

**ONEKAMA VILLAGE AND TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

June 18, 2015

At 8:06 a.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2015, Chairperson Jon Phillips opened the Onekama Village and Township Community Parks and Recreation Committee regular monthly meeting in the Onekama Township Hall. Agendas had been distributed. Other Committee members present were Mary Lou Millard, vice chairperson; Tom Gerhardt, secretary-treasurer; Roger Burger; Alice Hendricks; Sally Koon; and Paul Mueller. Fire Captain Clinton Osborn was present for part of the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of May 21, 2015—Millard moved that the minutes of the May 21, 2015, meeting be approved. Mueller seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Additions to the Agenda—There were none.

Public Comment—There was none.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report—Secretary-Treasurer Gerhardt presented the financial report for the North Point Park Fund. The balance on May 1, 2015, was \$19,884.76. On May 31, 2015, the balance was \$19,784.76, after a \$100.00 payment was made to Sievert's Lawn Service on May 12, 2015, for mowing.

There was a report for the Township General Fund Budget for Recreation/Parks Activities, April 1-May 31, 2015. Under General Parks—Supplies were \$67.64; Summer Recreation, MRA, \$2,700.00; and Contractual Services, \$3,260.00—Total, \$6,027.64. Under Glen Park, \$120.00 was spent for Contractual Services. The Total for Recreation/Parks Activities was \$6,147.64, leaving \$73,852.36 out of the \$80,000.00 Budget, with 7.7 percent of the Budget spent.

The Township General Fund Budget for Langland Park includes Matching Grant, \$87,000, and Langland Park—Other, \$50,000, for a Total of \$137,000.00, with 0.0 percent of the Budget spent.

Tree Subcommittee—Mueller reported that on June 15, 2015, the Tree Subcommittee met at Glen Park to walk the trail with Josh Shields, Forester, Manistee and Mason-Lake Conservation Districts. The walk included the entire Park, which is a natural area. Shields looked at the trees that are in the Park and **filed a report the same**

day on what should be done to maintain them. The report is attached to these minutes. Trees that have fallen or are in danger of falling on the stairs, bridges, and trails should be removed for pedestrian safety. Koon suggested that projects involving the maintenance of the stairs, bridges, and trails should be prioritized, including painting and signage of the hazards.

The Tree Subcommittee will work on the priorities and come back with plans for Glen Park at the next meeting. The bypass for the trail at the north boundary of the Park, where the trail crosses into the neighboring land, has been requested by these landowners. The north boundary was marked with fence stakes with boundary signs two years ago.

Mueller also reported that **the trees planted for Arbor Day at North Point Park on Saturday, May 9, 2015, look to be in good shape.**

Explore the Shores Subcommittee—There has been no activity recently.

North Point Park Well—Phillips reported that application has been made for the well permit. **Peterson of Irons will drill the well in July.**

Pierhead Light Dedication—Phillips reported that the electrical work for the **Pierhead Light will be completed next week.** [The connections were made on June 23 by Andy Pruyne, electrician, Paradigm Electric, of Bear Lake; the light sensor turned the light on that evening.] **The stone is set, and the historical plaque was mounted by Dan Forbes. Jim Mrozinski is to make final arrangements for a speaker at the 10 p.m. dedication on Sunday, July 5, 2015, when the light will be turned on. Gerhardt will have booklets and inserts ready to hand out.**

Portage Lake Watershed Forever—The Portage Lake Watershed Forever will have its fundraiser on July 25 at the Portage Point Inn.

County Park and Recreation Plan—On June 16 at the Bear Lake United Methodist Church, there was a community recreation plan vision session for the County park and recreation plan. It was the nearest of the sessions to Onekama. Only two people were present besides the Committee that organized the event. Phillips has been attending the regular monthly meetings of this Committee; Koon thanked him for being active in this project.

Langland Park—Beckett & Raeder is to come up with engineering and design plans for the Langland Park Project Management Team to consider. Members of the team are Al Taylor, project manager, Onekama Township Trustee James “Nipper” Wisniski, Phil Joseph, and Phillips.

The fire rings used on the beach at Langland Park are in storage on the Brooks property adjoining the Park. Koon reported that there have been fires there for which the fire rings should be used. Phillips said that the rings would be put out.

Kayak Launch—Philips also reported that a couple of meetings had taken place about the location of a kayak launch at the M-DNR Launch Site. The proposed location for a kayak launch there is still being debated. Melinda Eberbach, Park Supervisor for Orchard Beach State Park, which administers the Launch Site, has been consulted about the location of the kayak launch; State officials from Lansing also have offered their opinion as to where it should be located.

Onkama Days Activities—Koon is going to lay out a brochure of parks and recreation activities to inform the public as to what is available in Onkama Township. She had already prepared and distributed a flyer for "Sharks in the Parks!" Saturday, August 8, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Youngsters must find eight hidden treasures along the trails of North Point Park (Level 1) to receive a prize, but a Compass Carabiner Key Chain will be awarded at North Point Park to youngsters completing Level 1 and also bringing in park shark cards from all seven parks (other than North Point Park) where they are hidden in baskets for Level 2. Participants may start at any park but should end up at North Point Park.

It was the consensus of the Committee to order fifty of the Key Chains at a cost of \$172+shipping for the Level 2 prizes. Koon is to determine a Level 1 prize and report on it at the July 16 meeting.

For **Parks Appreciation Day, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., also on August 8**, hot dogs and other refreshments will be served in the parking lot at North Point Park, where "Sharks in the Parks!" also will be headquartered. It was thought that plans should be made for more children at North Point Park because of the Sharks event.

Beach Volleyball—Roger Burger said that it could cost \$35,000 to prepare a beach volleyball court. He also said that he could not find anything in the grant documents for the recent Onkama Village Park shoreline project about including a volleyball court. The Village Council does not want a volleyball court in the Onkama Village Park.

Hendricks suggested putting it in Rotary Park. North Point Park is too far out for Village residents to use it. Burger will see if it could be placed in Rotary Park.

Tennis Courts—The Onkama School has taken care of the fencing and surfacing of the Warren Vaughan Tennis Courts that are on School property; but new nets, costing \$400, are now needed. The courts are used by the public, as stipulated in the agreement for the donation of funds to build them; and most of the players come from the local community. The Courts are the only courts that can be used by the public in Onkama Township and Village. Therefore, the Committee believes that Township funds should be used to purchase new nets. Koon made the motion and Millard seconded it to purchase new nets for \$400 total for the Warren Vaughan Tennis Courts with funds from the Township General Fund Budget for Recreation/Parks Activities. The motion carried.

Onekama Consolidated Schools—Koon reported that **Jerry Brown has resigned from the School Board for personal reasons**. The Board **approved a deficit budget for next year**. The Onekama School is working with Bear Lake through a shared curriculum coordinator.

Onekama Village Parks—Roger Burger reported that the Village of Onekama is working on a **modified noise ordinance that will restrict noise after 11:59 p.m.**

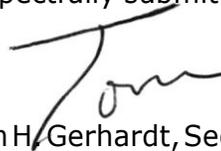
Portage Lake Association—The PLA Fundraiser, "Onekama Memories," will be **June 27, 2015**.

Parks Brochure—Mueller **suggested that the brochure, Onekama Community Parks and Recreation Sites You May Want To Visit, be placed on the Onekama.info web site**, as it has a map and all of the parks and recreation sites on it in Onekama Township and Village. Burger also said that the **Portage Lake Harbor Commission material should be separated from the Parks and Recreation materials on the web site**.

Food Drive—Koon mentioned that the **Manistee United Methodist Church is co-sponsoring a collection of non-perishable food items during the Manistee National Forest Festival Fourth of July Parade at 10 a.m. along River Street**. Shopping carts will be pushed along River Street for collection of the items, which will go to the Salvation Army Food Pantry.

Next Meeting and Adjournment—The Parks and Recreation Committee meeting for **June 18, 2015**, adjourned at **9:48 a.m.** The next regular meeting is on **Thursday, July 16, 2015**, at **8:00 a.m.** in the Onekama Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Tom H. Gerhardt, Secretary-Treasurer