

**Whitewater Township
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Regular Minutes for Monday, September 12, 2016**

Call to order 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call: Cosgrove, Leach, Butler, Decker, Melton, Hubbell

Also in attendance Recording Secretary MacLean, Clerk Goss

Set / Approve Agenda: Set

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

Public Comment: None

Approval of August 8, 2016 Minutes: Motion to approve by Leach, second by Butler. Discussion. All in favor.
Motion carried.

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments/Correspondence: Decker: Playground Equipment proposals presented for installation at Whitewater Township Park. Miracle Company and Burke Equipment – both are top quality, durable equipment. Burke package is a little more expensive. Hi-Pray Park equipment is in good shape, may need more, add to rather than replace.

Arrow Homes proposed building design to replace pit toilets. Proposals for prefab and concrete block structures. Site work also needs to be done in the area, especially to clear out some of the trees and possibly get a few more parking places. Flush toilets will likely bring more pavilion rentals. Flush toilets would be holding tank and pump septic. Holding tanks, excavating and well change-over would be in addition to the actual building.

Unfinished Business:

1. Update on Parks and Recreation Plan status with DNR, DNR MiGrant plan status. No time line and no info available.
2. Grants / Project opportunities: There are a couple grant opportunities that we qualify for on the MiGrants website. It appears we did not get any funds for the summer grant cycle through the Tribe. No official word back yet.

The PRAC would like to have a copy of the grant that was presented to the Tribe for the 2% grant opportunity. (Benak)

3. Potential Projects: Hubbell spoke with Bargy of Milton Township. They did get a grant for their playground equipment from ER Rotary as a 50/50. Flush Toilets may likely fit into one or more of the MiGrants opportunities. Having shovel ready projects are more likely to get approval from the Board and when applying for grants. There is money available for one more person to take the grant writing class.
4. Playground Equipment: 5 – 12 year olds. Burke has been quite helpful and seems more professional. Discussion: prices, site prep, base, installation, etc. These amounts are being looked at for the next budget cycle. Send the playground proposal forward to the Board. Upgrade and accessorize with any additional funds. Toddler type equipment is very important too.

Discussion:

Are there any funds available yet in this year's budget? (possibly \$3,200)

Three pet waste disposal stands with cans are here for the two ball parks and the tennis court area.

Hi-Pray Park sign, wood vs. composite.

Sweetwater Garden Club keeps up the flowers at Hi-Pray.

Six squares game for older kids to play – recently installed at the middle school.

Climbing wall systems are popular.

New Business:

1. Land for sale adjacent to Hi-Pray Park: Discussion: Land acquisitions are separate from improvement projects. MiGrant opportunity specifies acquisition and improvements. The location is right in line with our park and future plan. What do we think of the land and do we think we could use it? This additional land could help with the walking path plan that has been part of the Hi-Pray plan. Educational signs around the trail to incorporate the educational aspect. There is potential that the property could be used to improve the park significantly that fits into our long term plan. Respond to Supervisor Popp with what value we see in it. Melton to respond to Popp with the ideas explaining what it could potentially be used for like parking, walking path, volleyball courts, soccer, batting cages, etc.
2. Capital Improvement Budgets for 2017, prepare for January 2017.

Additional comments:

Next regular meeting October 10, 2016, 7 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois MacLean

Recording Secretary