



**ACME TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTES
Thursday, November 18, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

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

A quorum of the Advisory committee was not present. No motions could be entertained or formal action taken. Due to the lack of quorum these are meetings notes and not minutes, and are not subject to approval.

A. Limited Public Comment:

B. Continuing Education with Hans VanSumeren

VanSumeren, was born and raised in Acme Township. He left in 1987 to go to the University of Michigan, where he stayed for 21 years. He has a bachelor’s degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering and a master’s of science degree in Marina Environmental Engineering. He has conducted water-related research with the University of Michigan Marine Hydrodynamics Laboratories around the Great Lakes and in the oceans along the U.S. coastline.

In 2008, he became the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute, Director at NMC, where the first Associate degree for Freshwater Studies in the United States is offered. Located on West Grand Traverse Bay, NMC’s Water Studies institute is strategically positioned to engage individuals and organizations to protect, wisely use, and manage the key resources of fresh water. West Bay itself is an integral part of the institute’s purpose and a resource for students, serving as a living lab. Students choose one of three streams of emphasis: Global Freshwater Policy and Sustainability, Economy and Society and Science and Technology. Students range from 18 to 60 years of age.

VanSumeren’s, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Dr. Constanza Hazelwood, is a native of Colombia. She has worked with educators in the Grand Traverse region and globally as a professional development facilitator in science education. VanSumeren said we encourage internships, partnerships in other countries, so that we may appreciate more fully what we have here at home.

We want to make Traverse City the hub of all this activity. We have all the assets to accomplish this.

Discussion turned to Saylor Park and dredging. Guntzviller said Gourdie-Fraser did a study a few years ago showing the information that VanSumeren talked about. VanSumeren would be willing to review the study done by Gourdie-Fraser and share with the advisory any suggestions or comments.

Henkel asked about partnering with NMC to do the water testing that he now is doing. VanSumeren encouraged Henkel or Vreeland to contact the college for more information.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.