

**Whitewater Township  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee  
Minutes for Regular Meeting  
April 18, 2023**

**Call to order 7:00 p.m.**

**Roll Call:** Butler, Melton, Voice, Hubbell, Glenn

Absent: Cosgrove

Also present: Recording Secretary MacLean

**Set / Approve Agenda:** Set

**Declaration of Conflict of Interest:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of minutes:**

**MOTION** by Butler, second by Voice to approve March 21, 2023, meeting minutes.

Roll call vote: Voice-yes; Cosgrove-n/a; Melton-yes; Hubbell-yes; Butler-yes. Motion carried.

**Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments/Correspondence:**

Memo from Glenn regarding the edging at the Hi Pray Park playground

**Unfinished Business:**

1. Hi Pray Park playground edging discussion: Corners need to be stabilized. The Board approved the materials for the border. Possibly add rebar. Hubbell will stop and look at it. It will need to be addressed soon. Hubbell will contact the contractor. Hardware was part of the quote and this was part of the scope of work contracted.

2. EGLE Preapplication information presented and discussed. Voice, Melton, Largent and Rebb of GT Conservation and EGLE walked the LRNT on the Cook Road side past the bridge and got a good look at how very wet the area is. Discussion amongst them regarding board walk and the bridge. The wet area is significantly larger than originally planned. Will need an engineer to get the quote. It will probably be close to the "worst case scenario" amount that was asked for in the ARPA grant. GPS coordinates were taken. EGLE would rather see a boardwalk than fill. Fill would be 10 foot wide and require a different permit if the land area is 1/3 of an acre. A boardwalk would be six foot wide. Some combination of fill and boardwalk. 1/3 acre is approximately 1500 ft of fill. Will compare notes with the conservancy guys.

Certain provisions have to be made for parking to accommodate the handicap but a natural trail does not have to be wheelchair accessible.

Need seed money to start the engineering. Will speak with Gosling Czubak – they said somewhere about \$2000 to \$3000 to get conceptual plans. At that point it would be a bidding process to move forward.

Phil Knapp had previously offered to help fund a boardwalk.

Work with Gosling Czubak to get a scope of work service/assessment/estimate, will need a bid, will need soil samples – project management basics.

Melton will connect with Gosling-Czubak and bring back to the next meeting.

3. PRAC Bylaws approval. Bylaws do not need Board approval. Will present the red line and the clean versions to the Board for their records.

4. BCNA update:

Brandon – easement

Communication with Largent: He requested a center line marking of the trail with a width of 15 feet and he can take it

from there. Gave an estimate of a project of a “not to exceed” amount \$3,500. Melton estimated approximately 30 trees. Estimated it would be one day up to a couple days. Hoping it can just be added to the project that was quoted as a “not to exceed amount” as last year that work came in considerably under budget.

Voice and Melton will walk the BCNA to get a better count of trees, take pictures and present to Steve for an up-to-date quote, in case of a change in the number of trees.

Need Board approval.

**MOTION** by Butler, second by Voice to request the Board approve the clean up of the rest of BCNA.

Roll call vote: Melton-yes; Hubbell-yes; Butler-yes Voice-yes; Cosgrove-n/a. Motion carried.

4. LRNT / BCNA signs Melton will get the rules to MacLean who will make laminated rules signs and trail names for each of the kiosks.

The GT Land Conservancy is very interested in working with the township but they do not work for free. They are very interested in helping the township to meet the plans of the BCNA.

5. Hi Pray walking trail – still need estimates.

6. Matching grant funds for playground equipment. GTB is unable to donate out of their “Donation Fund”. They recommend putting in for the 2% grant. Hubbell will get an updated quote. Voice will get the grant completed.

Send a memo to the board, again, regarding the playground equipment.

**New Business:**

1. Second round of SPARKS Grants: they still have not opened it up. The first round grant request will automatically go into the second round. We can update it.

**Next regular meeting:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 7 p.m.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment: 8:49 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois MacLean  
Recording Secretary