



**ACME TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, August 22, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

Members present: Chair, M. Timmins, J.Challender, S. Feringa, M. Goss, M. Guy, N. Kaetchen, H. Yamaguchi

Members excused: J. Kerns

Staff present: T. Henkel, Parks Supervisor
N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary

Limited Public Comment: None

Consider approval of the [07-25-13](#) meeting minutes:

Motion by Challender, Support by Feringa to approve the minutes of 07-25-13 with one correction. Motion carried.

New Business

a. Henkel's park report

Henkel reported working with the new beach groomer at Sayler and Bayside once a week weather permitting, removal of the gravel from the old motel driveways on the south end of Bayside Park. Only two "Level Two Beach advisories" have occurred at Bayside beach swim area this summer. G.T. County Health Department is doing safety evaluations at all area swimming beaches due to the recent fatalities.

Old Business

a. Autumn Olive Edification

Trustee, LaPointe, has expressed concerns with how this plant is invading the Yuba Creek Natural Area and other areas in the township, including the golf course at the resort and down Deepwater Point Road. Reb Ratliff, Invasive Species Specialist from the Grand Traverse Conservation District was invited to the Parks & Rec meeting to discuss our options. He said that autumn olive is native to Asia and was introduced into the US in the 1830s. It was commonly planted for wildlife food and cover until its invasive traits became apparent. Henkel reported applying herbicide by hand in previous years. Ratliff talked about a machine that could be rented that would cut the plant down and other options of treatment. Discussion followed.

Motion by Feringa, seconded by Yamaguchi, to recommend to the township board to allocate a minimum of \$3000.00 for removal of Autumn Olive at the Yuba Creek Natural Area and to work with the Grand Traverse Conservation District to develop a comprehensive plan for treatment and to involve other township stakeholders as required. Motion carried.

b. Boat launch updates

Guy commented that Chris Stoppel of the Acme Business Association read a memo at the August Board meeting regarding a proposal with a low cost solution to one of the most sought after desires of our township residents; local small boating access to Grand Traverse Bay. Also included in the memo were photos, taken by Guy, showing the moveable sections of steel matting used at the Empire Beach Boat launch. This could be a viable, short solution to the problems experienced at the Dock Road Boat Launch. The Board was very supportive but would like to see more cost information. Guy and Challenger will prepare a quote for the next meeting.

c. Beckett and Raeder Bayside Park plan./5 year Master plan

Christy Summers, of Beckett and Raeder, reviewed the Acme Township Parks Plan. Discussion followed. She also provided handouts of different design cost estimates for the plan.

C. Jackson, of Beckett and Raeder, reviewed the Parks and Recreation 5 year plan. Jackson provided the list of projects for the action plan and when they would be implement. For example Bayside Park, boat launches and US-BR 35 trail system. We also discussed property acquisitions in the action plan. Jackson will ask John Iacoangeli to provide budget costs for each per year. We will finalize the plan in September have public comments in October, public hearing in November and submit in December.

Motion by Feringa, seconded by Kaetchen to recommend that the Acme Township Board commission Beckett & Raeder to prepare a comprehensive site plan for the south end of Bayside Park including a topography survey similar to the one done previously at Bayside with the Schedule and Fees being negotiated between the Board and Beckett & Raeder. Yeas 6 Nays 1 Motion carried.

ADJOURNED AT 8:45 pm