Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, here; Mr. Welch, here; Mr. Flaherty, here; Mr. Estep, here.
The regular meeting of the Blendon Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30pm. Mrs. Heichel moved to approve and waive the reading of the minutes as presented for the May 18, 2016, meeting. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes. Blendon/Westerville Fire Chief also attended. The Purchase Orders and Cemetery Deeds were signed by the Board.

Administrator’s Report:
Mr. Rhoads updated the Board on the following: The complex bid opening is this Friday, as we extended it for one week and issued an addendum. The plans and bid documents for Westerville Road will be finalized by the end of this month and awarded by middle of July. Plantings for Westerville and Paris Roads will have a large amount of plantings. Senior Center bid opening will be on the 16th of June. First “Concert in the Park” will be June 11th, from 6-8:00pm. Building Department receipts have grown to over $20,000.00.

Communications:
1. Update Reports to the Board- E-mailed from the Directors.
2. WOW Letter- new rates effective July 1, 2016.

Old Business:
1. Heritage Day Planning- Mr. Rhoads noted that we have a new planning coordinator for Heritage Day. Ashley Hakkarainen is from AEP and specializes in event planning and will work with us on social media. The Board was in agreement and her salary is the same as the previous coordinator.

Director/Staff Updates:
Chief Belford discussed the recent string of break-ins of vehicles and arrests. A May 15th arrest made a recovery of several items with additional charges coming. Columbus Police have made an arrest of a domestic violence, which lead to the recovery of more stolen items from Blendon Township. An arrest of someone stealing credit cards from vehicles also has been made. The concern of a man “the barefoot man and shaggy man” walking around in baggy clothes in Blendon and our officers are aware and displays no aggression toward others, but refuses our help. He’s find with us checking on him. These situations should always be reported.

Mrs. Jordan stated they hosted 35 programs and averaged 56 seniors a day. Blendon Senior Center has a new program for diabetics and the support is wonderful including recipes and ideas. Clipper games and the Governor’s Mansion are also planned. Many more events are being planned for summer.

Mrs. Harter noted that she ran the “Field of Heroes”, 5K race in honor of Wade Estep, who received the honor of a flag presented to him for his part in the Vietnam War and for his passion of helping the middleman and children over many years. Blendon’s finest were also there to control and monitor traffic. She also discussed how steady and solid Blendon Central Cemetery’s numbers are over many years. We seem to improve every year in all aspects. The Memorial Day was met with excellent weather and many wonderful volunteers, who helped to make in very meaningful and fun time. Good food, good friends and good entertainment. Approximately 160 in attendance.

Mr. Estep thanked Mrs. Harter for her efforts and the nice gesture meant a lot me him. He also commented all of our staff for their Memorial Day Service as they did a great job. Mr. Estep also commended Chief Belford for his military service. This is what Memorial Day is all about.

Mrs. Heichel noted Mr. Rhoads is working on our first concert on Saturday, June 11th from 6-8:00pm. 23 Southbound Band will be there. Thank you to everyone for their assistance, with everyone pulling together to make it a success. A special thank you to all the volunteers.
Director/Staff Updates:

Mr. Flaherty also echoed a thank you to all, for our Memorial Day Ceremony and noted it is one of our most successful events. With his donation of cookies, Mrs. Charel Bowman was baking up a storm, early, to have "fresh baked" cookies for everyone. It was a good time by all and the type of event we welcome in the community.

Mr. Welch dittoed what everyone has commented on regarding Memorial Day. And thanked everyone for a wonderful ceremony, as it is one of his favorite holidays.

Mr. Rhoads discussed Ridgewood Park's trails and using it as a boardwalk seems the best for the park and is working on the pricing. Also, considering a stage rather than a concession stand this year. Next meeting he should have numbers to discuss. He is checking into the drainage program at the cemetery for repairs.

Fire Chief Miller apologized for the mix up in calendar events, causing them to miss Memorial Day. Returning from the National Fire Academy, he noted that bathroom exhaust fan fires are on the rise and to just keep them clean and not running 24 hours a day.

Mr. Giamarco discussed the cleaning up of the dead ash trees in Ridgewood Park and getting an estimate to drop the trees and leave them for the squirrels and chipmunks, and due to the difficulty of getting large equipment where the trees are. Sidewalks are in the process of being replaced within the next three weeks. Because of 38 days of rain, they are about two weeks behind in the cemetery.

Open Floor:

Mr. Flaherty welcomed our guests Linda Larrow-Richards and Elisabeth Clegg, interpreter.

Mrs. Pam Clegg, 3614 Makassar, discussed the sidewalk program with Mr. Giamarco. Each year the township gets three estimates and takes the lowest and best bid and passes it to the homeowner.

Mrs. Linda-Larrow-Richards, 3381 Hunt Club Road, asked about the spraying schedule for the mosquitos, especially with the Zika scare. Weather permitting, spraying tonight as long as no thunderstorms and rain, posted schedule will be on facebook for every two weeks. We are spraying more this year, because of the Zika virus.

Mrs. Sharon Ricker, 5562 Oslo Drive, discussed the upcoming August 2nd, National Night Out, from 6-9:00pm on Oslo Drive. All are welcomed.

Pay bills: Mr. Flaherty moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes: Mr. Welch, yes.

The attached list of checks was approved for payment.

Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm. Mr. Flaherty noted that the next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, June 15, 2016, at 6:30pm.

Approved by: [Signature]
Wade L. Estep, Fiscal Officer

Approved by: [Signature]
Stewart L. Flaherty, Chairman