

**Glen Arbor Township  
Park & Recreation Board Meeting  
Thursday, September 14, 2023  
Township Meeting Room**

**MEETING MINUTES - Approved November 16, 2023**

**Call to Order**

The meeting of the Glen Arbor Township's Park & Recreation Board was called to order at 1:00 pm by Kim Volk, Secretary. In addition to Kim, Annabel Moore, Treasurer and Bob Merritt were present. John McIlvried, President and Susan Betzig were absent. Pam Laureto, Clerk, was also absent.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda with one addition: 2024 meeting dates. *Motion carried.*

**Pledge of Allegiance**

All in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

**Public Comment**

No public members were in attendance at the meeting and no public comments were received in advance of the meeting.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2023 meeting as presented. *Motion carried.*

**President's Report**

Since John McIlvried was absent, there was no president's report given.

**Treasurer's Report**

Annabel Moore reported that money was spent for a new sign, but she did not have the exact cost for this with her so she would inform the board of the actual cost at the next meeting. Both the new paddle rack and "temporary" sign will be installed on the pickleball courts on Monday, September 18.

**Clerk's Report**

At this time, Michele Aucello, assistant clerk, joined the meeting to read Pam's report:

1. Park Maintenance & Restroom Opening: Tom Laureto has been trying to change the restroom locks to open at 8am from 9am but has not been able to do this without the services of an electrician. For now the restroom will continue to open at 9am.

Brian, the township's maintenance person has been to the park most mornings, picking up trash and lost/found items. The items he finds are brought to the Township Office. The PARB needs to schedule a day in early October for another work bee to tackle weeds. Bob Merritt volunteered to take down and store the windscreens in late October.

2. Sparks Grant: We have not heard anything from the DNR yet.
3. Gym Lighting: The quotes to upgrade/replace the lighting in the gym are between \$8,000 and \$10,000; the money was not budgeted and the Township Board has yet to make a decision on this matter.
4. The paddle rack is in the box behind Pam's desk. She has the laminated Pickleball sign at home in order to add grommets and will have it back to the Township office by Monday when it is to be hung. The township would like feedback from the pickleball community on the sign before a permanent sign is ordered, in case the terms used or any other wording may need further changes.

The PARB asked for an update on the use of the QR Code at the park and boat launch in terms of both the number of donations and the amounts received to date.

### **Five-Year Plan Priorities**

- A. Recreation Committee** - Kim Volk informed the PARB that the Recreation Committee will meet on Monday, September 18 to finalize plans for a fall festival weekend, October 20 & 21. It expects to hold a square dance at the townhall on Friday, October 20 from 7pm-9pm and a tailgate in advance of the Michigan/Michigan State football game on October 21. Details will be forthcoming following that meeting.
- B. Operations/Maintenance** - Susan Betzig was not able to attend the meeting but both she and John McIlvried asked the PARB to discuss access to the pickleball courts inside the Town Hall. Kim read aloud the email thread between Diane Calsbeek and John McIlvried regarding use of Sign-up Genius and access to the code to open the townhall for pickleball play. Michele Aucello also explained the process that the township had used during Covid to access the courts in the gym. The PARB suggested that a variation of the process that was in place during Covid might be the basis of a new policy, i.e. one based on time rather than residency. The courts in the town hall gym are available for pickleball play on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 am and at 1pm. The PARB thinks that if a regular (vetted) pickleball player(s) is/are willing to serve as the point person for each of these times, they can have the code to the town hall. All players will have to use Sign-up Genius to play (no one can walk in and join a game without having signed up in advance). The person with the code for each time slot will be responsible for opening the townhall and ensuring that any equipment used will be put back where it belongs after the playing. The PARB also thought it too restrictive to limit indoor pickleball to only Glen Arbor Township residents when many of the regular pickleball players and gym users come from Maple City, Empire, Little Traverse Lake, etc. However, limiting codes to access the gym to a Glen Arbor taxpayer(s) may be appropriate. The PARB wasn't really in favor of "grandfathering" in people because doing so could create issues with new residents going forward. Ideally, people will volunteer to take responsibility for one or more of the pickleball slots, those people can be loosely "vetted" and the township can be assured the equipment and gym will be used properly and put away when play is done. Susan Betzig and John McIlvried were asked to draft a policy that the PARB can approve at its November meeting. A similar policy might be used for the courts at the Leelanau School too.

**Status of Bike Path Extender**

The PARB had asked Tom Laurerto to report on the status of the bike path extender between Glen Arbor and the Homestead but he was not able to attend this meeting. The PARB hopes to get an update at its November meeting if not before.

**PARB Meeting Dates for 2023/2024**

The next meeting of the PARB will be Thursday, November 9. We can discuss decorating the park for the holidays at that meeting.

Kim Volk asked the others if meeting on the second Thursday at 1:00 pm still works for everyone and all agreed it did; however the board did not think it necessarily needed to meet in February or March. Consequently, the following schedule was adopted for 2024:

January 11

April 11

May 9

June 13 (tentative if needed)

July 11

September 12

November 14

Meetings will be in the Glen Arbor Township Office at 1:00 pm unless otherwise noted. PARB members should plan on 90 minutes for each meeting, although the agenda will determine the actual time needed.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Vok, Secretary