



**ACME TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 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: W. Kladder, Township Supervisor
S. Vreeland, Township Manager
D. Dunville, Township Clerk
T. Henkel, Parks & Maintenance Manager
N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary

A. Consider approval of the minutes of the [02-25-10 meeting](#):

Motion by Guy. Support by Guntzviller to approve the minutes of 02-25-10 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Limited Public Comment:

Dave Kipley, 4085 Circle View Dr, was present to comment on the trail system. He will speak when we reach that point on the agenda.

C. Receive and File:

1. **[Offer to Planning Commission of assistance with Shoreline Redevelopment](#)**

D. Old Business:

1. **[Discuss township trail system planning process](#)**
Sherberneau commented that this item had been tabled from last month.

Dunville, Township Clerk, asked to address the committee regarding saving The Knollwood, as part of the Shoreline project. She had a handout from the DNR Trust Fund regarding Acquisition Project procedures. The project agreement requires you to eliminate all uses of the property other than public outdoor recreation within 90 days of the acquisition, unless you receive approval from the DNRE to extend this deadline. If there are existing structures on the property, you must submit a written plan and schedule for their proposed use or removal. Appropriate uses include nature centers, park office or maintenance buildings and restroom buildings. Discussion followed.

Vreeland commented that additional information had been added to the packet from last month's meeting. She had added the development of the corridor plan for the U.S. Bicycle Route System. Corridors are defined as "desire lines" that link urban-rural communities, attractions and recreation areas in a network. Roads or trails chosen for these corridors should be within 50 (+/-) of the recommended corridor. Defining the corridor is the first step to defining a bicycle route and focuses on the overall direction and natural landscape features.

David Kipley is a long-time Springbrook Hills resident and his wife's family has been in the area since the 1920's. His law office has been in the township since 1983. He owns some vacant land on the south side of his wife's family farm in the area between Bunker Hill Road and M-72. He has had problems ever since the section of the TART between Lautner and Bates Road was paved 5 years ago. The trail bisects his property, and he is subject to ongoing trespass, theft and vandalism. He is a strong property rights advocate with a "zero tolerance" approach to trespass enforcement. He patrols his property twice a day. He calls 911 every time he catches a trespasser and he does prosecute.

He cited an incident a week ago with Township Trustee, Frank Zarafonitis, trespassing. Zarafonitis tried to make excuse by saying that the property wasn't posted as private. Kipley responded that trespassers tend to tear the signs down. He almost called the Sheriff to turn Zarafonitis in.

Public trails through private lands pose problems, yet they are being expanded. Kipley does not believe that governments are doing enough to address the problems for property owners. He also feels that TART does not do enough to educate people about respecting property rights or about personal safety. The trail passes through several properties including his that are prime deer hunting areas. One early morning during hunting season a cyclist came along the trail dressed all in black, no blaze orange, and carrying a white water bottle in a pocket of his jersey on his lower back. He could easily have been mistaken for a deer, but had no idea.

Kladder understood Kipley's concerns. He promised to address Kipley's concerns and issues with TART.

MOTION BY GUY. SECONDED BY GUNTZVILLER TO RECOMMEND TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY VREELAND IN A MEMO DATED 02/22/10 TO THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY REGARDING TRAIL NETWORK PLANNING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Feringa had express an issue with the wording of the last statement regarding responsibility for providing adequate recreational facilities for the township.

MOTION BY GUY TO MODIFIED THE MISSION STATEMENT AND RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR APPROVAL. SECONDED BY GUNTZVILLER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Maple Bay County Park Update – Wayne Kladder**

About two years ago a company out of Detroit was hired to do a master plan for Maple Bay and when the plan came back there were plans for an amphitheater, tennis courts, campground, large picnic area with a lot of trees taken down. This company that had drawn up the plans had not even reviewed the covenant or asked those who had participating in the fundraising for their input. It is a concern of Kladder's that this covenant not be forgotten. He would encourage this committee to annually review and monitor the Maple Bay master plan.

4. **E-Coli testing at township public beaches**

At the February meeting, Ellen Kohler, from The Watershed Center, talked about E-Coli water testing and that the Center for a low cost to the township would do this service. Henkel did some research and ran the numbers and he could do the testing for a lot less money.

Sherberneau asked Henkel if he had picked up the doggie bags from the Watershed Center. He will pick them up before the May 15th Parks Opening.

E. New Business:

1. **Discuss working with the Grand Traverse Resort “Green Committee” in April (Earth Day)**

Kladder has been talking with Gene from the Resort regarding the “Green Committee”. Instead of a one day celebration they would like to set aside the whole month of April to promote green in our township. Kladder wanted to put together a list of possible things for this committee to do. He had a list of picking up branches at Bayside and Saylor Park, replacing park benches at Bayside, clean playground equipment . Henkel has the wood to do this. He also has some picnic tables that need staining.

F. Public Comment/Any Other Business:

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, April 22, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the township.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.