

## Onekama Township Parks Committee – February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at the Township Hall – DRAFT Minutes

Call to Order at 4:07 p.m.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL - Members Present: Michelle Ervin (Chair), Lara Treemore-Spears (Vice-Chair/Secretary), Al Taylor (Board Liaison), Bob Blackmore, Doug Barry, Paul Mueller; Absent: Gary Madden, Andrea Arthur

MINUTES OF January 20, 2022, circulated for review; approval to be completed at March meeting

### ACTION ITEMS REQUESTED FROM BOARD:

1. Authorization to submit a grant application for \$51,250 to the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) for Enhancing Pollinator Habitats at North Point Park. If the Township is invited to submit a full grant proposal, Shelli will be notified by NEEF March 17 and Michelle and Lara will complete the application by the April 17 due date, with input by the Board if desired.
2. Authorization to submit a grant application to the Manistee County Community Foundation (MCCF) Minger Fund for \$10,000 with matching funds of up to \$2,000 provided from donations to the Township received in 2021 for North Point Park. Michelle will complete the application due March 15, 2022.
3. Authorization to hire a planting area preparation contractor for the Welcome All Abilities Garden (WAAG) funded by the Wildflower Association of Michigan for \$1,500 or less of shrub and tree clearing in April to get ready for May-June planting. Based on the attached selection criteria, the only qualified contractor currently identified by the Township to provide this service is James Scarlata, Consulting Forester LLC.

### PARKS COMMITTEE ACTIONS, at February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting:

- North Point Park - Paul –
  - a. Lowest-cost estimate to refresh gravel surface at North Point Park Cedar Loop Pathway is Griswold Excavating; bid was \$7,000 in fall 2021; waiting on update due to increased gravel and fuel costs; work is scheduled for mid-May (board approved this expense at January meeting).
  - b. The additional cost of fixing uneven ruts in a 100 yard section of the longer loop could provide cost savings by having the same contractor do the work at the same time. Motion made by Lara, seconded by Michelle to have Griswold add this to the contract. Motion carried.
- North Point Park – Michelle – Applying for a MCCF grant makes sense, as a back-up plan if NEEF does not fund the large interpretive sign kiosk and universally accessible surfacing to access the sign, as proposed in the Letter of Intent submitted for the pollinator grant. MCCF board members have verbally indicated support for this project. MCCF usually asks for a 10% cash match. Michelle moved, Paul seconded and motion carried to apply for this grant.
- North Point Park – Michelle – To stay on schedule to plant the WAAG, a planting area preparation contractor needs to be hired. A previous contractor performed inferior services that caused damage to the park. Criteria were developed by the committee for contractor selection, to prevent future similar costly mistakes. A proposal has been received by one qualified contractor.
- Ten Year Strategic Framework and Capital Improvement Plan - Lara - Draft for Discussion at April meeting.

### UPDATE ITEMS:

VILLAGE UPDATE – Andrea Arthur – The State permit has been received for the planned jetty repairs at the Village Park, and the Manistee County Soil Erosion Control Permit application has been submitted.

Eagle View - Lara – The Michigan Department of Great Lakes, Environment and Energy Watershed Support grant to the Village of Onekama is supporting an option that could provide parking and a nature center near this park. A related grant application by the Village to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Sustain Our Great Lakes Program may benefit from Township support.

The next Meeting will be March 21, 2022, at 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at Onekama Township Hall