

**Whitewater Township
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Minutes for Monday, July 8, 2013**

Call to Order by Chairman Leach at 7: pm

Roll Call of Advisory Committee Members

Committee Members Present: Leach, Melton, Knapp, Benak

Committee Members Absent: Mouser, Hubbell

Set/Adjust Meeting Agenda

Declaration of Conflict of Interest None

Public Comment None

Approval of Minutes (6/10/2013)

Motion to approve minutes by Knapp seconded by Melton, all in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence None

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments:

1. Knapp: Lossie Trail: Stakes have not been removed as mentioned previously. Supervisor Popp said all stakes are still there. South side of the trail has the stake right at the building. There are trees planted. 33ft parameter includes several no trespassing signs. Ask the people who put the signs up to put them on their own property. There is not a lot of traffic on that road. Benak: The whole purpose of surveying the property is to let people know where the trail is. Knapp: "This is not Lossie Trail" sign and no trespassing signs are on the trail and should be moved to their own property. Leach: There are people who have owned the property for a long time. Melton: Would like to have the no trespassing signs placed on their own property. Benak: Markers are on their property due to the easement. Popp recommends speaking with the land owners and possibly moving the markers back so the easements are not encroaching on the land owners' property. Benak: Township Board did make the decision to place the stakes. Stakes (T posts) have not been purchased yet. Donkers said he would be there on the 20th and 27th with equipment to get the stakes in. Knapp: This property is unique and would like to make it so it is something other people would enjoy. Knapp: **Recommend to the Board, through Board Rep. Benak, to check on the no trespassing signs and have them moved onto their own property (off the easement).**
2. Previously discussed the dam at Miami Beach Road and the bridge improvement. The P & R idea is to put it on the improvements list. The owner put the bridge and the dam in – it is illegal and it needs to be addressed for liability concerns. Leach: The Township does own half of the bridge (given by Snowday). Benak to pull meeting minutes and investigate. Knapp: DNR said the silt would go away if the dam was removed. The property owner (Mr. Cosgrove) built the dam. As the township we could remove the dam.
3. Public input compiled from the surveys. (MacLean to put the info together)

Unfinished Business:

Park fees: Knapp: Barns Park (a township park) rates: \$22 for rustic, \$26 with electric.

Melton: Everflowing Waters: Daily: \$25 to \$35 for RV, \$20 for tents, dependent on what amenities are available on the sites. Honcho Rest: ?

Benak: We cannot charge more than what State Parks charge.

Leach: Post the rates before the coming season so people will know ahead of time.

Benak: This Committee needs to have the information on where the park land came from and what restrictions there are.

Board members have always wanted to give residents a different rate but were always told we could not charge different rates for residents and non-residents.

Leach: Possibility of redistributing the premium sites as non-seasonal.

Benak: There have been complaints about the steps being closed. If we take those designated sites out of the line-up we may lose some of the seasonal campers.

Melton: The Park Book does say that there are deed restrictions.

Melton: Will find out what the state park fees are. (TC and Young)

Benak: Will take questions and notes to the Board and will do some fact finding.



This committee needs to get the wording for the plaque and decide on the material and post type. Possible engraved stone. Find out how much was approved.

Knapp: To get some wording from Jim Gallagan for the plaque.

Benak: Grant opportunity for place making in the community, walking trails, flower gardens, beautification, sidewalks, exercise areas, new playground equipment. Will forward to everyone. There is a walking path plan that was drawn up by a community member. Can go to the Rotary for additional funds. Do things in stages. Tart Trail is really the one to be working on the bike trail.

Leach: Need to let people know they can volunteer to help with any of these plans.

To Do:

Mouser: To get the Park Plan draft ready for a read through at the August meeting.

Benak: Plaque funds available, park rate restrictions, bridge info

Leach: Will check on pricing for a stone instead of a plaque.

Melton: State Park rates.

Next meeting: Park rates, survey input, pickle ball (can be striped on the tennis court), disc golf. Benak will not be here in August but will ask Popp to fill in.

Public Comment None

Adjournment 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois MacLean

Recording Secretary