

Sparta Recreational Authority
Kent County, MI
Meeting Agenda
March 3, 2016 at 7:00 PM
Sparta Township Office 160 E. Division

Public attendees:

Dale Bergman, Julius Suchy, Tim Driscoll

1. Call to order at 7 pm by Chair Steffens.
2. Roll Call:
 - Present: Maier, Steffens, Pinckney, Peak, Whalen, Guerra, Christie, Herrington
 - Absent: Cowdry (absent)
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Julius Suchy did not attend the Feb 2016 SRA Board meeting
 - b. Motion by Bob Whalen to approve amended minutes, second by Bob Maier. Motion carries 8 - 0
4. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda
 - a. Motion by Bob Whalen, second by Greg Peak. Motion carries 8 - 0
5. Public Comment
 - a. Township considering \$10K donation to go to brush cleanup at the park
 - b. Township has an agenda item on this month's board meeting for further donations possibly this year and for next year.
6. Public Hearing
 - a. DNR Land & Water Grant Request
 - i. Opened hearing at 7:07 pm
 1. SRA is preparing to submit a \$150K grant from DNR Land & Water Conservation Fund
 2. SRA will put up matching \$150K
 3. Grant application is due 1 April 2016
 - ii. Public Comment: None
 1. Grant will be awarded +- Dec 2016
 2. This is a reimbursement style grant; the grant will reimburse expenses incurred by SRA only after the grant award date
 3. Can't spend the matching funds prior to the grant award date
 4. SRA will end up spending \$300K and will be reimbursed \$150K
 5. Grant funds can be spent up to 3 years after award date
 6. Julius shared that SRA has a better chance of being awarded this grant than the "trust fund" grant for which we submitted an application last year. Anticipate we may update the request after DNR preliminary review / scoring. Using the grant funds to build playing fields and handicap accessible spaces are thought to score higher than using grant funds for other park development activities.

7. If approved, the project grant agreement will list the specific work that the funds will be used to perform.

iii. Closed hearing at 7:21 pm

7. Unfinished Business

a. DNR Land & Water Grant Request

b. Resolution 16-01 Authorizing submission of a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant application with match of funds

i. Motion to approve resolution 16-01 by Bob W, second by Scott C. Motion carries 8 -0

8. New Business

a. Operations Policy Discussion

i. Shay Gallagher, Village intern, has been compiling the Sparta Recreational Authority Policy and Procedure Manual on behalf of the SRA Operations committee.

ii. Discussion of public property privately owned as relates to Village police enforcing laws, ordinances, policies and procedures.

iii. All board members to review and mark-up the draft document with intention of renewing this discussion at the April SRA board meeting.

9. Committee Reports

a. Construction committee (Steffens, Pinckney, Guerra)

i. We continue working to remove trees left onsite after clearing/grubbing; hauling firewood out to reduce the amount we need to shred.

ii. Afton and Sons plans to start clearing trees along the road yet in March

b. Finance committee (Whalen, Maier, Cowdrey)

i. SRA needs to set a plan for an audit of FY15 records

ii. Question: Is SRA a government entity? Has bearing on auditor selection and likely on audit cost.

c. Fundraising committee (Peak, Steffens,)

i. Donors continue to submit their gifts as they committed.

ii. SARA is taking another look at how they'll manage in-kind donations.

d. Communication/Operations committee (Pinckney, Christie, Cowdrey)

i. All board members to review and mark-up the draft document with intention of renewing this discussion at the April SRA board meeting.

10. Communications

a. NA

11. Public Comment

a. NA

12. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned 8:22 pm