



**ACME TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 24, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

Meeting called to order at 6:08 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

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

Members Excused: J. Kerns

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

Limited Public Comment:

J. Brooks, Bravo Zulu Brewing, 6060 US 31 North, presented a donation of \$92.00 to the Parks & Rec Advisory for the Sayler Boat Launch.

J. Zollinger, stated the Hoxsie House team has worked hard to raise funds and finding the project much bigger than anticipated. June 1st is the target date to move the house. There have been discussions with DNR as to the options available but no decisions have been made. Weather has been an issue and still not determined that the house can be moved by the target date. Zollinger stated that we have a commitment to the DNR for now and future opportunities. The Board will continue to address the issues at the next meeting, May 13th.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of 03-06-14:

Motion by Guy, Support by Kaetchen to approve the meeting minutes of 03-06-14 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

New Business:

1. Tom's report

Henkel prepared a Maintenance Plan for 2014-2015 for the Acme Township Parks. He created levels of maintenance standards and costs for the parks and cemeteries. Henkel was asking for approval from the advisory as to what level they would like to see and then seek Board approval. The advisory began the discussion and will continue at the next scheduled meeting.

Challender raised the issue of Henkel's pay. He believes Henkel has had one or more salary cuts in the past Board Budgets. Challender believes Henkel, an employee with 27 years of service, to be well deserving of the higher wage. Henkel stated that he has lost about 8% in wages.

Motion by Challender, seconded by Kaetchen, to recommend to the Board a reinstatement of previous wages for Henkel. Motion carried by 5 (Challender, Feringa, Goss, Guy, Kaetchen) in favor and 1 opposing (Timmins) vote.

2. Education classes in the Fall

Timmons commented that the Conservancy is planning a celebration for donors, June 14th at Bayside from 11-2, which originally the Parks & Rec advisory was asked to “piggyback” on beginning to create the foundation for the volunteer program which was part of the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) between the conservancy and the township.

Timmons stated that in reaching out to the community she is finding a lack of education on many different subjects. Beginning in September, Timmons, would like to bring in experts in different fields like, water quality, rain gardens and porous driveways, to educate the public. Discussion followed.

Motion by Guy, to recommend to the Board to create signage and implement at three locations, Sayler, South and North parks educational signs to show progress made and projects underway. Seconded by Kaetchen. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Old Business:

1. Boat launch update:

Aukerman commented that in the next few weeks into May she believes we will know if we are awarded the DNR Waterways grant. Aukerman said the total cost submitted in this grant application is \$188,895. If awarded this grant DNR waterways funds 50% of project costs and Acme funds 50%. Revenues are broken out as follows: Acme Township \$55k (\$61k earmarked in budget today; holding 10% back), DNR Waterways funds \$94,447 and we will need to identify \$39,448 to equal Acme’s total match of \$94,448. Discussion followed on raising the additional funds with a 2% tribal grant for the June cycle.

2. Water Trail update:

M. Olds from the Conservancy, presented a “draft for planning purposes” map for the Chain of Lakes and East Bay Water Trail. A planning grant was received for this. Olds is asking each local unit of government with properties on this map to review the dots and remove the ones that will not be staying. Olds is asking for Board resolution showing support. Olds also stated that the Township will have to maintain the sites that belong to them. Olds stated that the deadline for this is June 30th but the conservancy will be applying for a two month extension.

Public comment/Other Business

Adjourn at 8:00 p.m.