



**ACME TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, February 25, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

Meeting called to order at 7:09 p.m.

Members present: O. Sherberneau (Chair), S. Feringa, V. Guntzviller, M. Guy
Members excused: H. Yamaguchi
Staff present: T. Henkel, Parks & Maintenance Manager
N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary

A. Consider approval of the minutes of the 12-17-09 meeting:

Motion by Sherberneau. Support by Guy to approve the minutes of 12-17-09 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Limited Public Comment:

C. Special Presentation: Healthy Beaches Initiative – Ellen Kohler, The Watershed Center

The Watershed Center advocates for clean water in Grand Traverse Bay and protects and preserves its watershed. In 2008, the Watershed Center initiated the Healthy Beaches campaign. They worked with Traverse City to pass an ordinance to prohibit waterfowl feeding on shoreline areas to reduce the potential for E. coli problems. Last year, they were awarded a grant from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to continue the work to protect our beaches. Kohler gave a presentation to reduce potential for harmful levels of E. coli contamination in public water, primarily through prohibiting waterfowl feeding and mandating pet waste cleanup.

Kohler said there is funding to help pay for educational signage to inform the public why they should not feed waterfowl. These funds could also be spent on pet waste dispensers. She also left brochures on Clean Boating and Healthy Beaches. Guy asked about water testing. He would favor having this done at our parks.

Motion by Feringa to recommend to the Board of Trustees that Parks Ordinance #2009-01 be amended to include regulations from Traverse City General Offenses Code Section 668-14, (a)(b) and (c), as amended to replace the language “within 100 feet of the shoreline, in the Core Downtown, or in any city park” with “Park or Natural Area”. Seconded by Guntzviller. Motion carried unanimously.

Todd Lewis was in attendance to talk about disc golf. He is looking for an environmental friendly playing area on the east side. There is a 24 hole course at Hickory Hills in Traverse City. He came to the meeting tonight to see if any of our parks would accommodate a course. It is recommended to have an acre per hole. After discussing our parks, Bayside and Saylor, it was decided that there was not enough room to accommodate such a field. The committee suggested Bartlett park and Maple Bay which is owned by the County. Lewis will talk to Jason Jones at the County Parks and Recreation.

D. Old Business:

- 1. Discuss township trail system planning process Tabled**

2. **Sayler Park boat launch update**
Sherberneau reviewed the memo.

E. New Business:

1. **Consider adoption of proposed mission statement**

Advisory members would like to review the mission statement and discuss at the next meeting. Feringa had an issue with “responsible for providing adequate recreational facilities”. He felt it left the advisory financially responsible.

Review new Citizen Advisory bylaws and membership

Sherberneau reviewed the bylaws and membership. He would like to have more people on the committee.

Establish regular meeting schedule for remainder of 2010

Motion by Feringa. Seconded by Guntzville to accept the proposed 2010 Parks and Recreation Advisory Meeting schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Shoreline Preservation Project Update**

In a memo from Vreeland, Township Manager, she said that the Shoreline Preservation Advisory is taking the lead on the acquisition of shoreline properties and fundraising for the acquisitions. They have indicated that they would prefer to keep their focus limited to these steps rather than also managing the public recreation redevelopment process. Vreeland said this would be an excellent opportunity for the Parks & Recreation Advisory to volunteer its services to the Planning Commission and Board to manage this portion of the process.

The advisory would like to volunteer its services and asked that the staff draft the document.

Motion by Sherberneau. Seconded by Guy to submit an offer of assistance to the Planning Commission and Board in the Shoreline redevelopment process with assistance from staff in drafting the document. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Public Comment/Any Other Business:

Sherberneau said that Kladder had expressed concerns about Maple Bay Natural Area and that we remain true to the original covenant for uses of the land.

Motion by Guy. Seconded by Feringa to draft a resolution to the Board in support of the initial use plan that is in line with the uses described during fundraising for Maple Bay. Motion carried unanimously.

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 25, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the township.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.