

**HOWARD TOWNSHIP PARK BOARD MEETING
PROPOSED MINUTES
March 5, 2018**

Present: Jan Gordon, Denise Kasprzak, Marcia Pedzinski, Erika Pickles, Don Syson

Gordon called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. Roll call attendance was taken and the proposed minutes of the February 5th regular meeting were presented, Kasprzak makes a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Syson seconds, motion passed.

Treasurer's report: The only invoices for this month included electric for all parks.

Correspondence: No correspondence was received

Old Business:

Shingles on press box: still waiting for estimates on repair/replacement.

Cameras & lighting at Pepper Martin: Quotes have been received from Custom computer and Per-Mar, waiting for 3rd estimate from Indiana Electronics. Discussion included extra cost for access to be able to use wi-fi, with suggestion to contact other wi-fi providers in area. Table until third quote is obtained and more information about wi-fi options is available.

Policy for use of practice fields: final draft presented, Pedzinski makes motion to approve the policy and present to Trustee Board for approval and implementation, seconded by Syson, all in favor, motion passed.

Review current park ordinance: Park Ordinance #187 was reviewed by all members prior to this meeting; previous concerns not covered in Ordinance #81 appear to have been resolved in current ordinance.

Review of HTBL agreement: the current wording of the season agreement signed annually includes "said baseball league may not provide usage of said fields to another association at any time", and stipulates that "the baseball league shall provide extra trash containers during tournaments and other special events to aid in trash collection". As recent years have seen HTBL presenting opportunities for the fields to be used for tournaments by other associations as it fits into the HTBL schedule, it is recommended that the above-mentioned statement be removed from the agreement. Use of the fields by any other association will continue to be presented to the Park Board for approval. Regarding the other statement, the Board approved last year to upsize the trash containers at Pepper Martin during the baseball season which appeared to minimize the previous overflow problem and it is believed that extra containers are no longer necessary. It is also recommended to add a second signature from both the HTBL and the Park Board to the agreement. Pedzinski made a motion to present the revised agreement to the Trustee Board for approval and implementation in the 2018 HTBL season The motion was seconded by Pickles, all in favor, motion passed.

New Business:

One estimate has been received for the 40 yards of playground mulch for Pepper Martin/Kiddie Korral, waiting for second estimate. Kasprzak makes a motion to accept the lowest of the two bids when it is received, in order to get it ordered and put in as soon as the parks open. Motion seconded by Syson, all in favor, motion passed.

HTBL is requesting clearing of some brush along first baseline of the lower field, as well as removing branches of trees hanging over the dugout. It is pointed out that we need to determine where the property line is before we can do either of these things. Kasprzak makes a motion to table this issue until more information is available, seconded by Pickles, all in favor, motion passed.

Information is presented to the Board to upgrade the PA system on each field. Syson makes a motion we table this until next month so that each member will have time to review the information. Motion seconded by Pickles, all in favor, motion passed.

Park Supervisor Report:

Planning to complete new Pepper Martin sign, repair bleachers as needed and get the remaining leaves picked up at Pepper Martin prior to baseball season opening day 4/26.

Township Park reports:

Hatcherville/Kasprzak: the bike rack is broken; the supervisor will look into this

Jones/Gordon: nothing to report at this time

Kiddie Korral/Pedzinski: nothing to report at this time

Pepper Martin/Syson: working with Jason on repairs and improvements

Sholtey/Pickles: tree was removed and invoice has been submitted

Public comments:

Larry, a representative from the Niles City Park Board, was present and complimented the Board on its procedure and professionalism in conducting the meeting. He shared information regarding a Lime Bike proposal, reporting that both Niles City and Niles Township were going to open a program with 25 bikes each and invited the township to consider joining the program. He stated there is no contract to sign and no cost to the township, as the bikes are monitored and kept by the system, but that stipulations may be placed upon the program by the users. This may be considered in future meetings.

A motion to adjourn was made by Kasprzak, seconded by Pedzinski.

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, April 2, 2018 @ 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted

Marcia Pedzinski, secretary