

**South Haven Area Recreation Authority (SHARA)  
Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2013  
3:00 p.m., South Haven Charter Township Hall**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting Opened at 3:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Members Present: Mr. Dennis Fitzgibbon, Mr. Dana Getman, Mr. Ross Stein, Mr. Mark McClendon

Absent: Dr. Robert Herrera

Guests: Mr. Brian Dissette, City Manager, City of South Haven  
Mr. Peter Ter Louw, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy  
Mr. Mike Dopp, Midwest Civil Engineers  
Mr. Craig Niephaus, Midwest Civil Engineers  
Mr. Gary Gross

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

**January 15, 2013 Board Meeting: Motion by Getman, seconded by Fitzgibbon to approve the minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion by Getman, seconded by McClendon to approve the agenda of the March 19, 2013 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.**

**5. Interested Citizens in the Audience Will Be Heard on Items Not on the Agenda:**

No comments were made.

**6. Approval of the SHARA Finance Report:**

- a) The Board discussed the SHARA Finance Report, noting the SHARA account now has a balance of \$97, 238.44. Dissette noted that the report illustrates bank interest has been paid.

**Motion by Fitzgibbon, seconded by Getman to approve the SHARA finance report. All in favor, motion carried.**

- b) The Board was updated on the SHARP account, which now has a balance of \$24,384.84.

**7. Update on the status of the SHARP site:**

The Board was provided an update on the SHARP site construction plans by Mr. Mike Dopp, Midwest Civil Engineers (MCE). Dopp noted that MCE is making progress on the SHARP construction plans, and stated that the project plans are approximately 90% complete. Dopp explained that the plans include a premiere level soccer field and baseball field, designed with assistance from the Brickman Group. The premiere fields include large expenses for drainage and construction. The Board discussed these fields and the project's anticipated budget. Dissette suggested the Board consider a workshop session with MCE and the Brickman Group to discuss the design features for the premiere fields, so that there is a better understanding of the plans. Dissette noted that he would work to schedule a video conference with the designer from the Brickman Group, and schedule the session as a Board workshop session. Dopp stated he would work with Dissette to schedule the workshop session.

**8. Update on the status of the Pilgrim Haven site:**

The Board was provided an update on the status of the Pilgrim Haven site from Mr. Peter Ter Louw, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy (SWMLC). Ter Louw discussed that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) implementing a policy which could exclude publicly controlled properties, received via long-term lease from a private entity, from receiving MDNR grants. Dissette and Ter Louw noted that the Pilgrim Haven site was planned to be leased from SWMLC to SHARA, as part of a long-term lease agreement. Dissette described a recent phone conference with the MDNR, in which Stein, Fitzgibbon, Dissette, Ter Louw, and Representative Aric Nesbitt, were updated on the policy by the MDNR staff. Ter Louw noted that the MDNR expressed a willingness to consider a restrictive covenant as an acceptable method to transfer property, but noted that examples sent to the MDNR by Dissette were rejected. Ter Louw agreed to have his contacts at SWMLC make contact with the MDNR and attempt to find an acceptable method to transfer the Pilgrim Haven to SHARA, while ensuring that MDNR grant funding is still an option. Ter Louw agreed to update the Board as more information becomes available.

**10. Adjourn**

**Motion by McClendon, seconded by Getman to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Brian Dissette  
City Manager, City of South Haven