



North Kent Community Enrichment

204 E. Muskegon Cedar Springs, MI 49319
616-696-7320 www.myNKCE.com

Minutes for Special Meeting of Thursday June 15, 2023 @ 11:00 AM Boardroom at Hilltop

Members Present

Alyssa Ladd
Darla Falcon
Jon Stout
Jaime Gunderson
Scott Smith

Member Area

Algoma Township
City of Cedar Springs
Solon Township
NKCE Director
Cedar Springs Public Schools

1. Meeting called to order at 11:00 am by Jon Stout
2. Approval of Special Meeting Agenda
Motion by Alyssa to approve agenda.
Darla seconds. No further discussion. Motion carries
3. Jon Stout opened Public Hearing at 11:01 AM

Sue Wolfe – Thanked the board for working together for greater good of community to apply for Sparks Grant. She brought 15 letters from different clubs/entities all in support of the Pickleball courts and applying for the Sparks Grant.

Bill Tucker – Bill has been involved in playing pickleball locally and is in support of new courts in Solon. He spoke on the social aspect and how pickleball brings the community together for all ages. He stressed the importance of community and this would be a community used facility.

Russ Cole – Russ is in support of the Pickleball Court in Solon Township as well. He mentioned the social impact of having conversations and fun while playing. Friendships are formed while playing and it brings people together who may have different political beliefs but share a common interest in pickleball.

Dan Rypma – Dan is a physical education teacher at the college level. He has seen younger kids enjoying pickleball as well as older folks. Pickleball offers opportunities to go out and enjoy physical activity. It promotes better health choices overall by being physically active.

The pickleball craze is catching on and the availability of courts and exposure for kids is so important. He is very much in support of building these courts through the grant.

Carol Lee Cole – Carolyn loves playing pickleball. She mentioned how you can play multiple games vs multiple opponents on a given day and it provides competition in a fun and positive way. Kids would benefit from being able to play more too as it is a good source of exercise to feel positive and upbeat about.

11:08 AM - Board Member Scott Smith arrived

11:09 AM - Public Hearings Completed. Scott motions to close public hearing. Darla seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.

4. Information and Discussion

a. DNR Spark Grant

On Monday, Solon Township approved the plan presented by P&N with the exception of the Outdoor Exercise Equipment. P&N revised probable cost analysis with this removal as well as changing parking spaces to gravel and adding outdoor lighting. The total probable costs is \$840,043.00. NKCE will apply for \$841,000.00 for the DNR Sparks Grant to cover that probable costs listed in development plan. This is the final proposal that needs to be voted on today so it can be submitted on the grant deadline – June 26, 2023.

5. Action items

a. Approve Sparks Development Resolution

Darla motioned to approve enclosed Sparks Development Plan, authorizing NKCE to apply for the Sparks Grant at Solon Township Hall, 15185 Algoma Avenue in Kent County, in the amount of \$841,000.00.

Scott Smith seconds the motion. No further discussion.

Roll Call:

Scott Smith – aye

Darla Falcon – aye

Jon Stout – aye

Alyssa Ladd - aye

Motion passes

6. Meeting adjourned 11:15 AM