

Park and Recreation Minutes

October 24th, 2022

Chair Mike Carey called the meeting to order. Present were Mike Carey, Jessica Boelman, Mark Page, Kacie Fahey, Nicole Bower, Eric Hanson and Dawn McCracken

The Committee reviewed the current Stelzel Fields rental rates in comparison to other cities in the area. Currently, the Township is falling short and rental fees are only covering about 2/3 of the staff costs to maintain them. The last time the rental rates went up was in 2018. Dawn will consult with Jerod about his preference for lights and whether he'd rather continue having them billed as a per field/per day versus a flat fee to have all lights on together.

Dawn will also check on cost of trash and electric used during the 2022 season. The Committee will continue to review this information and make a recommendation in the near future. As part of this process the contract verbiage will be updated accordingly.

Holiday Party planning continues! Jill will not be available to play Mrs. Claus this year. Hope Church is checking with youth group members and will let u s know how many volunteers they may have available to help with crafts. Dawn will take inventory of craft supplies we currently have available and will order more if needed. Mark will bring speakers to pair with Josh's movie set-up again. Set-up is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 30th at 6:00 pm.

Our Spring Food truck planning is well underway. Dawn has confirmed 4 food trucks at this time and will continue coordination with others.

Deputy Hannah is hoping for assistance in sharing the open opportunities for more teens to join the Explorers program within the Sheriff's Department. Dawn will help facilitate a post on the Empire Park and Recreation Facebook Page. A highlight may also be possible in the next newsletter as well.

Bolten and Menk have had their graphic designer make an update to the Empire Township logo. They have removed "Township" as we prepare to become the City of Empire next year. This has offered us a much more cost-effective way to update our logo.