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**May 13, 2010**

The regular meeting of the East Tawas Park Board was called to order by Chairman Elliott at noon on Thursday, May 13, 2010, in the East Tawas City Park Office.

**PRESENT:** O'Connor, Elliott, Thunberg, Klenow, Council Representative McMurray and Park Manager Frank. **ABSENT:** None.

Moved by Klenow, seconded by O'Connor to approve bills in the amount of \$36,183.21 and to transfer \$36,183.21 from the MIA account to the O & M account. **YES:** Thunberg, O'Connor, Klenow and Elliott. **NO:** None.

Moved by Thunberg, seconded by O'Connor to approve the minutes of the April meeting. All ayes.

Moved by Klenow, seconded by O'Connor to receive the monthly reports from the Community Center. All ayes.

Keith reported that May 4 was the first night for ping pong at the Community Center. John said they had 12-16 people participate. They sold four day passes and two family passes for a total of \$40.00. He said that both tables were in constant use with people waiting. He also said that the people playing basketball went in and played as well. The organizers were very pleased with the turnout.

Keith informed the board that he met with Dale Procnier at the Community Center to discuss placement of security cameras. We are initially thinking three outside, one in each entry way and one covering the heating/cooling unit area behind the brick wall; two in the main lobby, one at each end aimed toward the middle; and two on the stairway going up to the track to watch the stairwells. The cameras do not have a recording unit with them so we will have to purchase one of those. They also would not provide any coverage when the building is closed and dark since these are not infrared cameras. We could purchase infrared cameras for about \$100.00 each if we wanted. Keith suggested, and the board agreed, that for now we probably will just want to be able to monitor activities while the facility is open. This way, we can use the camera equipment that we already have without making an additional investment of \$700.00 to \$1,000.00. We can always change them out later. Dale is to get back to Keith with an estimate to do the work. He is also going to provide a quote for replacing our waterfront cameras with infrared ones. These would show up much better at night and give a clearer picture. As reported last month, a couple of those cameras are in need of replacement anyway so it would be a good time to go to infrared.

Keith reported that Pat Jilbert from Tawas Lake recently donated a treadmill to the Community Center. Keith sent two of the workers over to pick it up and deliver it to the Center. She gave the workers a note requesting a receipt of donation and possibly a one year membership to the Center. The board discussed the fact that all of the exercise equipment at the Center has been donated by patrons with no strings attached. The board authorized Keith to inform Mrs. Jilbert that we appreciate the donation however, it is against our policy to compensate her for it.

Keith updated the board regarding the request last month from Sue Powell to hold a weekly car show at Harbor Park. Keith spoke with Chuck Allen at the State Park and he was very interested in hosting the car shows in the DNR parking lot. Keith informed Sue to contact Chuck to work out the details.

Keith told the board that he had been contacted by Farah Eagal about the possibility of moving Freedom Fest back to East Tawas this July. Keith informed Farah that he would need an official request to present at today's meeting. Since no request was received and due to the lateness of the request, the board determined that it would be too late to allow her to make the change for this year.

The board received a request from a local resident and "Pickleball" enthusiast to be able to use one of the tennis courts at Durant Park for "Pickleball". Since this use would require taping off the court, the board felt that this could be confusing to the local tennis enthusiasts. The board did agree with Keith's suggestion that the board allow the use of one of the basketball courts at Bolen Park for this purpose.

Keith presented the 2011 park budget for review. Following discussion, it was moved by Thunberg, seconded by Klenow to accept the budget as presented. **YES:** Klenow, O'Connor, Thunberg and Elliott. **NO:** None.

The board discussed a replacement for Jim Bolen. At last month's meeting a list of possible candidates was determined. Two of the names on the list, Missy Pehrson and Andy Ryan, were names that were acquired through the City's annual solicitation of residents interested in serving on boards and commissions. Some other names were considered as a result of "brainstorming" by the board at the April meeting with the names of Duane Szymanski, Jim and Jerry Gracik, Steve and Sue Fountain and Matt and Stacy Mochty being added. Some of the people on the list had recently expressed a renewed interest in serving on a board or commission. Those that hadn't were contacted by Chairman Elliott to determine their degree of interest. Keith also informed the board at today's meeting that Dennis Look had also called and expressed an interest. But since his brother Dewey is on the Council, the City Charter prohibits Denny from serving. Chairman Elliott reported that of all the people he contacted, Sue Fountain was the only one that expressed interest in being on the board at this time. With the list narrowed down to a potential of three interested candidates (Missy, Andy and Sue), a lengthy discussion ensued. It was the unanimous decision of the board following this discussion, to recommend to Council that Sue Fountain be appointed to fill Jim Bolen's vacant seat on the Park Board.

Keith reported that the park has initially been turned down by USDA Rural Development for a grant to purchase a new park truck. The reason for the rejection was because of the amount of unrestricted funds in the City General Fund (\$885,508.00) and the Park Fund (\$485,309.00). Keith said that in complying with their request, he has submitted an e-mail explaining the planned use of the unrestricted funds in the park account. He has not heard

back as of yet. If the grant is turned down, the board will discuss the possibility for an outright purchase at the next meeting.

The board discussed possible memorials for Jim Bolen. Keith presented three things to be discussed: 1) He and Ron have discussed a memorial photo collage to present to Ila in honor of Jim's years of service to the City and Park Board. This would be in lieu of the standard certificate of recognition one would receive when they retire from a board. The collage would have pictures of all the parks, including the Community Center, and would have an engraved plaque on it. This would be something Ila could hang in her home. 2) Lisa Bolen and Keith have discussed the possibility of a memorial granite bench in Jim's honor to be placed in Harbor Park. The benches are made of granite and can be engraved much like a headstone in a cemetery. Keith suggested that a good location for it would be in Harbor Park on the south side of the "clear well" playground at the top of the little hill. There are two tall cedar trees growing there. He suggested pouring a concrete slab between the two trees and putting the bench on that with a sidewalk leading up to it from the main sidewalk system. He also suggested planting a couple of decorative, flowering trees behind it with a flower bed on the back half with perennials. From this location, one could look out over the entire waterfront park area. 3) The third item was naming a facility after him. As was discussed at last month's meeting, the only two appropriate possibilities that currently exist would be the Harbor Park waterfront area or the Community Center. The board felt that the first two suggestions, the collage and memorial bench, were very good and asked Keith to pursue these two. The board decided that they would prefer to wait to name a facility in his honor to see what projects may be coming up in the future that would be appropriate.

The board reviewed the monthly cash flow analysis.

A thank you from the family of Jim Bolen was received and read.

Keith reported that he has had two requests for installation of batting cages in the parks. The Varsity softball team would like to install a temporary batting cage at Durant Park for use during the high school season. Brent Loeffler, on behalf of the Tawas Knothole League, requested permission to install a permanent one at the Bolen Park Little League Field. The board did not like the idea of another permanent batting cage at any of the parks. They did not see a problem with a temporary one that could be put up and taken down with the seasons. Moved by Thunberg, seconded by Elliott to allow the two groups to install temporary batting cages only at no expense to the East Tawas City Park. **YES:** Klenow, O'Connor, Elliott and Thunberg. **NO:** None.

Moved by Thunberg, seconded by O'Connor to allow Harbor Park to be used for Scott Morefield's retirement ceremony from the U. S. Marine Corps on Friday, June 18, 2010 in conjunction with their rental of the Day-Use Gazebo for the post ceremony reception. **YES:** Thunberg, Klenow, O'Connor and Elliott. **NO:** None.

	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
Camper Days for April:	3651	3716
Camper Days to Date:	6057	6376

Moved by Elliott, seconded by Thunberg to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. All ayes.

Keith Frank  
Park Manager