



**ACME TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 2, 2009, 6:30 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Members present: O. Sherberneau (Chair), K. Challender, V. Guntzviller, S. Vreeland,
Township Manager, H. Yamaguchi
Members excused: P. Brink, S. Feringa, M. Guy, C. Wacker,
Staff present: T. Henkel, Parks & Maintenance Manager

A. Consider approval of the minutes of the 01-29-09 meeting:

Motion by Guntzviller, support by Challender to approve the minutes of 01/29/09 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Limited Public Comment:

Kladder thanked the advisory for their work in managing our increasing number of parks.

Vreeland updated the advisory on the status of the shoreline preservation project and the study of whether it would be beneficial to the township and the slipholders if the township acquires East Bay Harbor as a municipal marina.

C. New Business:

- 1. Plan installation and community celebration for new Sayler Park playground Equipment:** Acme Township received the requested grant from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians 2% grant fund to purchase new Sayler Park playground equipment. Henkel has prepared a chart of the playground area of the park, and created pieces the size and shape of the equipment landing zones so that he can work on an appropriate arrangement of the individual components.

Sherberneau, Henkel, Vreeland and Kladder met a few days ago to discuss a playground opening/dedication celebration. The tentative celebration date would be June 20, and we will ask for playground installation to occur in mid-May. We would like to invite Tribal members and ask a drum circle to perform. Perhaps an honor guard from the Elk Rapids VFW and/or the Tribe could be provided. We plan to run display ads in the *Record Eagle* and *Elk Rapids News* and to send personal invitations to a select set of individuals such as the families who donated the parkland and the Tribal Council. Kladder would like to arrange for a ribbon-cutting to be performed by community children. He is also contacting Rod Kuncaitis from the Civic Association/Masonic Lodge to see if they would like to try one more time to resurrect the old community picnic as part of this event. The event will be documented for historical purposes.

Challender is looking forward to rebuilding a sense of community and to having safe equipment for the children to play on. She knows that many people go elsewhere because of the condition of the current equipment.

The advisory generally appreciated the brainstorming ideas for the playground celebration.

Kladder has arranged for Wacker to send notices about the picnic home with students at her school at the end of the year. Challender will contact the principal at Mill Creek Elementary with the same idea.

Sherberneau mentioned the idea of facepainting for the little kids.

D. Old Business:

1. **Receive and file copy of final adopted version of Acme Township Parks Ordinance #2009-01**

E. Public Comment/Any Other Business:

Kladder will be asking the group of individuals who are working on completing the TART between Bunker Hill and Lautner Roads to get together for a status update soon. He is unaware of how the Elk Rapids Rotary is progressing with obtaining easements for trail connections from Acme to Elk Rapids. Yamaguchi reported that they are on hold to some extent because they will be asking for an MDOT Transportation Enhancement Grant, and MDOT needs some time to assess their available funds. He also stated that the GT County Road Commission has indicated willingness to hold the easement to the TART section between Bunker Hill and Lautner. Yamaguchi displayed the potential trail alignment map to the advisory. They are going to try to walk the potential alignment area soon.

Henkel stated that there will be much discussion about invasive phragmites in the coming months. The Watershed Council is taking a lead on this issue for the County, and has mapped the local shoreline. Phragmites must be eliminated with a special herbicide or it will spread wildly and take over, usually through aerial spraying. The Watershed Council will be presenting an educational session on this issue to the Board at 6:30 on May 12.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.