

**Minutes**  
Cascade Charter Township  
Parks Committee  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024  
8:00 am  
5920 Tahoe Dr

**ARTICLE 1.** Chair Reese called the meeting to order at 8:02 am.  
Members Present: Mike Reese, Eileen Boekestein, Supervisor Grace Lesperance, Ken Kaiser, Bill Otten  
Members Absent: Matt Douglas

Member Bruneau attended via Zoom.

**ARTICLE 2. Approve the current Agenda**

**Motion was made by Supervisor Lesperance to approve the current agenda. Supported by Member Kaiser. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

**ARTICLE 3. Approve the November 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion was made by Member Kaiser to approve the November 21, 2023 meeting minutes as written. Supported by Supervisor Lesperance. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

**ARTICLE 4. Approve the January 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion was made by Member Boekestein to approve the January 16, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Supported by Member Otten. Motion carried 5 to 0.**

**ARTICLE 5. Public Comments**

Todd Blosser (6801 Burton St) lives by Burton Park and attended the meeting to observe and become more involved.

Molly Webb (6799 Burton St) stated that people going to Burton Park are confused about where to park their vehicles. She viewed this as a safety issue.

Blosser elaborated on his concerns stating that since the expansion happened at Burton Park, there have been township employees creating additional traffic. He wanted to see forward momentum on fixing the parking lot at the park. Member Bruneau commented that when Burton Park was first established, the intent was to tear down the maintenance building but instead, it became a location for the Buildings and Grounds crew to operate out of.

**ARTICLE 6. Director's Report**

Director Manion said they have decided to move forward with OHM and Kent Garden Club to assist with the lower village design and maintenance. The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of a woodchipper, a covered trailer, and all additions to Friendship Park. Residents had expressed concerns over excessive late-night traffic in

Burton Park, prompting staff to close the gate. Wycliffe Trailhead Park now has a split rail fence up to prevent children from getting too close to the road.

**ARTICLE 7. New Business**

**a) Creation of Friends of Cascade Parks** – Chair Reese stated this was identified in the 5-year Master Plan as one of the action items. This would be a non-profit group created with a mission to help with funding, volunteers, and donations.

**b) Park grand opening schedule** – Wycliffe Trailhead Park is set to open on May 18, 2024, and Friendship Park is set to open on June 29, 2024.

**c) Review of reservation policies and fees** – There is new software for park reservations. The Parks Committee was asked to review the pricing of rentable structures, discuss policies related to events, and figure out league field reservation pricing.

**d) Acquisition prioritization discussion** – The township is looking at multiple properties that will potentially be acquired or protected by an easement. Director Manion stated that residents value trails, natural areas, maintaining parks and pathways, and keeping the character of Cascade.

**ARTICLE 8. Other Business**

Director Manion said that Member Matt Douglas was reappointed to the Parks Committee.

Member Reese announced that the Pathways Committee will now meet bi-monthly, with the next meeting scheduled for March.

**ARTICLE 9. Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Member Otten to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Member Boekestein. Motion carried 5 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 9:33 am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Boekestein, Secretary