

WHITEWATER TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING,
change of date to: January 23, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
Whitewater Township Hall
5777 Vinton Road, Williamsburg, MI 49690
Phone 231-267-5141/Fax 231-267-9020

1. Roll Call of Committee Members
2. Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
4. **Public Comment:** Any person shall be permitted to address a meeting of the committee. Public comments shall be carried out in accordance with the following rules and procedures:
 - a. Comments shall be directed to the Committee, with questions directed to the Chair.
 - b. Any person wishing to address the Committee shall speak from the lectern and state his/her name and address.
 - c. Persons may address the commission on matters that are relevant to township Parks and recreation issues.
 - d. No person shall be allowed to speak more than once on the same matter, excluding the time needed to answer Committee members' questions.
 - e. Public comment shall be limited to 3 minutes.
5. Approval of minutes of December 19, 2023
6. Correspondence: Email correspondence:
 - 1) DNR Grant webinar notification
 - 2) Denise Peltonen communication – part of New Business item
7. Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments
8. Unfinished Business:
 - a. Lossie Trail Wetland/bridge improvement update
 - b. Grand Traverse ARPA update
 - c. BCNA Trail loop design review
 - d. Whitewater Township Park playground toddler equipment update
 - e. 2023 Accomplishments and 2024 Goals
9. New Business:
 - a. Meeting Resolution for 2024/2025 fiscal year
 - b. Election of officers
 - c. 2024/2025 Projects and Budget
 - d. Discussion of Peltonen correspondence
10. Next Meeting February 20, 2024
11. Public Comment
12. Adjournment

Whitewater Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities who are planning to attend, please contact the township supervisor at 231-267-5141.

DRAFT
Whitewater Township
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Minutes for Regular Meeting
December 19, 2023

Call to order 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Melton, Cosgrove, Hubbell, Voice, Buczkowski, Butler

Absent: Glenn

Also present: Recording Secretary MacLean, Parks Manager Butler

Set / Approve Agenda:

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

Public Comment: None

Approval of minutes:

MOTION by Hubbell, second by Cosgrove to approve November 21, 2023, meeting minutes.

On voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Welcome Gary Buczkowski. Gary indicates that he spent 40 years in a professional career in local Parks and Rec, park planning, registered landscape architect.

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments/Correspondence:

BCNA Google Earth map - Buczkowski

Unfinished Business:

1. Lossie Road Nature Trail (LRNT) wetland/bridge improvement. Purchase Order and communication have been made to Gosling Czubak to get started on the engineering plan.

Melton did a brief run through of the history of the project for Andrew Butler and Buczkowski.

Future ideas would be to add benches, signs, education signs, change the parking lot, plus.

Discussion of non-motorized vehicles, resident requests, easements and survey stakes.

Hubbell will get the survey quote on the east side and the property owner line.

2. Grand Traverse ARPA agreement: Re-vote December 12 approved.

3. BCNA trail design, the loop: Melton did a brief run through of the history of the project.

Discussion of easement rights, neighboring property owner and survey estimate to create a loop that would benefit the public and work for the property owner.

Can also just make the loop tighter and completely miss the property owner. Need board approval for about \$2000 to get an estimate, tentative plan from Lagerquist of the GT Regional Land Conservancy to make it more natural and lower maintenance. We have not gotten approval from the board.

Discussion of the BCNA trail to the water.

4. WWT park playground toddler equipment addition. Board voted yes to contract with Gosling Czubak for \$1740 to produce plan drawings. Working to get a PO issued to get this work scheduled. Township insurance company offers grants for playground landing zone upgrades.

Andrew notes that the park playground wouldn't even pass inspection with the weeds growing. Discussion of spraying or digging it up and pulling the roots.

Buczkowski notes to plan the engineering to add more equipment, pieces, etc.

Andrew will get another bucket swing for the swing set.

Discussion of landing zone.

New Business:

1. What we've accomplished in 2023 and goals for 2024

2023:

We got the GT County ARPA grant, dugouts got finished, Hi Pray Park playground concerns got addressed and reopened, boat launch. It was a very rough year. A lot of volunteers pulled things together.

Voice shared information on closing up the ball fields.

2024:

Do not lose the ARPA money, LRNT.

Township allocation / designation of the local ARPA funds.

LRNT finalized RFP and possibly start construction.

Get park playground equipment.

Address the Rec Plan for completion by April 2025. Get a quote on a paid Rec Plan. "What you need to know not what you want to hear".

Trails, trail maintenance, signage.

Walking trail at Hi Pray, possible DNR grant.

BCNA loop.

More money – grants, DNR, insurance company.

Committee Comment and Discussion: None

Next regular meeting: Tuesday, January 16, 2024, agenda: 2024/2025 Meeting Resolution, Bylaws, officers, budget.

Public Comment:

None

Adjournment: 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois MacLean

Recording Secretary

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <noreply-migrants@michigan.gov>

Date: Thu, Jan 18, 2024 at 10:23 AM

Subject: 2024 DNR Recreation Grants Webinar

To: <mammelton@gmail.com>

Hello,

The DNR Recreation Grants Unit will be hosting our 2024 Grant Application Webinar on **February 7th, 2024, from 1:30pm to 3:00 pm**. The virtual workshop will cover program updates and application guidance for DNR Recreation Grants. This event will allow for live Q & A with DNR grants staff and will be recorded for your convenience.

If you are interested in attending, please visit the Microsoft Teams event registration page, here: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/421dc463-ad20-4b36-b2f8-2837886b5f85@d5fb7087-3777-42ad-966a-892ef47225d1>

If you have problems accessing the registration page, or if you have any questions, please reach out to Riley Millard at millardr2@michigan.gov.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Pate Talisman** <advertisers.junk.others@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Jan 11, 2024 at 10:42 AM

Subject: Agenda item request for PRAC 1/23/24 meeting

To: mammelon@gmail.com <mammelon@gmail.com>

Melissa,

Please add this as an agenda item on the PRAC 1/23/24 meeting agenda. This is to correct a statement which harms another's reputation without presenting proof. Everyone serving our township should demonstrate professional conduct in a meeting both sides of the podium. It is difficult at times but if mistakes are made the responsible response is to correct them and move on.

Sincerely,
Denise Peltonen

Copy below this line as an agenda item and please enter as correspondence in packet.

Request for Agenda item on Jan 23, 2024 meeting and correspondence.

Melissa Melton, Chair

Park and Recreation Advisory Committee

Whitewater Township, MI

1/11/2024

Item to be added to Agenda of 1/23/2024 PRAC meeting:

Answer to question by PRAC member on 11/21/2023 meeting as to whether malfeasance had been committed by board member.

In the PRAC meeting minutes of 11/21/2023 there were statements recorded by a member questioning whether a township board member had committed malfeasance.

After reviewing the 12/19/2023 PRAC meeting minutes, there is no record of that question being answered by the full committee. Malfeasance is a serious offense. The PRAC needs to answer the question asked in the public meeting 11/21/2023 as recorded.

Actionable item: Consider the legal definition of malfeasance and what prompted the committee member to imply that in a question.

Review what the PRAC thinks the township board liaison duties are.

List them and then compare them to the actual duties of a board liaison and add them to the PRAC bylaws so this is understood by all committee members.

Your disappointment in the voting of the township board on 11/14/23 To return the GT County ARPA fund grant money of \$95,000+ is understandable. Review what the duties of the township board liaison to your committee are. Is it a requirement that the board liaison to the PRAC vote yes at the board level for everything PRAC approves? The minutes of the 11/21/2023 meeting can never be changed now. There is only one opportunity to make corrections to the minutes of a meeting and that is at the next meeting before they are approved. Each PRAC member approved the 11/21/2023 meeting minutes at your 12/19/2023 meeting. You now have a forever, permanent public record on the township website of these statements.

Michigan Township Association Authorities and Responsibilities of Michigan Townships 2020 Edition, page 164.

MCL 15.269 states that “The public body shall make any corrections in the minutes at the next meeting after the meeting to which the minutes refer.”

The modification of your statements can now only be changed by an agenda item and answer the question asked in the 11/21/23 meeting by the PRAC member. Was malfeasance committed? See definition. If a vote of no, an apology would take less than 1 minute of the committee’s time to correct a mistake if that is how the vote goes.

Legal definition of malfeasance:

malfeasance

n. intentionally doing something either legally or morally wrong which one had no right to do. It always involves dishonesty, illegality, or knowingly exceeding authority for improper reasons.

PRAC after action report:

When was first knowledge of the contract known by PRAC members? Grant awarded 12/22/22

When was grant contract sent to township board by PRAC for approval for first time? GT County ARPA coordinator last exchanged emails with Clerk Goss on July 10, 2023. Later Clerk Goss received the email reminder on October 12, 2023 from GT County ARPA grant coordinator as there had been no signed contract submitted. What action was taken by PRAC between 7/10/2023 and 10/12/23 to put the grant contract on the

township board agenda for their approval and signature?

When did PRAC have discussions with any township board member and board liaison Don Glenn about the contract before 11/14/23 board meeting requesting approval of the grant contract?

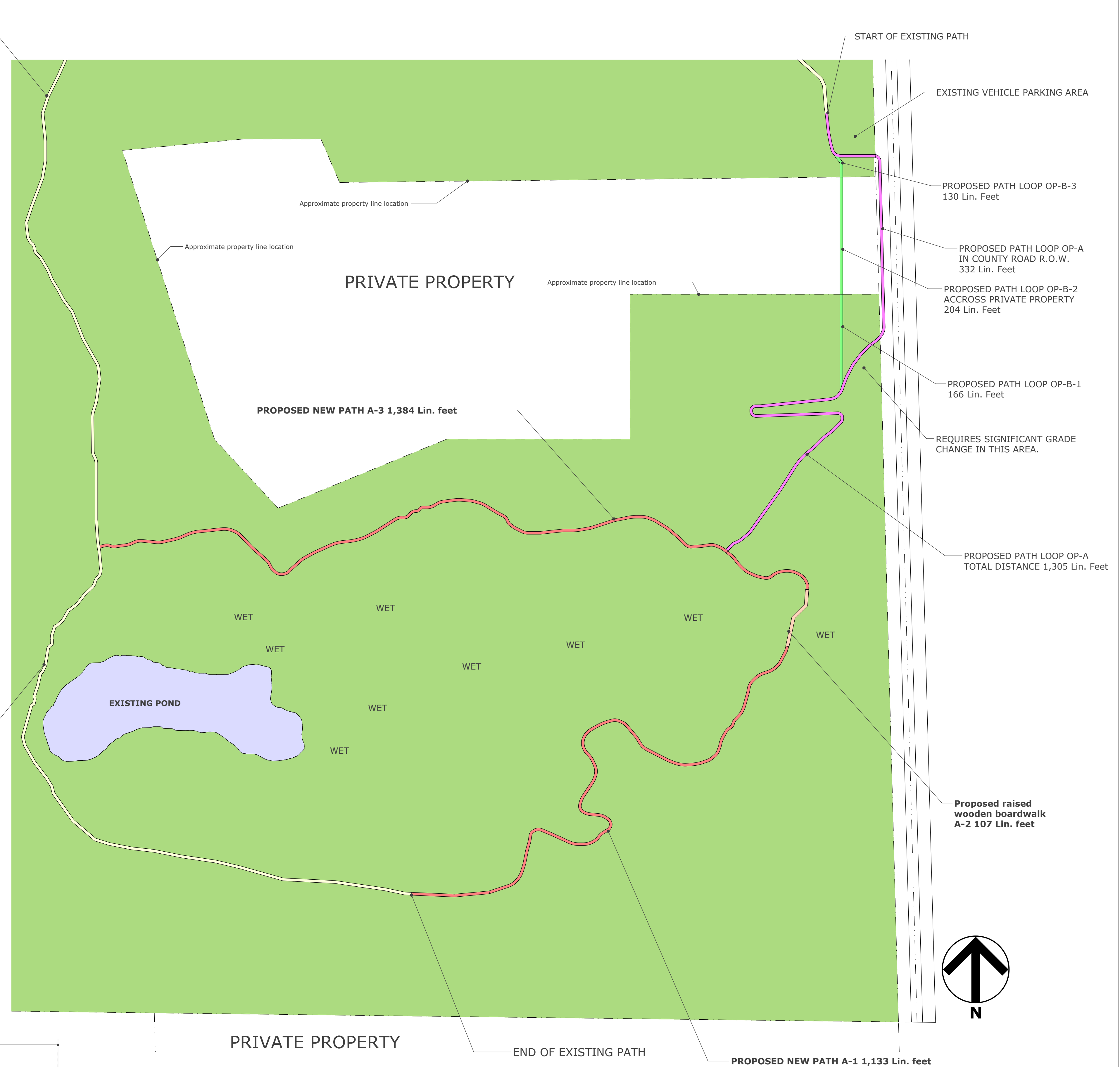
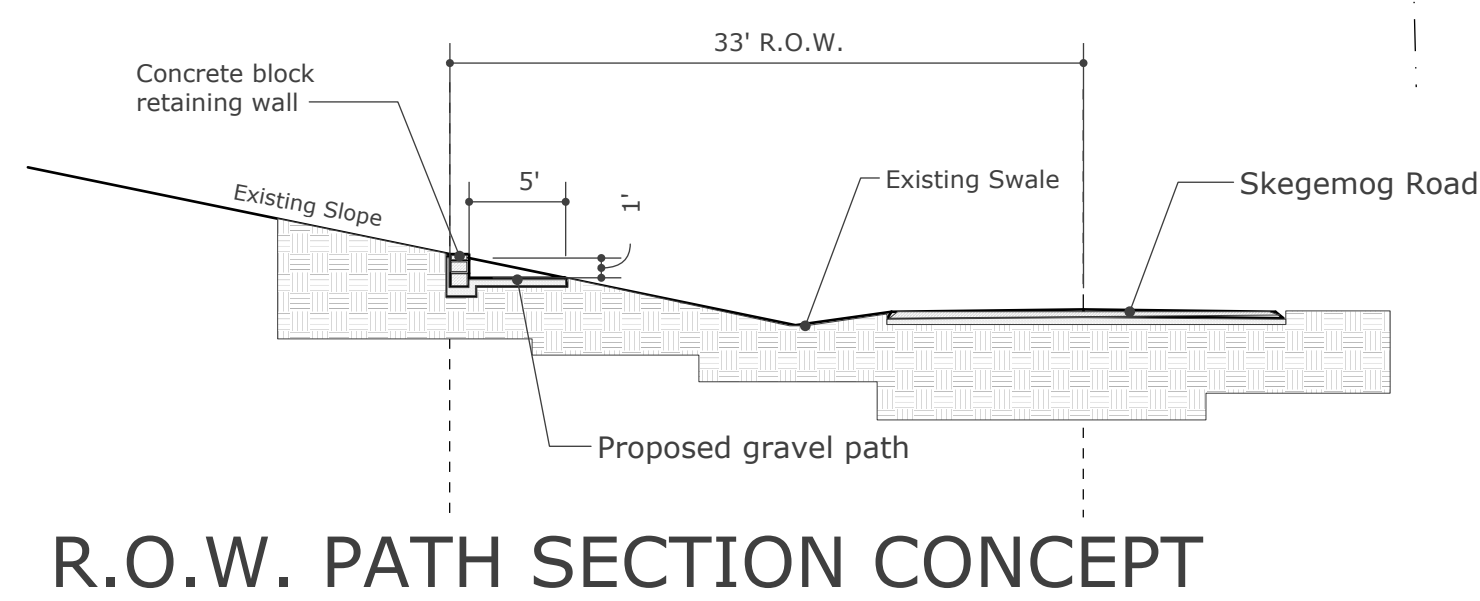
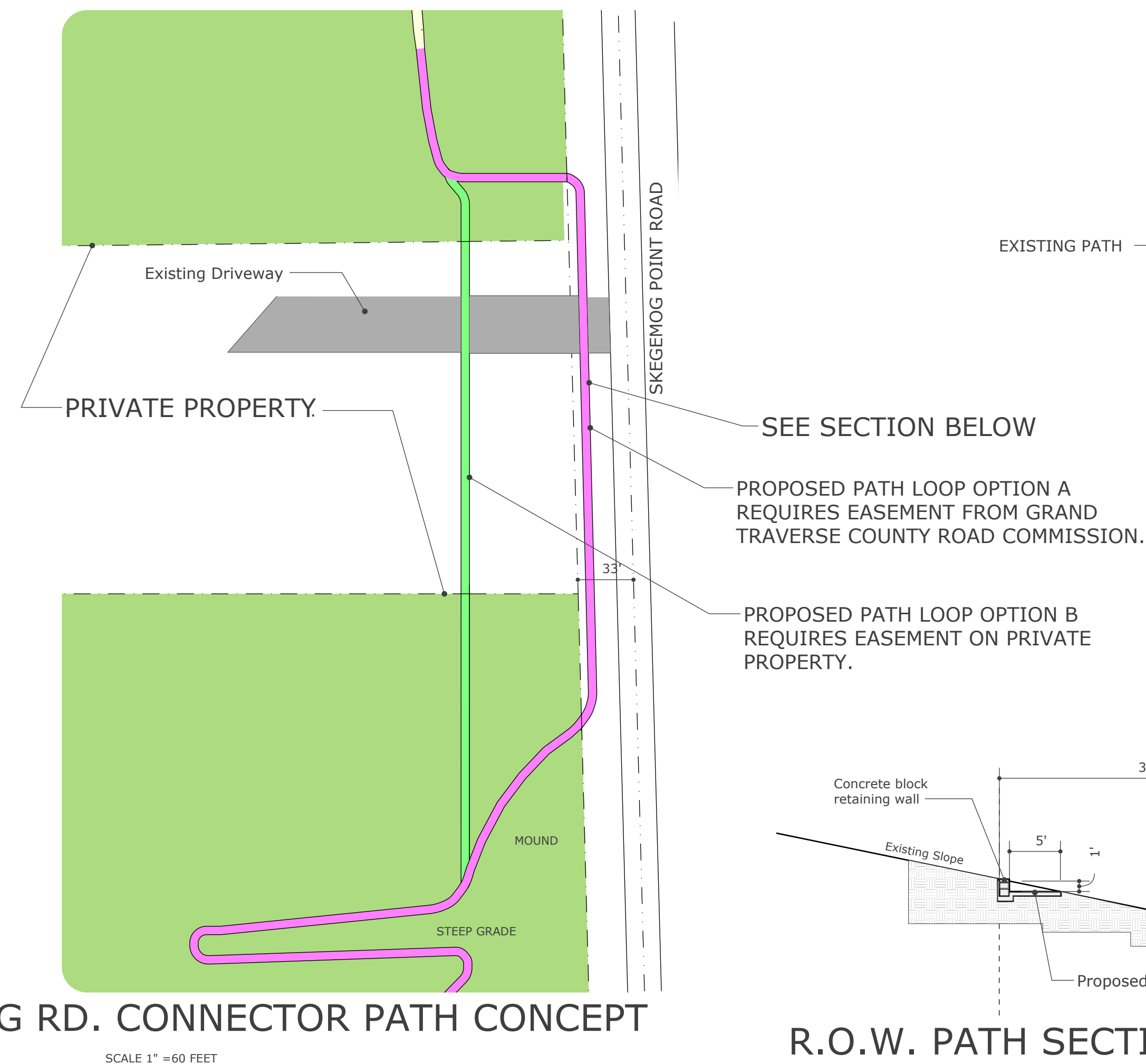
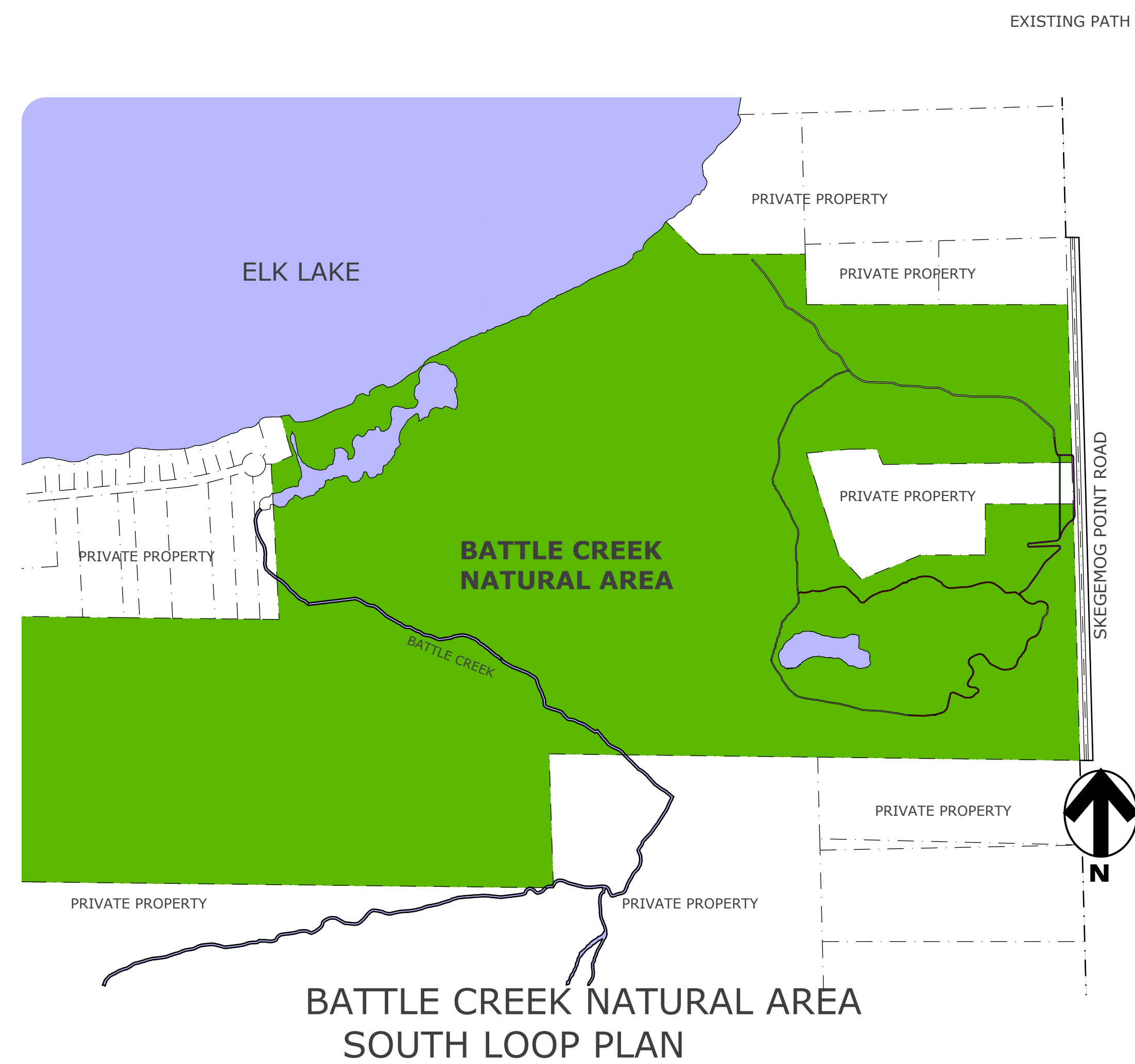
Normal turnaround on an issue at the board level is at least 60-120 days. 10/12/23-12/12/23 was 60 days.

Sincerely,

D Peltonen

Sincerely,

D Peltonen



EXISTING PATH	3,818	EXISTING PATH	3,818
PROPOSED A-1	1,333	PROPOSED A-1	1,333
PROPOSED A-2	107	PROPOSED A-2	107
PROPOSED A-3	1,384	PROPOSED OP-A	1,488
EXISTING PATH BACK	2,503		
DISTANCE IN FEET	9,145		6,746
DISTANCE IN MILES	1.73		1.28

Resolution #PRAC24-01

Resolution for Whitewater Township
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Regular Meetings for 2024-2025
Whitewater Township
Grand Traverse County, Michigan

Be It Resolved that the Whitewater Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee will meet in regular sessions for the 2024/2025 fiscal year on the following dates at 7 p.m. at the Whitewater Township Hall, 5777 Vinton Rd., Williamsburg, Michigan.

Tuesday, April 16, 2024
Tuesday, May 21, 2024
Tuesday, June 18, 2024
Tuesday, July 16, 2024
Tuesday, August 20, 2024
Tuesday, September 17, 2024
Tuesday, October 15, 2024
Tuesday, November 19, 2024
Tuesday, December 17, 2024
Tuesday, January 21, 2025
Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Tuesday, March 18, 2025

A motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution was made by _____ and seconded by _____.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

Butler -
Cosgrove -
Hubbell -
Voice -
Melton -
Buczkowski -
Board Rep not assigned
Resolution declared adopted.

I, _____, Secretary of the Whitewater Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, Grand Traverse County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Whitewater Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee of said municipality at a regular meeting held on _____, relative to the adoption of Resolution #PRAC24-01.
