

**Whitewater Township
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Regular Minutes for Monday, July 13, 2020**

Call to order 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Butler, Hubbell, Leach, Melton, Slopsema

Absent: Cosgrove

Also in attendance Clerk Goss

Set / Approve Agenda: Set

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

Public Comment: Mike Jacobson, 7031 Skegemog Point Rd., House next to Lossie Rd Trail. No vehicle sign. Must use the trail to get to the back of the property. Other property owners along the trail have used the trail. Oosterhouse is looking to use the trail to access his acreage. Ward uses the 2 track that cuts through his property. Williams' (Art Schneider, LLC) property care taker also uses the trail. We have all been good about having our property split by the trail. Historically the land has been used by the owners of the properties that touch the trail. Request that the parking spot goes back where it used to be. Where people park now is on the school property (that has just been sold). Most of the parking is on that property – doesn't seem fair to them. In the BCNA, page 16: allow access for adjoining property owners. If the parking is put back, all owners will have access to their land. Parking spot would be best on the north side, at the sharp turn. The township has an easement through the property owners' property. Property owners pay taxes on the property as the township just has the easement.

Response discussion:

PRAC is trying to keep the integrity of the walking trail, NOT keep the owners from accessing their property.

The property is supposed to be allowed for hunting. People cannot drag a deer out of the property.

On Jacobson's deed it has no reference to the easement of the Lossie Road Trail.

There should be a survey of what was actually presented to the township somewhere. PRAC was told the most recent survey was done based on the county survey from the time of transfer.

Only the north trail is on the township property. The south trail is on the Art Schneider, LLC, property. Maps need to be looked at for the Rec Plan and BCNA Plan.

To protect the rest of the land owners down the road, it makes sense to put the parking lot at the big curve. Fishermen have access to creek, hunters can get in and out.

PRAC is not trying to keep owners away from using their property. We are trying to keep people on the trail. PRAC is working on updating the trails – the signage has been the biggest/most important thing to be addressed recently. PRAC is trying to keep non-property owner trail users from taking large vehicles in and tearing up the trail.

Corduroy the trail so walkers and ATVs for maintenance can get through.

Mike: Don't hesitate to ask for assistance if there is anything I can do to help.

Goss: Generally when your property has an easement it is allowed to be used by the property owner. When Oosterhouse builds on his property there will be large trucks and equipment with building materials.

The BCNA and Lossie Trail information is going to need to be looked at. The idea is to keep the general public from taking vehicles not from keeping owners from accessing their property. There are reasons why people need to access. Need to keep out the four wheelers that tear it up.

Find out what the township legally has the right to do.

Sign idea: No Through Traffic or No Outlet and/or No Authorized Vehicles.

Ultimately put in writing the do's and the don't's of the BCNA and the Lossie Trail.

Without the quads and golf carts there will likely need to be mowing.

Approval of minutes:

Motion by Leach, second by Butler to approve as adjusted the June 8, 2020, meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments/Correspondence: Email from Ron about the GIS Equalization Lossie Road centerline map and soils, having to do with Lossie Road Trail between Cook and Skegemog Point Rd. Leach notes that if people are allowed to drive to the big curve to park there will a lot more people driving around.

Unfinished Business:

1. Hi Pray Batting Cage net is up. Form with rules for use. There needs to be something to keep track of who is using when. Maybe open it and use it on a first come first served. An online reservation can be set up in the future, next year with an online waiver link.

There will need to be some money for up-keep.

Methodology to make sure people are not trying to use it at the same time.

Securing and locking the shed and pitching machine.

Can the Little League schedule amongst themselves and with the township.

Run through of suggested rules and form. Slopeema will create the form and rules.

Zip ties for the bottom of the net.

Extension cord.

Signage on the outside of the building.

Weed control, tennis courts, batting cage, playground and ball fields – Tru-Green.

2. Dug Outs – quotes received: Discussion. Go with the Perfect Fence quote, minus the gates. \$14,235 includes materials and labor plus engineered drawings, permit, removal of old dugouts, leveling and diamond dust.

Motion by Butler, second by Leach to recommend to the board to build two 8'x24' dugouts out of galvanized steel material, with steel roof as quoted by Perfect Fence with projected project not to exceed \$18,000. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Trail signs – BCNA: Melton. Details on WT Park trail signs Clerk to order from Image 360. Use the higher contrast coloring. Numbers and arrows in blue and white.

4. Whitewater Township Park playground equipment - postpone

5. Tennis Court back board – A man came into the township with an approximately \$300 amount for materials and will donate the labor. Clerk will okay that and move it forward.

New Business:

Rec Plan review - postpone

Next regular meeting: August 10, 2020.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois MacLean
Recording Secretary