosboril (Chairman), Robert Marn, Claudia Toth, Trustees Andy Bushman, Irene McMullen, Todd Ray and Fiscal Officer Judy Toth.

Before discussing the Community Day Picnic, The Park Board members confronted the Trustees about an article that was published in the Maple Leaf newspaper accusing the Park Board of overspending without the Trustees approval which resulted in John Kaczynski resignation from the Park Board. Trustee, Andy Bushman, apologized for the misquoted statements. The Park Board would like an article retracting the false information. The article also stated that Bob Marn's term was suspended even though he had received a letter from the Trustees in October appointing him. Todd Ray explained that his term was changed to 1 year in order to stagger the members' terms so they all don't expire at the same time. Irene McMullen said that the Trustees should do better communicating terms after members are reappointed so there is no confusion. Joe Rosboril asked if there was ever a question about Bob Marn being on the Park Board. Trustee Andy Bushman said that there was never a question about that. The Park Board would like the Trustees to clarify to the public that the Park Board does not spend money unless it is approved by the Trustees. Todd Ray said that he believes the Park Board followed proper procedures by getting the approval from the Trustees before any purchases were made. Joe Rosboril stated that John Kaczynski resigned from the Park Board after 8 years of service because of the negativity. The Trustees all agree that a Memorandum of Understanding is a must. Trustee Todd Ray is waiting for final approval and will circulate the M.O.U. to the Trustees and Park Board members when it is complete. Andy Bushman has a minor change to the memorandum. Claudia Toth has not seen it yet, Todd Ray will email a copy for her review. The M.O.U. will be placed on the Trustees agenda for January 22, 2013. Trustee Irene McMullen asked what procedures the Trustees should follow when they get calls from residents in regards to Munson Township Parks. A resident recently called with a dog park idea that Russell Township offers. The dog park in Russell Township is not an infrastructure, but a small section of land allotted for dogs to run off leash. Joe Rosboril said the Trustees should either call or email the Park Board to let them know of the ideas. Irene McMullen does not want the Park Board to feel when an idea is conveyed, that they are being directed by the Trustees to go forward with the task. Irene tries to let the Park Board function independently.

**Community Day Picnic**

The Trustees addressed the Park Board's requested Community Day changes:

1 - Change Start Time to 3pm - Joe Rosboril had spoken with many residents in the community and is looking at the changes from a volunteer stand point. There are many residents that work on Saturday's until 5 or 6pm with some being business owners who are not able to attend. The temperature will be cooler in the later hours making it more desirable for residents to attend. The Trustees agreed to change the time of the Picnic to start at 3pm.

2 - Selling Food - Irene McMullen mentioned the possibility of the postcard going out to residents announcing the picnic while notifying them of changes, for example; residents eat for free and non-residents pay a nominal fee. Both the Park Board and the Trustees agree that the Township spends a lot of money on items that we don't have to offer free of charge. The idea of offering one drink for free and charging for additional drinks was discussed. We don't have to offer both cookies and ice cream and maybe pizza can be deleted from the menu and ask vendors or community groups to sell food and drinks at reasonable prices. Joe Rosboril feels there is a need to change a few things at the picnic including inflatables.

3 - Eliminate the Chinese Auction and replace it with a grand prize drawing- The funds raised from the Chinese Auction and 50/50 Raffle go towards Munson Township's Scholarship fund. Joe Rosboril questioned why the Community Day Picnic was involved with raising money for the Scholarship Fund. He also mentioned the work and time involved with retrieving the items for the Chinese auction. He suggested that maybe we should ask the community for donations to alleviate the work load. He also suggested that we start selling tickets for the 50/50 raffle early. Andy Bushman stated that the Boards we will have to look at the results from the past few years before a decision can be made in regards to eliminating the Chinese Auction. Claudia Toth volunteered to represent the Park Board on the Scholarship Committee. Scholarship forms have gone out and approximately \$4,500 was raised from last year's profits.

4 - Road Department help - The Road Department employees currently help with the set-up and tear down of the picnic. They cannot be asked to volunteer time and would have to be paid for their work. The Trustees all agree that the Road Department can work extra hours to help with Community Day. Irene McMullen asked if the Park Board members should be increased. At one time there were nine members with four or five doing all of the work. Irene McMullen said that six members may be sufficient. The Trustees need to appoint another member anyways.

**Park Budget 2013**

Each year, the Park Board present the Trustees with a preliminary budget pertaining to projects the Park Board wishes to complete in the calendar year. They are listed in order of priority with an estimated cost. Once the projects are approved, the Park board will get a more precise cost estimate.

1 – Nero and Scenic River, complete trails (markers, posts, maps, etc.) \$25,000 – Trustee Irene McMullen suggested getting recommendations from Western Reserve Land Conservancy. She wants to be on the same page as the Park Board but at the same time wonders if the estimated cost is too high. Andy Bushman said the Township had approved trail maps. Todd Ray asked if a paved loop was included in the plans. Joe Rosbori did not include a paved loop in the plans at Nero since the Township was seeking grant funding on this project. Irene McMullen said that the funding was denied last year but she will re-apply this year. The Trustees approve the Park Board to get quotes and bring them back for their approval. Todd Ray mentioned that some of the inheritance money could possibly pay for a portion of it.

2 - Munson Township Park, picnic area behind ball fields \$10,000 – Irene McMullen had questions in regards to the area. She suggested planting a few trees behind the fields where parents can hang out while their children play ball. Possibly benches, grill and an animal bobble piece for children. The Trustees decided to delete this from the budget this year.

3 – Munson Township Park, asphalt grindings (2 lots, new playground lot, sidewalk concrete and sewers) \$30,000 – (Sidewalk) The sidewalk to pavilion #2 was never put in. It is a weeded gravel path which looks bad. (Sewers) There are flooding problems by the handicapped spots that need attention. (New parking lot) The Park Board would like to extend the parking lot closer to the playground where the current cattle gate is located. This would be done for safety reasons as well as adding three additional parking spaces. Andy Bushman agreed to the grindings, concrete and drainage. The Trustees need to see plans for the parking lot area.

4 – Scenic River, fireplace in pavilion \$15,000 – The Park Board feels that this would be a good way to promote the sled riding hill. Todd Ray commented on the popularity of the Geauga Park District fireplace. Firewood would have to be provided by the Township while offering storage and easy access to the residents. The Road Department can keep the wood stocked when they have a free minute.

5 – Scenic River, additional light on top of hill \$2,000 – The Park Board is aware that there is insufficient lighting (west side) on the sled hill. Claudia Toth offered to monitor this and will let the Park Board know when she has results.

6 – Scenic River, ice skating ring on Klatka property \$15,000 – the Park Board would like Scenic River to be a winter recreation area for the residents. Irene McMullen questioned if an ice skating rink would ever be used. This item has been removed from the budget.

7 – All Parks, events – The Park Board asked the Trustees to approve the following events and costs: Easer Egg Hunt \$500, Community Fishing Derby \$300, Community Day Picnic \$10,000, Flea Markets (indoor & outdoor) \$800, Concerts in the Park (4) \$3,000 and Breakfast with Santa \$800.

Both of the Flea Markets and Breakfast with Santa are self-funded events. Todd Ray feels that the Concerts, even though a big expense, are a value to the community and the Township will fund them for 2013. Maybe we should ask for donations as people leave to help offset the cost. Joe Rosboril said that one band did play for free in 2012. The Trustees approved the concerts for 2013 but feel that three (June, July and August) may be sufficient. The Park Board will send a memo to the Trustees before each event to request funding.

**Town Hall**

The following are high Priority, awaiting Town Hall renovation completion:

1 – Town Hall Park, playground \$50,000 – The architect is working on the campus plans now. When the plans are finalized and approved by both boards, the Park Board will then get prices on the playground. If the Park Board has questions in regards to the plans, the Trustees will be glad to review them with the members.

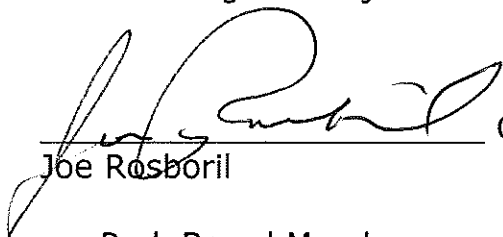
2 – Town Hall Park, bathroom (flush toilets and electric) \$30,000 – Irene McMullen is not sold on flush toilets and electric in the rest rooms on Township grounds. Both expense and maintenance will be too much.

3 – Town Hall & Bass Lake, bleachers \$15,000 – The Park Board will address the bleachers after the Town Hall construction is complete. They will compare the cost of new vs. retro-fitting. The bleachers will be made to comply with safety guidelines.

Mowing quotes were briefly discussed. It was agreed that the Trustees will be responsible for awarding the contracts.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm.

  
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Joe Rosboril

Chairman

  
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Julie Johnston

Secretary

cc: Park Board Members  
Township Trustees and Fiscal Officer  
Road Superintendent