



# COMSTOCK TOWNSHIP

## PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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## Introduction

The Parks and Recreation Commission for the years 2019, were Judy Joling, Linda Law, Marc Rizzolo, John Weir, and Teresa Young. Officers held for the year 2020 were Chair, Linda Law; Vice Chair, Judy Joling; Secretary, Teresa Young; Treasurer, John Weir.

# MISSION

The Comstock Township Parks and Recreation Commission works on behalf of the citizens of Comstock Township to build a healthy community and a sustainable environment by promoting active lifestyles and strong individuals and families through parks, programs and partnerships.

# VISION

Comstock Township Parks will be viewed by Township residents as valued components to enhance the quality of life. considered valuable assets for recreation, relaxation and learning in Comstock Township. considered as a source of pride for our community. recognized as safe and healthy environments in which individuals, families and friends choose to spend time.



# PARKS

## Robert Morris Park

New sand was purchased for beach area to control weeds and help with E.coli levels.

## Wenke Softball Complex

Joe and Rachel assembled new bleachers for the complex. Bleachers are now to code at all four diamonds.

David McMorrow donated \$10,000 from the Donald Myer Trust specifically to “supplement those funds allocated for the Adult Softball Program”. Mr. Myer was a long-time participant of our league and left a lasting impact on our program. This financial donation in his memory was used to purchase field tarps for all four diamonds.

## Merrill Park

We entered into our agreement with Brussee/Brady for the renovation project at Merrill Park. Brussee/Brady is a construction company out of Three Rivers. They have until September 15, 2019 to complete the project.

On June 2nd the Township Board approved the bid for the new restroom building at Merrill Park. Brussee/Brady was awarded the contract. The total cost of the project is \$134,900.

## Celery Street Park

Friday May 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup> we installed the new equipment at Celery Street Park purchased through a GameTime Sinclair recreation grant. The Comstock Fire Department, Township Board members, and staff all volunteered.



## Parks Goals for 2020

Finish Merrill Park remodel

New roof for Merrill Park building

Directional Signage for McLinden Trails

# PROGRAMMING/EVENTS

## 2019 Programs Total programs: 11

### New Programs: 2

#### Programming Events

##### 2019 Programming

##### Dino Dig

30 lbs of Bones	\$310.00
Explorer Hats	\$108.00
Magnify Glasses	\$10.38
Tooth brushes	\$1.00
Paint Brushes	\$1.00
Dino Skeletons	\$50.36

##### Kayak

Arcadia Catering Spring	\$340.20
<b>Revenue (\$5 a Kayaker) Spring</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>
Jimmy Johns Fall	\$58.29
<b>Revenue (\$10 Kayaker) Fall</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>

##### Earth Day Hike

Wild flower seeds	\$37.50
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#### 2019 Summer Softball

Softball fans (softballs)	\$505.98
Umpires (\$30 a game)	\$8,340.00
Seasonal Staff	\$3,460.49
T-shirts	\$492.00
Plaques	\$225.00
<b>Revenues</b>	
Team League Fees (37 teams)	\$20,350.00
Concession Sales (League nights)	\$2,988.91

#### 2019 Fall Softball

Umpires	\$5,790.00
Seasonal Staff	\$1,528.00
<b>Revenues</b>	
Team League Fees (39 teams)	\$13,475.00
Concession Sales (League Nights)	\$1,771.15

#### 2019 Baseball

<b>Building Workshop</b>		Umpires	\$3,900.00
Wood	\$244.89	Seasonal Staff	\$3,156.26
Hardware	\$60.94	<b>Revenues</b>	
Netting	\$101.04	Baseball League Fees (10 teams)	\$8,500.00
<b>Revenue (\$8 a house)</b>	<b>\$144.00</b>	Concession Sales (League Nights)	\$2,568.81
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,018.81</b>

#### Neighborhood Park Days (2)

Chips	\$47.58
Water (2 cases)	\$19.96
Ice	\$4.58
Staff (2-3 hourly interns)	\$200.00

#### BPA

Seasonal Staff	\$8,787.96
<b>Revenues</b>	
Concession (Tournament Weekends)	\$16,369.36
Field Rental Fees	\$17,502.00

#### Wenke Sports Complex

Total paid for season	
Umpires	\$12,240.00
Seasonal Staff	\$15,404.71
Concession	\$14,031.28
Misc.	\$1,222.98

#### Revenues

League Fees	\$42,325.00
Field Rentals	\$17,502.00
Concession	\$23,720.57

# NEW EVENTS

Our first Dino Dig was held in August. Families could register to be Paleontologists for the day. The event was \$5 a vehicle for non residents and free to residents. We had 80 kids total, which led us to expand the program to two days and four different time slots.



We hosted our first kayak the Kalamazoo River event. Participants in the summer event paid \$10.00 to kayak from Merrill Park to Arcadia Brewery where lunch was provided. In the fall participants paid \$5.00 and we kayaked from Merrill Park to D avenue, stopping half way to eat a Jimmy Johns lunch. Participants were in charge of their own transportation.



# PROGRAMMING/EVENTS

## Advertising

In 2019 we used the Comstock Communicator, the parks Facebook page, and flyers at the township offices and library to advertise for our programs. For 2020 we would like to use the parks website page to advertise for programs and local media outlets.

## Goals for 2020:

- Partner with VFW to bring back Memorial Day Parade
- Work with library to partner on Dino Dig
- Start two new programs Creepy Crawl and Winter Warm Up
- Expand kayak event to Plainwell and partner with a rental/transportation service (Lee's Sporting Goods)
- Have a softball league tournament



# ADMINISTRATION

The Parks and Recreation Department is made up of now three full time staff members, the parks director, program coordinator, and maintenance. Joe Grabowski joined the team as our head of maintenance located at Merrill Park garage. Joe was previously a returning seasonal employee since 2012.

## **Goals for 2020:**

Continue work on capital improvement projects

Signage for McLinden Nature Trails

Update employee handbook