

## ALAMO TOWNSHIP PARKS BOARD

7901 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
382-3366

### Minutes November 24, 2009

**Board Members Present:** L. Conti, B. Fisher, D. Knight, J. Landon, S. Podewell, J. Ray

**Rangers Present:** D. Bennett

**Guests:** 1

- I. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Chair Knight at 6:00 p.m.
- II. **Minutes. MOTION** by L. Conti to accept the minutes of October 27, 2009, as written, **support** by S. Podewell. Carried.
- III. **Citizen Comment.**  
None.
- IV. **Photo Contest.** Following discussion on various facets of the proposed photo contest, rules were established:  
Age groups: 18 and under  
19 – 40  
41 – 60  
61 and over.  
  
Three categories (taken in the Township) in each age group:  
Flora/Fauna  
Building/Structures  
People/Events  
  
Open to area residents. Hard copy to be submitted which will not be returned. Data (name, age, location and whether professional or not, release) to accompany the photo. Original photos to be given to the Museum. Professional photographers may enter photos but are not eligible for prizes. S. Podewell is seeking prizes; each individual limited to one prize. S. Podewell and J. Ray to judge (others welcome) prior to the Parks Board meeting of February 23. Contest open from 12/15/2009 – 2/15/2010. Newsletter to carry an announcement.  
**MOTION** by S. Podewell to establish the contest as described, **support** by L. Conti. Carried.
- V. **Swing Set**  
B. Fisher reported the swing set has been ordered and is scheduled to ship on March 19. J. Ray has agreed to coordinate unloading upon arrival (the Township will be called when one day out). L. Conti will provide assistance; others welcome. The swing set will be dedicated to the Alamo Car Club for their generosity.
- VI. **5<sup>th</sup> Street**  
The Board of Trustees voted 3-2 to petition for the abandonment of 5<sup>th</sup> Street. B. Fisher proposed that consideration be given to contributing to the costs of the removal of the bridge deck.  
**MOTION** by J. Ray to contribute \$500.00 from the Parks' funds toward the cost to remove the bridge deck, **support** by D. Knight. Carried.

## **VII. Parks Board Members Nominations/Staggered Terms**

B. Fisher noted all Parks Board members' terms expire on December 31. All present members wish to be reappointed. D. Bennett volunteered to fill the vacant spot. Lengthy discussion on the number of rangers who may serve on the Board. J. Ray and B. Fisher suggest that perhaps one ranger be appointed. L. Conti and S. Podewell felt if D. Bennett wished to serve this should be permitted. Other potential candidates were suggested. The Board decided to pursue this discussion at a later time and recommend only appointment of 6 members at this time.

One year term: B. Fisher, J. Ray  
Two year term: L. Conti, J. Landon  
Three year term: D. Knight, S. Podewell

## **VIII. Little League Contributions**

B. Fisher followed up on the 2008 Little League contributions with M. Lampen. A check for the Little League share of Park operating expenses (electric/permits) will be forwarded. M. Lampen plans to attend the January Board meeting to review 2009 contributions. B. Fisher stated that the delinquent fees were not the fault of Little League.

## **XI. Park Definition**

Continuing discussion concerning the inclusion of a definition of recreational parks in the Zoning Ordinance. Members reviewed the definitions submitted by members of the Planning Commission and the Parks Board. Considerations included confining the definition to parks designed for recreational use, whether private or public was a driving factor, steering away from numerous adjectives in a single definition, looking to the future and making sure that words used in the definition itself are clear. Discussion included looking at protective environments vs. preserves. D. Bennett read several sections from Rifle in Hand. Continuing discussion to be had on this topic. B. Fisher will seek time frames from the Planning Commission.

## **IX. Dedication of the Kal-Haven Connector**

B. Fisher noted plans should be made to establish the connector and schedule the dedication once complete. This will be added to a future agenda.

## **X. Ranger Supplies**

J. Landon offered to print business cards; J. Ray to review the original mock up. B. Fisher to provide a sample of the Township card. Township information to be on the face of the card with space for specific ranger contact information on the reverse. A yahoo or gmail account will be set up for Parks use if the Township doesn't increase its e-mail capacity. Rangers may give out home phone numbers if desired, otherwise the Township line will be used.

## **XI. Ranger Reports**

D. Bennett reports that J. Ray has done most of the patrols and that all is quiet.

## **XII. Meeting Schedules**

The Board elected to not meet in December unless the Planning Commission's schedule for developing the parks definition requires a meeting earlier than January. The Board also determined that it would keep the same schedule of the last Tuesday in every month at 6:00 p.m. for its 2010 schedule. Appropriate notice to be completed by B. Fisher.

## **VII. Adjourn.**

**MOTION** by S. Podewell to adjourn, **support** by L. Conti. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Fisher  
Parks Board Secretary