



**FRUITPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**PARKS AND RECREATION**

**PLAN**

**2015 - 2019**





**WEST MICHIGAN SHORELINE  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
(WMSRDC)**

The WMSRDC is a regional council of governments representing 120 local governments in the West Michigan counties of Lake, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana.

The mission of WMSRDC is to promote and foster regional development in West Michigan... through cooperation amongst local governments.



**Susie Hughes**, Chairperson  
**Evelyn Kolbe**, Vice-Chairperson  
**James Rynberg**, Secretary

**Erin Kuhn**, Executive Director

**Project Staff:**

**Cliff Johnson**, Program Manager

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- **Minutes from October 25, 2014 Fruitport Township Parks Commission Meeting**
- **Minutes from the November 25, 2014 Public Meeting**
- **Minutes from the March 24, 2015 Fruitport Township Parks Commission Meeting**

## **Introduction**

This document, the Fruitport Charter Township Recreation Plan, is intended to guide present and future recreational resource development within the township, including parkland, parks facilities, recreational programs, and public open spaces.

This plan, in addition to serving as a guide for recreation facilities and program development, is prepared to satisfy the requirements set forth by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Recreation plans are required by the MDNR for state and federal grant eligibility.

## **Overview of the Planning Process**

In 2014, Fruitport Charter Township contracted with the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission for the purpose of developing a Community Recreation Plan. Every effort has been made to present information that is accurate. Fruitport Charter Township and the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission shall not be held liable for any errors or omissions related to this Plan. This Plan is a general planning document. Therefore, a thorough investigation with original research materials should be undertaken before proceeding with any specific implementation decisions.

Citizen input is very important in addressing recreation-related issues facing Township residents as a whole. The planning process is most effective when all sectors of the citizenry provide input into the future of their community. The opportunity for input was provided through a public meeting held on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 6:00 PM at the Fruitport Township Hall Building. Notices of this meeting was published in the Muskegon Chronicle and listed on the Township website.

## **Function of the Plan**

This particular plan is intended to serve as a guide for future decisions and actions related to recreation. It should be used by the decision-makers of Fruitport Charter Township based on the desire of the general public and the availability of resources.

The following are specific goals of this Plan:

- To provide a means for township residents to participate in determining the future of their community, thereby promoting the interests of the community.
- To establish goals and objectives to be used as a guide for future decisions regarding public recreation and open space and not to be competing with private enterprise.
- To outline implementation strategies that can ensure that future development is consistent with goals and objectives of the township.
- To provide a detailed inventory of recreation facilities and assist decision-makers with development decisions related to those facilities.
- To designate suitable areas for future recreation development while encouraging the preservation and conservation of natural resources.
- To provide means by which grant funding can be secured for recreation related development projects.
- To prepare a plan that is consistent with Michigan Public Act 256 of 1917, as amended.

## **Legal Basis and Development**

This Plan is enabled by Michigan law, but does not carry the power of statutory law or ordinance. Its principles are derived from Public Act 156 of 1917, an act authorizing Townships to operate systems of public recreation and playgrounds which states, in part that:

Sec. 1 (2-4). Townships may acquire, equip, and maintain land, buildings, or other recreation facilities. Townships may employ a superintendent of recreation and assistants. Townships may vote and expend funds for the operation of such a system.

Sec. 3 (1-4). Townships may operate a system of public recreation and playgrounds, independent, or cooperate with any other city, village, county, township or school district in its conduct in any manner in which they may mutually agree, or delegate the operation of this system to a Recreation Board created by any or all of them, and appropriate money, voted for this purpose to such a board.

## **Community Description**

Fruitport Charter Township (hereinafter called Fruitport Township) is located in the southwest – South Central quadrant of Muskegon County, approximately five miles east of Lake Michigan. It is bounded on the south by Ottawa County, to the east by Sullivan Township, to the west by the City of Norton Shores, and to the north by the City of Muskegon and Muskegon Charter Township. It encompasses the Village of Fruitport. The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) projected a combine Fruitport Township and Fruitport Village population of 13,702 persons by 2015 and that number is projected to increase to 13,827 persons by the year 2040. (See Table 1)

### **Fruitport Township Population (Historical and Projected) - (Table # 1)**

| Historical Census Figures |        |        |        |        |        | Projected Population |        |        |        |        |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1980                      | 1990   | 2000   | 2010   | 2013   | 2015   | 2020                 | 2025   | 2030   | 2035   | 2040   |
| 10,646                    | 11,485 | 12,533 | 13,598 | 13,692 | 13,702 | 13,727               | 13,752 | 13,777 | 13,802 | 13,827 |

Source: West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission

Fruitport Township is a small, irregularly shaped township of approximately 30 square miles characterized by a relatively flat terrain with large pockets of wooded land, cultivated fields and lowlands/high water table. Much of the eastern portion of the township is rural and sparsely populated. However, its favorable location adjacent to the Greater Muskegon Metropolitan Area, to the Tri-Cities Area (Grand Haven, Ferrysburg, and Spring Lake), and its proximity to the Grand Rapids metro area make it an increasingly desirable place to live. Commercial development along the western portion of the township has exploded during the past 10 years.

North/South access to the township is provided by U.S. 31, a limited access, high-speed expressway, on the western edge of the township. East/west access is provided by I-96, which bisects the township in a northwest/southeast direction. The Tri-Cities area of Grand Haven, Ferrysburg, and Spring Lake is located immediately to the south of Fruitport and Grand Rapids is approximately 25 miles to the east.

The following Parks and Recreation plan is an outgrowth of the increasing demand for recreational programs and facilities as the Fruitport area continues to grow. A well-conceived strategy of acquisition of land, development of facilities, expansion of programs and the continuation of on-going operation and maintenance capabilities will assist the township in meeting future recreational and leisure-time needs as they develop.

A variety of factors including past and current trends in population growth and economic development, as well as the physiographic amenities, will play an important role in developing the Fruitport Township Recreation Plan. The Grand Rapids to Holland and Muskegon triangle is experiencing significant changes and growth. The cities of Grand Haven, Norton Shores, Spring Lake and Ottawa County have seen tremendous growth in the past decade. That trend is project to continue in future years.

Actual development, as opposed to projected development, may shift dramatically to one area or another or may not spread uniformly over the entire area, making projections somewhat difficult the next few years. However, we are certain growth will continue at a higher than normal rate for most of the area and recreational needs will increase at a proportional or slightly higher rate.

This Parks and Recreation plan will attempt to account for conditions that currently exist and are anticipated to continue.

Fruitport Charter Township consists of twenty-nine (29) sections. The western border of this irregularly shaped township begins at the corner of Sheridan Road and Harvey Street and extends south beyond Judson Road. The southern border continues east to the intersection of Wilson and Maple Island Roads, from which the eastern border is formed by a stair-step pattern traveling north on Maple Island Road, west onto Mount Garfield Road, north towards Wolf Lake Road, west on Cline Road, north on Brooks Road. Finally, the northern township border begins north of the Brooks Road/Broadway Avenue intersection and runs parallel with Broadway Avenue until it reaches Harvey Street.

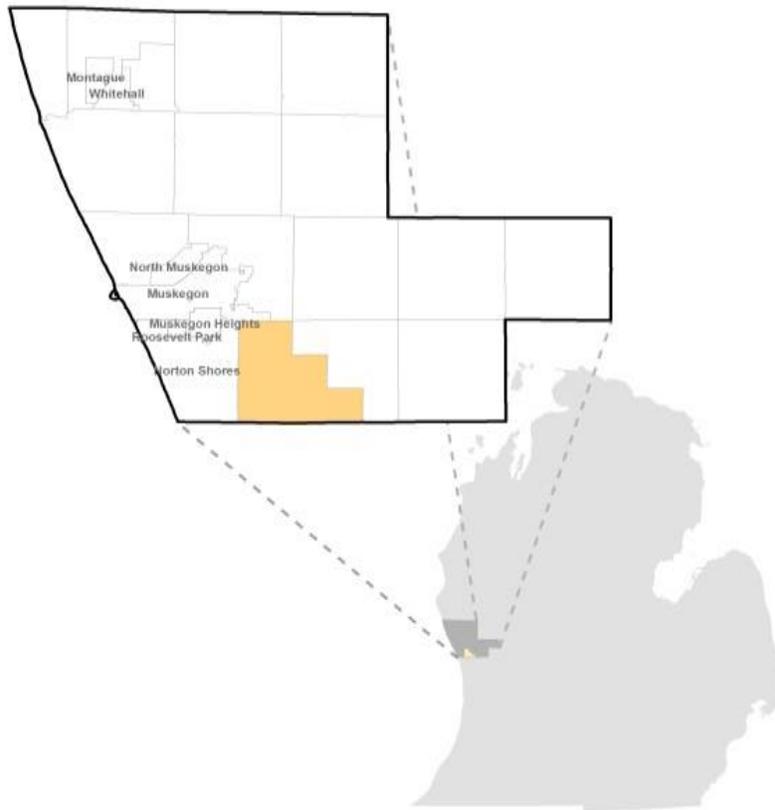
### **Fruitport Charter Township – (Map #1)**



## Fruitport Charter Township History and Development –

### (Map # 2)

#### Fruitport Charter Township Regional Location



This section was taken directly from *History of Muskegon County, Michigan – Fruitport Township*.

The Fruitport Charter Township is an off-shoot of the old town of Norton, from which it separated in 1867. It has one lovely village –Fruitport-at the head of Spring Lake, which is unrivaled for its scenery, and has become a favorite summer resort. It is well watered by Black Creek, crossing its northwest corner, and Norris Creek and Little Deer Creek traversing its center.

Fruitport was a portion of the old Norton Township until it was set apart under the name of Lovell by act of the Legislature in 1867. The first meeting of the electors was appointed to be held at the school house in Section 31, Henry James, Sam'l Torrans and Robert Little being the first inspectors

of election. Austin W. DeFrate was the first supervisor, and was re-elected the following year. In 1870 John D. McEwing was elected supervisor. In 1871 the name of the town was changed from Lovell to Fruitport, and M.B. Converse was elected supervisor, and re-elected in 1872 and 1873.

The first settler in Fruitport Township was Seth H. Norris, in the fall of 1836, who cleared seven acres and made it his home for several years. Mr. Torrens came in the following winter. Jacob

Chapman was the first settler in the village of Fruitport, and was its first postmaster; J. W. Barnes became the second.

Among the earliest fruit growers was Sam'l Torrans, ex-township treasurer, who had peaches bearing in 1857, and the late Jas. Lowe about the same time raised peaches. J.H. Cooley was the first to raise apples.

The first school house, now removed, was near Jacob Chapman's in 1854, and was taught first term by a German, next by a daughter of R. Wilson, now of Alabama.

The Village of Fruitport was incorporated in 1868. Near the village is a good clay for brick making, which is to be resumed at Stahl's Bay, half mile to the West in the Spring of 1882. The soil of the township in the east is heavier and better adapted for agricultural purposes. The west is excellent for fruit growing.

Spring Lake, which was formerly known simply as "the Bayou" is an exceedingly beautiful body of water extending up North into Fruitport, and surrounded by slightly elevated banks, forming altogether one of the loveliest spots in the State.

In the spring of 1866, Captain E. L. Crow, after carefully studying up the capabilities of the soil, came to the conclusion that it had valuable qualities for fruit growing, and purchasing several hundred acres on the eastern shore, set out thirty acres of peach trees, and the result exceeded his highest expectations. This led to great speculations, and pure sandy soil which did not rest on clay, rose in value, but did not turn out so well. However, the business increased until the severe winter of 1874-75, which killed nearly all the peach buds. But the people persevered, and the result is that they have succeeded in gaining a high reputation to the region. Fruitport Village, at the head of the lake, was laid out in 1868, and in the following year the foundation of a great hotel was laid. In 1871 the mineral water of a valuable character was struck, and the elegant Pomona House opened July 1<sup>st</sup>, the property belonging to a company, the Fruitport Magnetic and Sulphur Springs Company, with capital \$500,000. The hotel was twice burned down, and is now a ruin.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

### **Role of the Fruitport Township Board and Parks & Recreation Commission**

The Fruitport Charter Township Parks and Recreation Commission is an elected body responsible for the maintenance, operation and development of the township recreation facilities. It is comprised of five members elected by the township residents and a Director appointed by the Commission. The Commission is an autonomous group that reports directly to the Township Board. The Township Parks and Recreation Commission authorized the development of the Park and Recreation Plan.

Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission meet regularly on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM, except December. All meetings are held in the Fruitport Charter Township Hall located at 5865 Airline Road in Fruitport, Michigan.

The Parks and Recreation Commission have a part-time Parks and Recreation Director who coordinates the planning, execution and management of all township park facilities and equipment. Any use by the community groups or School Community Education Department is

coordinated through the director. School District recreation facilities are generally coordinated through the Community Education Department of Fruitport Community Schools.

The Parks and Recreation Commission staff maintains all fields and facilities at South Fruitport Park, Pine Park, and Sheringer Soccer Park. The youth clubs often assist in minor maintenance upgrades at all fields. At Beach School, park staff has, in the past, prepared the fields for play but no longer. (This is the School Districts responsibility)

(Table #2)

**2015 FRUITPORT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

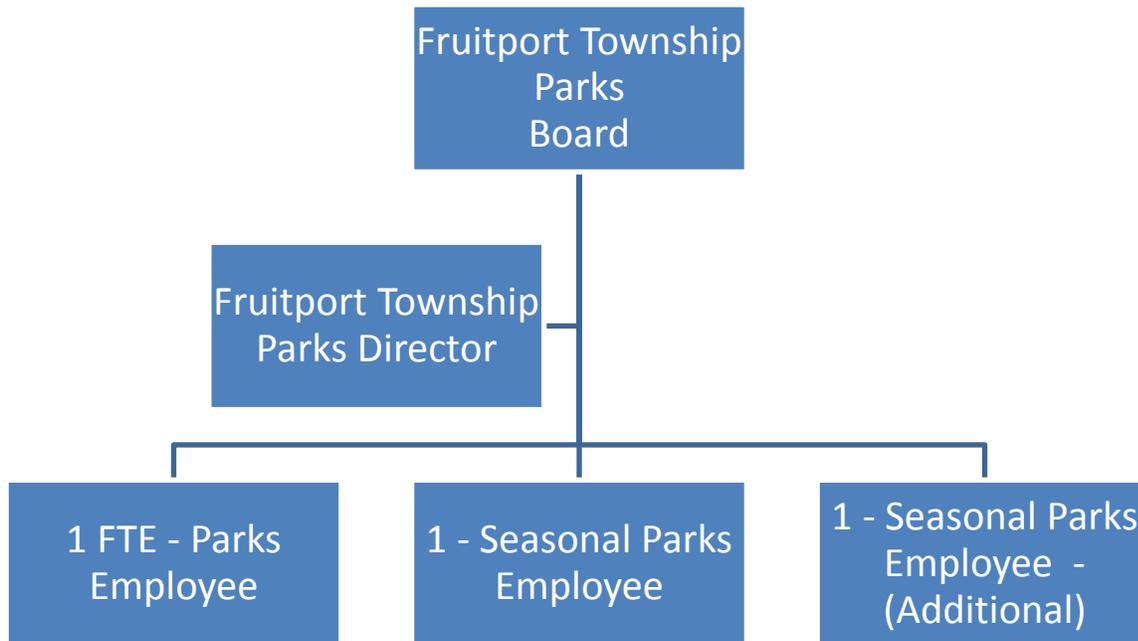
Melanie Lyonnais, Chair  
Chris Belasco, Commissioner  
Karen Johnson, Secretary  
Ross Spyke, Commissioner  
Chad Parker, Commissioner

Ken Hulka, Parks & Recreation Director

**2015 FRUITPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD**

Brian Werschem, Supervisor  
Rose Dillon, Treasurer  
Carol Hulka, Clerk  
Ron Becklin, Trustee  
Dave Markgraf, Trustee  
Marjorie Nash, Trustee  
Chuck Whitlow, Trustee

**Fruitport Charter Township Parks and Recreation Organizational Chart**



**Annual and Projected Budgets**

The Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission submits an annual report and budget to the Township Board for approval. The majority of its funding is provided through the Township General Fund with the remainder coming from registration fees and donations. In 2014 fiscal year, the township budget was approximately \$120,000 in General Fund dollars. Funding for park and recreation activities has remained the same for the past 15 years. A portion of the annual budget is earmarked annually for an improvement project. The remainder goes for staffing, maintenance, equipment and materials. (See Table 3 for Current Annual and Projected Budgets)

Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission does not currently have any additional funding sources of any substance.

**(Table # 3) – Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Budget**

| <b>Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation</b> |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| <b>Annual and Projected Budget</b>             |                         |
| <b>Fiscal Year 2014</b>                        | <b>Fiscal Year 2015</b> |
| <b>\$120,000</b>                               | <b>\$120,000</b>        |

## Sources of Funding

Fruitport Township has been the recipient of recreational funds through State recreation grants. The following grants have been received by the Township through the years:

(Table #4)

| Year | Project No. | Name  | Grant Amount     |
|------|-------------|---|------------------|
| 1976 | #26-00928   | <b>Pine Park Development<br/>(Fruitport Township)</b><br>* (2) tennis courts; ice skating, tot lot, shuffleboard courts                     | <b>\$17,118</b>  |
| 1991 | #BF-91-253  | <b>Beach School<br/>Community Park<br/>(Fruitport Community<br/>Schools)</b><br>* parking, ball fields, picnic shelter, restroom/concession | <b>\$195,000</b> |
| 2000 | #CM-00-038  | <b>Pine Park Restroom<br/>(Fruitport Township)</b><br>* Restroom Building<br><br><b>Sheringer Soccer Park</b>                               | <b>\$112,500</b> |
| 2011 | #TF10-014   | <b>(Fruitport Township)</b><br>* park improvements  | <b>\$213,900</b> |

## Recreation Programming

The Fruitport Township Commission currently has no recreational programming. Recreational programming is mainly provided for by the Fruitport School District and the Fruitport Youth Clubs. The Fruitport Youth Club and the Beach Youth Club provide programming in the township for the various soccer, football, softball and little league softball league as well as cheerleading. These clubs operate on a volunteer basis with members of the community. They are incorporated and have been active for several decades. In fact, some of the existing little league fields have been constructed by these small groups of dedicated individuals with extensive contributions of time, effort and some funds. The Township Parks continually receive maintenance improvements from Youth Club volunteers in the form of labor and equipment upgrades.

The Parks and Recreation Commission have attempted to have one or two of its members from these Youth Clubs, as part of the Commission membership.

**Role of Volunteers**

In past years, Fruitport Charter Township has benefited from volunteer labor and funds that the various youth clubs in the Township have expended on behalf of the parks. The following table summarizes the degree of assistance these groups have given the township:

| <b>Township<br/>Park Recipient</b> | <b>Contributor</b>    | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Assets Received</b>   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| Sheringer Park                     | Fruitport Soccer Club | \$75,000      | fencing, site clearing,<br>grubbing and parking area<br>sub base               |
| Sheringer Park                     | Fruitport Soccer Club | \$250,000     | soccer fields, sidewalks,<br>parking lot, lighting,<br>construction            |
| Sheringer Park                     | Fruitport Soccer Club | \$45,000      | soccer field   |
| South Fruitport<br>Park            | Football Club         | \$7,000       | new scoreboard   |
| Pine Park                          | Youth Club            | \$4,500 *     | 3 portable electronic boards   |
| Miscellaneous<br>Parks             | Youth Club            | \$15,000*     | 3 painting, electrical,<br>fencing,<br>cleanup, general<br>maintenance<br>Work |

**\* - This figure is an estimate – (Table #5)**

## **Relationship(s) with Other Public or Private Organizations**

The Fruitport Charter Township Parks and Recreation Commission has partnered with the Fruitport Youth Club, Beach Youth Club, and the Fruitport Youth Soccer Club to provide field marking for these clubs and periodically they have co-funded various improvements for the Fruitport Township Parks facilities.

## **Recreation Inventory**

### **Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory**

Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Director and Regional Commission staff conducted an extensive tour of the township and the recreational facilities located within its jurisdiction.

Fruitport Township currently operates three recreational facilities within the township. A map identifying the location of the parks, followed by detailed summaries of each park including location, size and amenities. Located on the next page is a map identifying the location of Township parks and recreational facilities. Following the map is a detailed summary of each facility including location, size and amenities.

# MAP #3

## Fruitport Charter Township Parks



## **South Fruitport Park**

South Fruitport Park (Farr Park) is a Fruitport Township Park located at 4143-4917 E. Farr Road in Fruitport, Michigan. Farr Park is about 20 acres in size, and is primarily designated for recreational baseball and football. Amenities of the park include one slow-pitch baseball diamond, four little league diamonds, football field, restrooms, concession-maintenance building, and gravel parking and tot lot.



*South Fruitport Park*



**WMSRDC**  
 WEST MICHIGAN SHORELINE  
 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
 Map Created April 2015  
 For General Planning Purposes Only

## Pine Park

Pine Park is a Fruitport Township Park located near the corner of Quarterline Road and Emens Drive in Muskegon, Michigan. The park is about 23 acres in size, and has a wide variety of recreational amenities to offer. It has a regulation football field, one basketball court, two tennis courts, a pony league field, two little league fields, a tot lot/picnic area, shuffle board courts, gravel parking, t-ball, and three small soccer fields for the youngest soccer teams.



*Pine Park*



## **Sheringer Soccer Park**

Sheringer Soccer Park is a Fruitport Township Park is located one and one half miles east of Beach School in Fruitport, Michigan. Sheringer Park is about 20 acres in size, has soccer fields and parking, and is surrounded by residential development. The park was formerly owned by the Fruitport Public School System. The Fruitport Township 4-H Club has used the park for horseback riding for many years.



*Sheringer Soccer Park*



## **Accessibility Assessment**

Fruitport Township and the Park and Recreation Commission have not undertaken a significant evaluation of its existing municipal or park and recreation facilities for compliance, however the following facts concerning ADA accessibility are evident at the existing three Township parks.

At South Fruitport Park (Farr) Park, the restrooms are certainly ADA accessible, but the fields are not. Likewise, Pine Park offers ADA accessible restroom facilities, but the fields are not. Sheringer Soccer Park has a 10 foot wide sidewalk that provides ADA access to the fields, and the parking lot area contains curb cutouts for accessibility.

## **Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities**

During the summer of 1976, Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission completed work on a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant at Pine Park. Tasks of the grant included the construction of (2) tennis courts, ice skating, tot lot, and shuffleboard courts.

The Fruitport Parks and Recreation Commission received a Clean Michigan Initiative Grant in 1991 to construct a barrier free restroom building connected by concrete pathway and parking.

In 2011, the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission received Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant to make park improvements at Sheringer Soccer Park.

## **Description of the Planning and Public Input Process**

The preparation of the Fruitport Township Recreation Plan was implemented by the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission with assistance from the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC).

In 2014, Fruitport Township approached the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development commission (WMSRDC) for assistance in the update of the Fruitport Township Recreation Plan. A contract between Fruitport Township and the WMSRDC was signed on Tuesday, September 23, 2014 with work on the Plan update beginning in October 2014. On the morning of Tuesday, October 28, 2014, Fruitport Township Parks Director guided WMSRDC staff on an extensive tour of the Fruitport Township Parks. During the tour, the group visited the Soccer Park on Sheringer Rd, Pine Park on Quarterline Rd, and South Fruitport Park on Farr Rd.

In the evening of October 28, 2014, WMSRDC staff attended the regularly scheduled meeting of the Fruitport Township Parks Commission (PC) at the Fruitport Township Hall. The planning process, timeline, and options for updating the document were discussed. The Fruitport Township Parks Commission decided that it was fine to re-write the plan to specifically meet the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) requirements. At the meeting the PC decided to schedule a Public Meeting for November 25, 2014, to offer the public an opportunity to discuss recreation options in Fruitport Township. The PC also decided to send out a survey with the winter tax bills. The survey would need to be prepared and submitted to the appropriate township staff member by November 17, 2014. The PC reviewed a previous public survey and decided to remove "water parks" and add "designated walking areas" to the survey. Otherwise the survey remained the same. The Fruitport Township Parks Commission meets regularly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm, except December.

WMSRDC staff met on November 3, 2014 to discuss the Parks Survey. A draft survey was sent to the Parks Director for the township to distribute. It was also suggested that the township post a notice in the Township Hall prior to Election Day of the November 25 public meeting.

On November 25, 2014, WMSRDC staff attended the Public Meeting at the Fruitport Township Hall. The meeting attendees included three Parks Commission members, Parks Director, and WMSRDC staff. Nobody from the public was in attendance. The meeting was noticed in the Muskegon Chronicle and listed on the township's website.

Meeting attendees held a discussion about the recreation facilities in Fruitport Township by answering the following three questions: (Nobody from the public was present at the meeting, thus no answers were received to the following questions):

1. What do you like about the existing recreation facilities in Fruitport Township?
2. What don't you like about the existing recreation facilities in Fruitport Township, or what would you like changed?
3. What new programs or facilities would you like developed in Fruitport Township?
4. Other comments regarding recreation in Fruitport Township:

The parks survey was sent to 5,000 Fruitport Township residents along with their winter tax bills. A total of 467 surveys were completed and returned by May 29, 2015.

## Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Survey



Number, in order of personal preference (1 being the highest priority), projects on which Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation should concentrate its resources for future needs:

### Fruitport Charter Township

5865 Airline Rd

Fruitport, MI 49415

Phone: 231-865-3151

Fax: 231-865-3118

- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand bike path
- \_\_\_\_\_ Additional picnic areas
- \_\_\_\_\_ Designated walking area(s)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Update baseball / softball fields
- \_\_\_\_\_ Completion of Soccer Park on Sheringer Rd (field improvements, restrooms, parking, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Community Center for indoor activities (banquets, meetings, non-contact sporting events, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other facilities or programs (please list): \_\_\_\_\_

Yes / No Would you support a  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$  mill levy for 1 year for a specific park project?

(To the average home 1 mill = approximately \$60, therefore  $\frac{1}{4}$  mill = \$15, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mill = \$30.)

Other Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A total of 467 of the 5,000, or 9.34% of the surveys submitted to taxpayers were returned to the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Survey – (Results) Table of Results**

| <b>Rank</b>       | <b>Potential Projects</b>                       | <b>% of Respondents</b> |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1                 | Expand bike path (207)                          | 25%                     |
| 6                 | Additional picnic areas (75)                    | 9%                      |
| 2                 | Designated walking areas (181)                  | 22%                     |
| 5                 | Update baseball / softball fields (88)          | 11%                     |
| 3                 | Completion of Soccer Park on Sheringer Rd (123) | 15%                     |
| 4                 | Community Center for indoor activities (122)    | 15%                     |
| 7                 | Other facilities or programs (please list) (32) | 3%                      |
|                   |   |                         |
|                   |   |                         |
|                   |   |                         |
| <b>(Table #6)</b> |   |                         |

**Expand Bike Path – Comments**

- A bike path connecting S. Brooks Rd to 3<sup>rd</sup> St. We have a wonderful waterfront (lakefront) here in Fruitport, Norris Creek and Spring Lake and we are not taking full-advantage of it.
- Bike path North from Village to Farr Rd, to Kendra to Mount Garfield to Lakes Mall.
- Expand the bike paths and get the bikes off the roadway.
- Expand bike path down Shettler Road.
- Expand bike path from Village to Harvey via Mt. Garfield
- Expand bike path along Airline N & W.
- Look into a bike path along Dangl from Heights Ravenna to Airline.
- Bike path up to north end of township along Airline to Dangl to Brooks.
- Expand bike paths to Douglas Street.
- Expand bike path from S. Walker Road to Farr/Fruitport Road.
- Expand bike path down Walker Road.
- A bike path from Fruitport to Cloverville.
- Would like a bike path along Farr/Kendra/Walker area.
- We need a bike path.
- Bike path from Fruitport (Along Airline) to Sheridan or further to Whitlows.
- Bike path = Pontaluna Road is very dangerous for children walking home from school.
- Please expand bike path to include Fruitport.
- Expand bike path toward Muskegon.

### **Additional Picnic Area – Comments**

- Pine Park needs actual picnic tables and good sturdy ones.

### **Designated Walking Area(s) – Comments**

- Make a walk path inside Soccer Field. Use a path just inside the fence all the way around. This way people can use in summer to stay in good health and during the winter to cross country ski and snow shoe.
- Walking and bike paths needed along very busy roads (i.e. Airline to Sternberg, Airline to Fruitport Village, Dangl, Sternberg. These are dangerous for bikers and walkers.
- A kid walking on Pontaluna to and from school without a bike path or sidewalk is pitiful.
- We need real sidewalks, not just on the very edge of these fast roads.
- Safe walking areas are needed, given the speed limits in most neighborhoods are too high and we lack sidewalks.
- People who desire to have a safe area to walk (for health & well-being) in Fruitport are left out! Why can't there be designated time and place perhaps in our school for walking? Appreciate the newer sidewalks! Clearly winter walking is very dangerous.
- Designated walking area(s) along Airline N & W.
- Complete sidewalk from middle school to Pontaluna/Walker corner for safety/connection to bike path.
- Sidewalks on Shettler, Dangl, and Sheridan. I would love to see as part of a new remodeled high school like Mona Shores.
- Work with Village to make little beach where grass area is next to boat launch. (Similar to Spring Lake little beach).
- Sidewalks for Shettler School.
- Walking areas in Township.
- More parks and walkable street infrastructure.
- Designated walking areas at existing parks.
- Expand walking areas down Walker Road.
- Sidewalks, pedestrian walking lanes?
- Walking area.
- How about sidewalks?

### **Update Baseball / Softball Fields – Comments**

- Update baseball / softball fields please!

### **Completion of Soccer Park on Sheringer Rd. (field improvements, restrooms, parking etc.) - Comments**

- Our parks are in good shape most of the time. New Soccer Park is super.
- No more soccer. Dog park please.
- Make a walk path inside soccer field. Use a path just inside the fence all the way around. This way people can use in summer to stay in good health and use in winter to cross country and snow shoe!
- Concession area for Soccer Park.

- Soccer park “entrance”. People are cutting through yards along the east side. They “people” are cutting through my backyard to get to the soccer park. It is a nightmare and many of us that live on Sheringer are outraged.
- People parking on the road during games, blocks the road for residents driving on Sheringer Road. A larger parking lot would benefit the players and the residents.

**Community Center for indoor activities (banquets, meetings, non-contract sporting events etc.) - Comments**

- No! This (Community Center) should be commercial, and not government sponsored!
- Senior activity center for games, social, eating and exercise.
- Once you build a center, then you have upkeep, etc. We do not need a community center. Sounds like a money pit to me. Keeping our taxes low makes this a better community to live in.
- Community Center with pool for exercise classes etc.

**Other facilities or programs (please list) - Comments**

- How about something for senior citizens?
- Buy property by park that is up for sale.
- Kayak launch (free) south of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in park & parking lot (side of dock).
- Dog Park.
- Free boat launch or at least a seasonal pass boat launch.
- Senior activity area meeting place.
- Senior citizen activity or center, and busing to Muskegon Senior Center.
- Cross Country ski trails in winter, mountain biking in other three seasons.
- Increase usage of water area off of Pomona Park.
- Improve parking areas at parks, fields, and add lighting to parking areas and fields for night use.
- Playgrounds
- Additional sections added to boat launch. Twenty feet longer perhaps.
- Tennis indoor/outdoor.
- Non-pay boat launch for residents.
- Dog Park.
- Dog Park. Spring Lake has one – can we please have one?
- Fish cleaning station, and fenced in Dog Park.
- Community pool or beach area at Pomona Park.
- Pet friendly parks and trails.
- Do better job of maintaining Pine Park and Farr Field. Bathrooms are always dirty.
- Craft show in Pomona Park in the summer (annual).
- A lakefront park.
- People today have no concern for other people’s property. The snowmobilers have ruined my driveway jumping snow piles and coming down hard on my driveway leaving a big hole.
- Lookout platforms for photography and nature watching.
- Room for senior citizens to play Euchre, Rummy, Cribbage, Bingo, and Mahjong.
- Senior Community Center.
- Please clean the tennis courts in Pine Park, before any other projects.

- Area where dogs are allowed.
- We need roads fixed. Not any of the above.
- Get annual boat launch permits available for township residents at village launch.
- Blinking flashers in school/zones.
- Better plowing service.
- Programs for youth: Babysitting class, CPR/First Aid, Boating Safety, Hunting Safety, ATV Safety, and Snowmobiling safety.
- Improve playground by library. More signs at bottom of sliding hill.
- Swimming area at Pomona Park would be nice.
- RV sewers dump station, and overnight campground.
- Dog Park.
- More public camping.
- Dog Park! Please! Not more soccer. Dogs yes. Soccer No.
- Summer educational programs for children and seniors.
- New library – or total update of library – handicap access.

**Yes/No - Would you support a ¼ or ½ mill levy for 1 year for a specific park project? – (To the average home 1 mill = approximately \$60, therefore ¼ mill = \$15, and ½ mill = \$30.)**

| <b>Mill Levy Increase - (Yes or No) For Specific Park Project - Table of Results - (Table #7)</b> |                              |                  |
|---|------------------------------|------------------|
|   | <b>Number of Respondents</b> | <b>Percent %</b> |
| Mill Levy Increase - Yes  | 255                          | 55%              |
| Mill Levy Increase - No   | 160                          | 34%              |
| Mill Levy Increase - No Response (No ranking = 0)   | 52                           | 11%              |
| <b>Total Surveys Received</b>   | <b>467</b>                   | <b>100%</b>      |

### **Mill Levy Increase Y or N – Comments**

#### **Yes – Comments**

- We have the wonderful waterfront (lake front) here in Fruitport, Norris Creek and Spring Lake and we are not taking full advantage of it.
- Buy property and expand park – nature area by park now.
- Updated playground equipment Pomona Park. Something for kids over age 5.
- Expand bike path north from Village to Farr Road, to Kendra, to Mt. Garfield to Lakes Mall.
- I am encouraging the board to appropriate some funding for needed road repairs too.
- The paving of Sheridan and Hile Roads is wonderful!
- Expand bike path from the Village to Harvey Street via Mt. Garfield. The population is increasing in that area and the roadways are busy and too narrow. Thank you for the survey.
- Pave Pine Park driveway and parking lot.
- I am not sure which project is number 1. My boys have graduated. I am willing to help support improvements for Fruitport.
- Get the bikes off the roadway.
- Sheridan Drive needs bike path and walking path from Beach School to Shettler School – support our kids.
- Need expanded bike path around school for students. Cars get very close to kids around middle school.
- Potholes in roads are outrageously bad!
- Walking /bike paths are needed along the very busy roads i.e. – Airline to Sternberg, Airline to Fruitport Village, Dangl to Sternberg. These are dangerous for bikers and walkers.

- Yes. Only if it were for bike paths. Especially down Walker and Pontaluna by the schools.
- Yes. Depending on the stated goal. (See above - 1 (Update baseball – softball fields) and 2 (Expand bike paths).
- It would be nice to have bike paths connecting all the schools, especially down Dangl Road for walking, biking, running etc.
- Yes. A 1/2 mill levy for soccer park for one year.
- Bike path on Pontaluna Road.
- I would support a tax levy, if it's one of my top few choices (Expand bike path, other facilities (Cross Country Ski Trails in winter and mountain biking in other three seasons).
- Sell some land next to “Coops” so the micro-brewery can go in and they can have parking.
- No pets allowed or specific pet parks for pet owners and their pets.
- Yes, only if it is for 1 year and 1 project.
- I think it is very important to focus on projects related to children to keep Fruitport as a desirable place to move or stay. Also would support increase for new/improved high school. We are losing too many families to other districts.
- It is important that the above items get done ( 1 - Community Center, 2 – Designated Walking Area(s), 3 – Additional Picnic Areas, 4 – Expand Bike Path, 5 – Update Baseball/Softball fields).
- Fruitport Township needs an ordinance to pick up their leaves and mow their grass. If they don't do it, the Township should do it and charge them for it. I am very against paying for the Kuis Drain cleanout. I do not have any problem with flooding and I don't care to pay for someone else.
- A kid walking on Pontaluna to and from school without a bike path or sidewalk is pitiful. In the winter they and motorists are placed in a very unsafe situation. I no longer have children who are school-age, but believe that the lack of our Township's concern for kids is quite apparent, unprofessional, and a poor example of community priorities.
- Thank you for requesting feedback!
- Do it!
- Turn Sheringer Soccer Field into a park with public access. Like a normal state park with closing times. Add hotel to Pomona Park, just like the old days 1880's.
- Expand the bike path is PARAMOUNT to growth in Fruitport – we have no safe place to bike, run, or walk.
- Yes. No more than ¼ mill levy.
- Yes. Would support a ¼ mill levy for 1 year for a specific park project. We are senior citizens.
- Yes. Dog park please.
- Yes, if it was for a high priority item (Completion of Soccer Park on Sheridan Rd, Other Facilities – Sidewalks on Shettler, Dangl, and Sheridan.
- Yes, ½ mill levy for 1 year. Thank you for asking our input.
- A place that Fruitport taxpayers can use without charge.
- Yes, would support a ½ mill levy.
- Yes, would support a ¼ mill levy for a specific park project.
- Our Parks are in good shape most of the time. The new soccer park is super!
- Overall our Parks are “Great”! Especially compared with other local parks in Muskegon.
- Safe walking areas are needed, given the speed limits on most neighborhoods are too high and lack of sidewalks. Dog friendly parks and trails with cleanup receptacles and access to bags to pick up after your dogs!! Ross Park is set up nice.

- Is it possible to develop a swimming area at Pomona Park?
- Bike path should be expanded in Beach School area on Hts. Ravenna and Dangl Roads.
- Yes ¼ mill levy for 1 year. People who desire to have a safe area to walk (for health & well-being) in Fruitport are left out! Appreciate the newer sidewalks! Cleared winter walking is very dangerous.
- Bike path to mall area!
- Pickleball is probably the fastest growing sport. Would like to see this in Fruitport. Surrounding areas are promoting and expanding. Courts are being built.
- Yes, only if projects are reviewed and competitively bid.
- Yes. It would be nice to be able to use the bus. It goes to the mall, but the nearest bus stop is about a mile away (from Michael St where I live).
- Yes. I would support a ½ mill levy.
- The township has grown commercially, but no provisions were made for pedestrians versus increased traffic! The Shettler School / Pine Park neighborhoods are fatal accidents waiting to happen! Also, why would anyone want to purchase a home in that area when you take life in your hands going for a walk or bike ride? It has made it a very unhealthy place to live! (Sidewalks, pedestrian walking lanes?)
- Kendra Road could use a resurfacing.
- Would like a walking path connecting town to mall along Kendra and Mt. Garfield.

#### **Mill Levy Increase Y or N – Comments (Cont'd)**

##### **No – Comments**

- Soccer Park needs another entrance off of Dangl. I live on Sheringer – it's a nightmare! I'm selling my house. No privacy at all anymore. My kids can't walk down the road anymore on weekends – it's not safe. My driveway is getting ruined from people turning around in it. The road is wearing away at the end of my driveway. There are 6 privacy trees along Sheringer and they're planted in between houses across the street, with 20-30 trees planted along fence where there's already plenty of privacy trees in peoples yards along the east side. People are cutting through my backyard to get to the park. I have a letter started to Mr. Werschum, but feel it wouldn't do any good. Like I said, it's a nightmare and many of us that live on Sheringer are outraged.
- Any extra monies should first go to repair Kendra Road. It is in very bad shape and potholes reappear shortly after they are repaired.
- Pine Park needs actual picnic tables and good sturdy ones.
- We seem to have enough money for new buildings, water lines, sewer lines etc. So, I guess you should find ¼ mills from someplace.
- The property west of Pomona Park is for sale – maybe that could be a beach area?
- Small business cannot afford any more tax.
- People on fixed income have it hard enough now without adding more taxes. We barely have enough to pay bills and eat as it is.
- Sorry, but I feel that the daily boat launch fee is too high. \$8.00 up from \$5.00 and \$50.00 up from \$40.00 for yearly. Price is too high for our short season.
- Never been to anything listed on the survey above, and have no idea what needs to be done and in what order.
- We need our roads repaired badly between Brooks and Johnson. All the other roads between it have been resurfaced except ours. The school buses go down there every day and heavy duty trucks. Please consider this!!!!!!

- I do not use any of the facilities and I don't know anyone who does. So I don't want to pay more taxes for them.
- Come and look what we need on our side of town. Sidewalks for kids on Shettler Road. Walking area for us to walk. Not just Fruitport Township, but what are needs are.
- Our parks are on of Fruitport's most attractive assets. Would like to see extended walkable bike paths and sidewalks in front of our schools.
- I'm a widow and can't afford any more taxes. I can use help myself.
- Fundraising and donations are better than taxes. Coming from those that it is important to, rather than those that are not interested.
- Spend more time applying for grants for bike paths, police equipment and fire equipment. The government loves to give away money they don't have.
- There is nothing for the seniors to do in Fruitport.
- These things are of no importance for me. I don't like paying for other's entertainment.
- I have a limited income, cost too much for upkeep of what we already have
- We expect to be moving this spring. We are both 86 and need to get into senior citizen's apartment.
- A community center is needed so our senior citizens can have lunch, socialize, and play cards.
- They need a path along Dengl – south of Heights Ravenna Road.
- Clean up the parks that we already have and open the restrooms.
- I'm on a very fixed income and I can't handle any more expenses.
- Pay too much already.
- Don't raise my taxes, please.
- No more taxes please!!! Help us help the poor – No More Taxes!!! Think about those on limited incomes!
- On fixed income.
- At age 86, I am living in a condo development, and do not make use of these things.
- Cut taxes.
- No new taxes.
- Please, no more taxes.
- I am disabled, and on a limited income – can't afford.
- Get your taxes from the malls.
- Fix roads.
- I only wish for "grant only" projects. Our taxes are high enough.
- Our taxes are too high. With the mall and other businesses in our township, the township should have plenty of tax income from those that can afford – seniors on a limited income should be taxed less not more.
- Sorry, but our income is low and adding more taxes for this "fluff" would be an even bigger burden for my poor hard-working husband who works extra hours as it is to cover my modest living style. The school system is already burdening us heavily and I can't see adding more unnecessary taxes.
- If Fruitport doesn't have the money, shut all of the programs down. If there is extra money, start cutting taxes.
- Can't pay any more!
- Live on fixed income.
- We need real sidewalks, not just on the very edge of these fast roads.
- Look for funding from those who will use these Parks and Recreation facilities. Private donations. Thank you for asking.

- We might support if we knew what project it was. Like to see a Dog Park or Run for the dogs to enjoy. Right now there is one at the end of Sherman and that is too far away. If people had one in Fruitport, you would have more people spending in town.
- Taxes are too high already.
- Fix our roads before you add new! We know County maintains, but you could use additional millage to replace not improve or continue to patch. We need a traffic signal at Farr and Third Street. Dangerous situation here.
- We recently moved to Fruitport Township from a highly taxed Township with a home owner's community association as well. Findings: No tax increase is ever temporary, and projects cost 2 times estimate, no one ever saves for a "rainy day", and low use special interest groups take over projects for their "good"...not the community.
- How about paving some of the dirt roads, before you expand parks and recreation facilities?
- Things are just fine for me. Thanks.
- Gravel roads need attention – Please work with the County to make roads safer and less stressful to vehicles. Thank you.
- I am to the point of I don't care what it is I am tired of taxes, etc. constantly going up. For those who want something let them pay for their choices. Sorry.
- Revenues increase from rising valuations and new properties.
- No, but I would for bike paths to get from Beach/Shettler School areas to the Village.
- We pay too much in taxes now!
- Wife and I have lived in Fruitport Township since 1974. Our daughter graduated "Fruitport" in 1989! Since that time our family has had no need for any of these Park/Recreation services in any way what so ever! Our daughter now lives in North Muskegon. Sometimes enough is enough!
- Find funds out of existing taxes – reallocate as required to better fund recreation needs.
- Thank you for your efforts!!
- Once you build a center, then you have upkeep etc. We do not need a community center. Sounds like a money pit to me. Keeping our taxes low makes this a better community to live in.
- No, no, let's try to give a tax break to folks instead of raising taxes all the time! It appears there is never enough money! Government always needs more, more, and more!
- I am not interested in a mill increase. This area is one of the tax bracket areas in Michigan. There has already been an increase of \$11.61 per month in city taxes this year on my mortgage and that is a \$348.30 increase from last year! That was for Muskegon Community College and The Intermediate Muskegon School District!

### **Draft Plan Review Notice and Comments**

The Draft 2015-2019 Fruitport Township Recreation Plan was placed on display at the Fruitport Township Hall located at 6543 Airline Road, Fruitport, Michigan 49415 on September 24, 2015 through October 27, 2015.

## **Goals and Objectives**

As a result of the surveys received during the months of February and March 2015, Fruitport Township residents who participated provided valuable feedback regarding their wishes and desires for the recreational facilities and activities within the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation system. This information was reviewed, calculated and analyzed to identify the community's goals and objectives.

The following goals and objectives were formulated based on the 464 of 5,000 surveys that were returned to the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission. The goals and objectives are in no particular order.

### **Goal One:**

**Improve existing Fruitport Township parks and recreation facilities and programs to provide adequate opportunities for year around recreation for all members of the Fruitport Community including the elderly and disabled.**

- **Improve Sheringer Soccer Park**

- A. Add concession area for Soccer Park.
- B. Expand the existing parking lot to keep spectators, players, and parents from parking on Sheringer Road and blocking traffic flow.
- C. Construct designated walking areas or sidewalks at Sheringer Soccer Park to provide better access.
- D. Add lighting to parking areas and fields for night use.
- E. Add identification signage to Sheringer Soccer Park.
- F. Add sprinkling, ditches and shape the fields.
- G. Explore the development of the one back field in the park.
- H. Add restrooms, storage, picnic pavilion, and playground.

- **Improve Pine Park**

- A. Pave Pine Park driveway and parking lot.
- B. Improve surface of the tennis courts.
- C. Add lighting to parking areas and fields for night use.
- D. Provide additional picnic tables in the park.
- E. Install directional signage to Pine Park.

F. Design and construct designated walking area (track) at Pine Park, which would include mile markers.

- **Improve South Fruitport Park**

A. Add lighting to parking areas and fields for night use.

B. Improve parking configuration and layout, including paved parking.

C. Install directional signage to South Fruitport Park – (Farr Park)

D. Install new fencing.

E. Improve the drainage; add backstops, bleachers, picnic tables, irrigation, and football press box.

**Goal Two:**

**Expand the boundaries of current township recreational properties for future needs while the property is still undeveloped, available and affordable.**

- Explore the possibility of expanding existing park facilities.
- Consider working with the Village of Fruitport for additional park facilities and water access.
- Consider purchasing land in Fruitport Township to develop a Dog Park. (spacing btw lines)
- Consider purchasing land in Fruitport Township to construct a Community Center with recreational activities for senior citizens and the whole community.

**Goal Three:**

**Provide non-motorized connections (Designated Walking Areas and Bike Paths) to and within recreational facilities, schools and residential areas in order to provide safe, pleasant and satisfying recreation experiences.**

**A. Expand Bike Paths**

- Construct or expand designated Bike Paths at all (3) existing Township Parks.
- Develop a bike path that would connect all (3) existing Township Parks.

**B. Expand Designated Walking Areas**

- Construct or expand designated Walking Areas at all (3) existing Township Parks.

- Construct walking track, including mile markers, at Pine Park.
- Add a walking path around the Sheringer Soccer Park fields.
- Expand designated walking areas that would provide greater resources for the whole community, including senior citizens, school children, and those interested in fitness or a leisurely walk.

**Goal Four:**

**Explore the possibility of a recreational millage or long-term funding as a means to enhance or maintain recreational facilities.**

**Action Program**

During the next five-year period (2015-2019), the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Plan will be utilized by the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission and its director to accomplish the goals identified throughout this planning process. Through the duration of the planning process, it has become evident that the Township is committed to providing the best possible recreational amenities and programs to its community residents and visitors alike in order to take full advantage of the natural resources the Township has to offer.

Over the past several years, maintenance, upgrades, and potential expansion of the township parks have been the highest priorities for the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission. These priorities will continue over the next five year period. Through township general funding, grants, and youth club donations, the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission has been able to make several improvements to its existing park facilities.

Through the planning process, the members of the parks commission and director have committed themselves to these high priorities.

**Capital Improvements**

Capital Improvement Schedule

**Fruitport Township Recreation Plan 2015 – (Table #8)**

| <b>YEAR</b>    | <b>PROJECT</b>                              | <b>ESTIMATED COST</b> | <b>FUNDING</b>         | <b>TOWNSHIP COST</b> |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>2010</b>    | South Fruitport Park Accessibility Upgrades |                       |                        |                      |
|                | (restroom access and parking)               | \$10,000              | Township General Funds | \$10,000             |
| <b>2010</b>    | Sheringer Park Improvements                 | \$2,000               | Township General Funds | \$2,000              |
|                | Grant Application                           |                       |                        |                      |
| <b>2011</b>    | Trails Planning from Sheringer Park         | \$7,500               | Township General Funds | \$7,500              |
|                | to Musketawa Trail                          |                       |                        |                      |
| <b>2011</b>    | Sheringer Park Improvements                 | \$25,000              | Township General Funds | \$25,000             |
|                | Survey and Engineering Fees                 |                       |                        |                      |
| <b>2011-12</b> | Sheringer Park Improvements                 | \$475,000             | MDNR Trust Funds and   | \$135,000            |
|                | Construction                                |                       | General Township Funds |                      |
|                |   |                       | And Youth Clubs        |                      |
| <b>2013</b>    | Non-motorized trail from Sheringer Park     | \$2,000               | Township General Funds | \$2,000              |
|                | Park to Musketawa Trail                     |                       |                        |                      |
|                | Grant Application                           |                       |                        |                      |
| <b>2014-15</b> | Non-motorized trail from Sheringer Park     | \$350,000             | MDNR Trust Funds and   | \$100,000            |
|                | Park to Musketawa Trail                     |                       | General Township Funds |                      |
|                | Construction                                |                       |                        |                      |

## **Post-Completion Self-Inspection Report**

The Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission have had a number of improvements to the parks over the past several years. In 1976, the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission completed work on a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant at Pine Park. The project scope included two tennis courts, ice skating, Tot lot, and a shuffle board court. (See Appendix for Post-Completion Self-Certification Report documents.)

In 1991, the Fruitport Parks and Recreation Commission received a Clean Michigan Initiative Grant for Pine Park to construct a barrier free restroom building connected by a concrete pathway and parking.

During 2011, the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission received a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant to make park improvements at Sheringer Soccer Park.

## **Conclusion**

The purpose of this plan is to aid the Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Commission in making current and future planning decisions. If utilized appropriately, this plan will assist the Commission in making the best use of available funds for future development and maintenance of the Fruitport Township parks and recreational facilities. The plan should be consulted on a regular basis and must be updated every five years, to remain consistent with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and eligible for grant assistance.

## Appendix

### A. Public Notification

#### Notice of Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment 1-A

Date of Notice: September 24 through October 27

Type of Notice: Township Hall and [fruitporttownshipmi.gov](http://fruitporttownshipmi.gov)

Plan Location: Fruitport Charter Township Hall, 5865 Airline Road, Fruitport, MI 49415

Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period: 33 days

1 A

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC REVIEW REGARDING THE FRUITPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN**

Please be advised that the Fruitport Charter Township, with the assistance of the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC), will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 to receive input for the proposed Fruitport Charter Township Recreation Plan. The hearing will take place at 6:00 PM at the Fruitport Charter Township Hall located at 5865 Airline Road, Fruitport, Michigan 49415. The meeting is open to the public, and those with an interest in the Fruitport Charter Township Recreation Plan are encouraged to attend. A copy of the Draft Recreation Plan will be on display at the Fruitport Charter Township Hall (lobby) starting September 24 through October 27, 2015 during regular business hours. The draft plan is also available during the same time period on the Township's website at [fruitporttownshipmi.gov](http://fruitporttownshipmi.gov).

Written comments may also be submitted by October 26, 2015 to the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, 316 Morris Avenue, Suite 340, Muskegon, Michigan 49440 or via electronic mail at [cjohnson@wmsrdc.org](mailto:cjohnson@wmsrdc.org). If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Cliff Johnson, Program Manager, WMSRDC, (231) 722-7878 (extension 14).

- Publish on Township website on September 24, 2015 Done (KL)
- Publish in newspaper week of October 20, 2015 Done (KL)  
*Ablish 10/20/15*

2A

**Parks and Recreation Public Hearing  
Five Year Plan**

**Township Parks and Recreation: Parks Commission Public Hearing Meeting**

**Township Hall Address: 5865 Airline Road, Fruitport, MI 49415**

**Township Telephone: (213) 865-3151**

**Date/Time of Meeting: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Place of Meeting: Fruitport Township Hall**

**Purpose of Meeting: Public Hearing for Five Year Park Plan**

This notice is posted in compliance with the State of Michigan's Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended, and MLA 41.72a (2) (3).

The Charter Township of Fruitport will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon notice to the township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk by writing or calling the following.

**Carol Hulka, Township Clerk  
5865 Airline Road  
Fruitport, MI 49415  
(231) 865-3151**

**Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Bodies**

Date of Notice: October 20, 2015  
Name of Newspaper: The Muskegon Chronicle  
Date of Meeting: October 27, 2015

STATE OF MICHIGAN )  
County of Muskegon

ss. Deja McHenry

Being duly sworn deposes and say he/she is Principal Clerk of

 **THE MUSKEGON CHRONICLE**  
DAILY EDITION

a newspaper published and circulated in the County of Muskegon and otherwise qualified according to Supreme Court Rule; and that the annexed notice, taken from said paper, has been duly published in said paper on the following day(days)

October 20 A.D. 20 15

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20 day of October 2015

  
**MARIETTA FOLEY**  
Notary Public, State of Michigan  
County of Kent  
My Commission Expires: December 23, 2016

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC REVIEW REGARDING THE FRUITPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN**

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Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting on October 27, 2015

3

FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION  
5865 Airline Road  
Fruitport, MI 49415  
231-865-3151

Minutes of the October 27th, 2015 meeting.

Present: Melanie Lyonnais (commissioner), Karen Johnson (commissioner), Ross Spyke (commissioner), Chris Belasco (commissioner) and Ken Hulka (director).  
Absent: Chad Parker (commissioner)  
Guests: Cliff Johnson & Ryan O'Neal

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM.

Melanie Lyonnais moved to open the meeting to a public hearing for comments on the parks rec plan. Ross Spyke seconded. Motion passed. It was asked why there was a public hearing and Ken explained that it was for the township to be grant eligible for state money. With no further comments, Melanie Lyonnais moved that the public hearing be closed. Chris Belasco seconded and the motion passed the public hearing was closed.

Ryan O'Neal proposed that the Football club would like to build an addition to the current press box/concession stand. The norm is to approach the parks board and we generally will share costs. The parks board would need blue prints and an estimate of the costs. There is also a need for a new septic system if they want to add bathrooms.

If a plan comes back from the youth club, we would need to forward it to the township to get funds. Our new budget is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

There was a mole problem at Pine Park this Fall. It will need grub killer in the spring.

The water lines at the parks will be blown out the first week of November. The new mower and bagger are in and are working fine. There was a break in at the main storage area at Pine Park. Two new weed wackers and a chain saw were stolen. There was a huge lock on the door and they cut it off.

Melanie Lyonnais moved and Ross Spyke seconded to vote and pass a resolution to recommend approval of the Fruitport Township Parks Rec Plan by Fruitport Charter Township Board at their meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be December 1, 2015 at 6:00PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04PM.

Submitted by Karen Johnson *Karen Johnson*

B. Ratification

**Official resolution of adoption by the Fruitport Charter Township Board dated November 10, 2015.**



FRUITPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
5865 AIRLINE ROAD • FRUITPORT, MICHIGAN 49415  
(231) 865.3151 • FAX (231) 865-3118

FRUITPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
MUSKEGON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION # 74

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires a complete parks and recreation master plan as part of the criteria for grant funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund and other DNR grant programs.

WHEREAS, the Fruitport Charter Township Board and the Fruitport Charter Township Parks and Recreation Commission have developed a five-year recreation plan covering the years 2015-2019; and

WHEREAS, the plan was developed with public input, including a public meeting, public review, and a comment period of 30 days; and

WHEREAS, the plan identifies the Township's commitment to provide recreational opportunities within Fruitport Charter Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fruitport Charter Township Board hereby adopts the proposed Fruitport Charter Township Recreational Plan for the period of 2015-2019.

Signature

*Brian Werschem - Supervisor*  
Printed name and Title

11/10/15  
Date

**Official resolution of adoption by the Fruitport Charter Township Parks and Recreation Board dated October 27, 2015.**

FRUITPORT CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
MUSKEGON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_

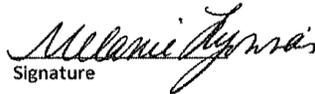
WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires a complete parks and recreation master plan as part of the criteria for grant funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund and other DNR grant programs.

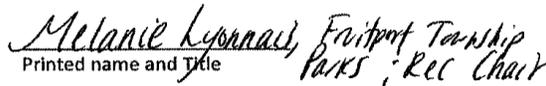
WHEREAS, the Fruitport Charter Township Board and the Fruitport Charter Township Parks and Recreation Commission have developed a five-year recreation plan covering the years 2015-2019; and

WHEREAS, the plan was developed with public input, including a public meeting, public review, and a comment period of 30 days; and

WHEREAS, the plan identifies the Township's commitment to provide recreational opportunities within Fruitport Charter Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fruitport Charter Township Parks and Recreation Commission pass a resolution to recommend the adoption of the proposed Fruitport Charter Township Recreational Plan for the period of 2015-2019 by the Fruitport Charter Township Board.

  
Signature

  
Printed name and Title

10/27/15  
Date

Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners

*Fruitport Charter Township*  
Parks and Recreation Department  
5865 Airline Road  
Fruitport, MI 49415

*Parks Director  
Ken Hulka*

*Phone 231 865-3151  
Fax 231 865-3118*

December 3, 2015

Convention and Visitors Bureau  
ATTN: Bob Lukens  
610 W. Western Avenue  
Muskegon, Michigan 49440

RE: Fruitport Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Dear Bob,

Enclosed is a copy of the approved Parks & Recreation Plan for Fruitport Township for 2015 – 2020.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Kenneth J. Hulka,  
Parks Director

Enclosure

**Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission**

***Fruitport Charter Township***  
Parks and Recreation Department  
5865 Airline Road  
Fruitport, MI 49415

*Parks Director  
Ken Hulka*

*Phone 231 865-3151  
Fax 231 865-3118*

December 3, 2015

DEC 07 2015

WMSRDC  
ATTN: Cliff Johnson  
316 Morris Avenue, Suite 340  
Muskegon, Michigan 49440

RE: Fruitport Township Parks & Recreation Plan

Dear Cliff,

Enclosed is a copy of the approved Parks & Recreation Plan for Fruitport Township for 2015 – 2020.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Kenneth J. Hulka,  
Parks Director

Enclosure

C. Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;  
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE:  MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND  CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one)  LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND  RECREATION PASSPORT  BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-00928

PROJECT TYPE: Pine Park Restrooms & Parking

PROJECT TITLE: Pine Park Development

PROJECT SCOPE: Two tennis courts / ice skating / Tot lot / Shuffle board court

| TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)   |                                |                |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Name of Agency (Grantee)   | Contact Person                 | Title          |
| Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation  | Kenneth J. Hulka               | Parks Director |
| Address  | Telephone                      |                |
| 5865 Airline Road  | 231.865.3151                   |                |
| City, State, ZIP   | Email                          |                |
| Fruitport, MI 49415  | khulka@muskegoncountyroads.org |                |
| <b>SITE DEVELOPMENT</b>  |                                |                |
| Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>   |                                |                |
| If yes, please describe change(s).<br><u>Tot lot was replaced due to rotting wood several years ago. New play equipment was erected in its place at Township expense.</u>  |                                |                |
| Please refer to the attached boundary map. Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span> |                                |                |
| Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</span>   |                                |                |
| Is the site and all facilities accessible to persons with disabilities? If no, please explain. <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span>  |                                |                |
| <u>Special provisions provided access by vehicle. Working on providing hard surface paths for parking areas.</u>   |                                |                |
| List all additional existing development/facilities at the referenced project site. If the site is undeveloped, please describe the present use and provide a schedule for future development, including a list of proposed facilities.  |                                |                |
|  |                                |                |
|  |                                |                |
|  |                                |                |
|  |                                |                |

**POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT (CONT'D)**

| SITE QUALITY   |  |
|--|--|
| Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?<br>If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| <hr/>  |  |
| Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| <hr/>  |  |
| Are there any features near the site which would detract from the use and enjoyment of the site or would pose a health or safety problem? If yes, please explain.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| <hr/>  |  |
| Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| <hr/>  |  |
| Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.<br><b>As needed from April 1 to December 1. Park closed to vehicular traffic December 1 to March 31. Foot traffic only.</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| <hr/>  |  |
| GENERAL  |  |
| Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities?<br>(i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| <hr/>  |  |
| Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| <hr/>  |  |
| What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?<br><b>Sunrise from April 1 thru November 30 -- closed at 10:00 p.m.</b>   |  |
| <hr/>  |  |

**POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT (CONT'D)**

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

[Empty space for comments]

**CERTIFICATION**

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

Kenneth J. Hulke  
Please print

Kenneth J. Hulke  
Grantee Authorized Signature

5-20-15  
Date

Amy M. Johnson  
Please print

Amy M. Johnson  
Witness Signature

05-20-15  
Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS  
GRANTS MANAGEMENT  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PO BOX 30425  
LANSING MI 48909-7925**



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: [ ] MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND [ ] CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
[ ] LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND [ ] RECREATION PASSPORT [ ] BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: CM-00-038

PROJECT TYPE: Pine Park Restrooms & Parking

PROJECT TITLE: Restroom Building

PROJECT SCOPE: New Restroom / Concession Building & Parking Improvement

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)
Name of Agency (Grantee) Contact Person Title
Fruitport Township Parks and Recreation Kenneth J. Hulka Parks Director
Address Telephone
5865 Airline Road 231.865.3151
City, State, ZIP Email
Fruitport, MI 49415 khulka@muskegoncountyroads.org
SITE DEVELOPMENT
Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? [ ] Yes [X] No
Please refer to the attached boundary map. Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? [ ] Yes [X] No
Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [ ] Yes [X] No
Is the site and all facilities accessible to persons with disabilities? If no, please explain. [X] Yes [ ] No
Parking and barrier free restroom connected by concrete pathway
List all additional existing development/facilities at the referenced project site. If the site is undeveloped, please describe the present use and provide a schedule for future development, including a list of proposed facilities.

**POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT (CONT'D)**

| SITE QUALITY  |  |
|---|--|
| Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?<br>If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| Are there any features near the site which would detract from the use and enjoyment of the site or would pose a health or safety problem? If yes, please explain.   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.<br><u>Not typically / Periodic spray paint on building which is immediately covered by staff.</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.<br><u>Daily / as needed while park is open.</u>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| GENERAL   |  |
| Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities?<br>(i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                              |
| What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?<br><u>Daylight to 10:00 p.m. - April 1 thru November yearly</u>  |  |

**POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT (CONT'D)**

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

[Empty space for comments]

**CERTIFICATION**

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

*Kenneth J. Hulke*  
Please print

*Kenneth J. Hulke*  
Grantee Authorized Signature

*5-20-15*  
Date

*Amy M. Johnson*  
Please print

*Amy M. Johnson*  
Witness Signature

*05/20/15*  
Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS  
GRANTS MANAGEMENT  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PO BOX 30425  
LANSING MI 48909-7925**

**Other Meeting Minutes – Preliminary**

**Meeting Minutes - #1**

FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

6543 Airline Road

Fruitport, MI 49415

231-865-3151

Minutes of the August 27th, 2014 meeting.

Present: Ken Hulka (director), Melanie Lyonnais (commissioner), Karen Johnson (commissioner), Ross Spyke (commissioner).

Absent: Chad Parker (commissioner) and Chris Belasco (commissioner).

Guest: Brian Werschem, Township.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10PM.

**Rec. Plan** – It will take several months to write one. We will solicit what the population wants. A survey will be included in either the July 1 or Dec 1 tax bills. West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission should be contacted. Items that should be included in a rec plan were discussed and why. Input from the township was given by Brian Werschem. It is the first time the township budget has been above the minimum threshold. They may be able to allocate some money to do a project, but the project must be identified.

Melanie Lyonnais motioned and Ross Spyke seconded that WMSRDC be contacted to start working on a new rec plan.

Questions were brought up about the timing of public solicitation being included in with tax bills. Either time would be good. A short gap in between rec plans would most likely not hurt grant applications.

Shuffle board painting was brought up. How much would it be for a template?

**Pine Park** - Tennis courts have no nets and it looks bad. There is concern of vandalism of nets, if they are purchased.

Every major item is good at all parks except the soccer park.

Need for same signage at all parks.

It was brought up what does the soccer club want for the soccer park:

Sprinkling, ditch & shaping fields - \$100,000

Concession building \$150,000 to \$175,000 (The Pomona Park Building - \$135,000 estimated cost with bartering \$78,000.)

Parking \$75,000

### **Meeting Minutes- #2 - (Cont'd)**

#### FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

5865 Airline Road

Fruitport, MI 49415

231/865-3151

Minutes of the October 28, 2014

Present: Ken Hulka (director), Melanie Lyonnais (commissioner), Chris Belasco (commissioner), Karen Johnson (commissioner), Ross Spyke (commissioner)

Absent: Chad Parker (commissioner)

Also Present: Stephan Carlson and Cliff Johnson from West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC)

The Board received the Revenue and Expenditure Report for Recreation/Parks Department month ending 10/31/14 and Check Disbursement Reports for dates 9/1/14-9/30/14 and 10/1/14-10/28/14.

WMSRDC came to discuss a new 5-year Recreation Plan. Stephan and Cliff took a tour of the parks with Ken earlier today. Surveys will be sent out with the tax bills the beginning of December asking for feedback about what improvements/additions residents would like to see for the parks. A community input meeting will be scheduled from 11/25/14. With a Recreation Plan funds are possible from Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund and Recreation Passport.

Ken is having survey shots on 10/29 at Sheringer Park to look at the drainage issue. There are two chemicals readily available to treat the water for mosquitoes at Sheringer Park. We must have a proper license to procure it or need to find a company to supply it.

Top soil was delivered for 2 fields at Farr Park. The first load had too much clay.

Twenty-five tons of diamond dust was delivered to each park.

Next meeting set for Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 6pm at the Township Hall.

Submitted by Melanie Lyonnais

### **Meeting Minutes- #3 (Cont'd)**

#### FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

6543 Airline Road

Fruitport, MI 49415

231-865-3151

Minutes of the November 25th, 2014 meeting.

Present: Ken Hulka (director), Melanie Lyonnais (commissioner), Karen Johnson (commissioner), Ross Spyke (commissioner).

Absent: Chad Parker (commissioner) and Chris Belasco (commissioner).

The meeting was called to order at 6:10PM.

Surveys are being stuffed in with the tax bills. They will be mailed soon.

It was asked if the survey could be put on the township website. The last time the return was 20%. The questionnaire was reviewed at a public meeting and no one showed. The Board discussed the questionnaire.

Items discussed:

Pine Park – nice and woodsy.

Water issue at Farr Park.

Bike Path-where to put it. Dangl is too busy.

What is wrong with the parks?

Fencing is old and outdated, especially at Farr Park.

Combining youth parks.

Sheringer Park is locked. Look at a separation or a barrier between parking lot and fields.

Add a walking track among the trees in Pine Park – not an official size for bike path, just a walking path with mile markers. Could take an aerial picture and draw different paths.

Discussed contacting the out of town owner to purchase land adjacent to Pine Park. No place to expand except there.

Budget left to spend \$45,000.

Suggestions:

Signage – all parks signs the same.

Tractor with loader and aerator, solicit bids for something to fit on existing trailer.

Quote for one fence at Farr Park.

Parking for Soccer Park.

Drainage for Soccer Park. Survey shot – 3 ft. of fall to allow 4 in pipe into county ditch. Best suggestion to go thru someone's yard.

Goals needed in February. Draft plan finish in March.

No meeting in December. Next meeting will be in January. Ken will collect feedback.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45PM.

Submitted by Karen Johnson

**Meeting Minutes- #4 (Cont'd)**

FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

6543 Airline Road

Fruitport, MI 49415

231-865-3151

Minutes of the March 24th, 2015 meeting.

Present: Ken Hulka (director), Melanie Lyonnais (commissioner), Karen Johnson (commissioner), Chad Parker (commissioner) and Chris Belasco (commissioner).

Absent: Ross Spyke (commissioner).

Guests: Cliff Johnson (WMSRDC), David Dykema & McKay Dykema.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04PM.

Budget left to spend \$38,000. Rollover approval for a large project.

Tractor \$27,000, Loader bucket \$4575, an aerator \$3000 & fertilizer spreader \$625

Budget review only used \$6800 of \$38,000 for unemployment. Ken to request township to carry over the excess in the budget to purchase tractor and fertilizer. It was asked about a trailer to move it around. Current trailer is too short to move 2 mowers. Ken will check to make sure that the new tractor will fit on the trailed. A new tractor should last about 25 to 30 years. It would be kept at Farr Park. Melanie Lyonnais motioned and Chad Parker seconded to make request of township. All approved.

Four dates for park use were requested by West Michigan Christian. They are being charged for the field use.

Nothing was able to be accomplished this week at the parks. Hoping to have them open next week.

Brian Werschem submitted the same budget as last year. \$120,000 plus the roll over. Wages will increase – need at least 40 more hours of work per week and will keep it with in contract.

Soccer Club would like to finish the two back fields.

Discussion of bases. Park Commission has always supplied bases. Break-away bases are over & above what would normally be used.

Soccer Park – need to change the gate to allow public access. Ken will look into it.

Surveys – 413 total surveys turned in out of 5,000.

Millage – 225 - yes (54%), 145 – no (35%) 43 no vote.

Other items:

Walking path around the soccer park.

Bike Path – routes suggested – S. Brooks to Village, Farr Field to Mall.

Dog Park

Pave Pine Park Drive

One year increase

Update baseball/softball fields.

½ mil for soccer park

Cross Country track/Snow shoe

One year/one project.

Will get us a draft by next meeting and will incorporate DNR checklist into our five year plan.  
GIS guide to add maps to the five year plan.

Short interview was given to Ms. Dykema.

Meeting adjourned at 6:46PM.

Submitted by Karen Johnson