

**Whitewater Township  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee  
Regular Minutes for Monday, October 9, 2017**

**Call to order 7:05 p.m.**

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

Absent: Hubbell

Also in attendance Clerk Goss

**Set / Approve Agenda:**

**Declaration of Conflict of Interest:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of September 11, 2017, Regular meeting minutes.**

**MOTION** by Leach second by Butler to approve the minutes as revised. Voice vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Melton printed out a quote for swings and chains.

**Unfinished Business:**

1. Township Park playground equipment. There was a motion at the last meeting to recommend to the township board that they fix all the equipment and put it up in the spring in the grassy area.

Goss will need prices for all materials. Goss will obtain sandblasting and powder coating prices for the swing set and monkey bars. The committee would like the sandblasting done this fall.

Melton stated we will duplicate what was spent at Hi Pray Park for lumber, cement, rebar, beach sand and weed mat. Quotes need to be obtained for the materials list from the 8/21 meeting – cement, bolts, fasteners, etc. Locking bolts are recommended. Materials list given to Leach. Possibly purchase in this fiscal year for delivery in May 2017.

Goss updated the committee on the status of the flush toilet facility project that has been shelved due to excessive costs for complying with the sewer and water permit. Arrow Homes will reimburse some of the money that was prepaid.

Decker will see what he can get as far as information and pricing on a portable toilet.

2. “No Overnight Parking” signage. Enforcement of park rules discussed. The board is looking into a park ordinance. There are currently rules but no ordinance. The committee would like the clerk to call the sheriff or prosecutor or Nate Alger, the undersheriff, to find out what is needed in writing (if necessary) in order to enforce our park rules, such as no overnight parking at one of our parks and do we need to have signs posted to enforce a rule. Goss notes that the police already enforce parks rules at the campground after park personnel have warned offenders.

PRAC agreed to put up a sign “no loitering or overnight parking”. One sign will be sufficient. Melton stated that she does not think “loitering” should be added to the sign.

3. Benches for Hi Pray Park and BCNA, status. A park bench was purchased by Cosgrove as an example piece. The board approved the purchase of six benches. It is agreed that two would be installed at the tennis courts at Hi Pray Park, two will be installed by the playground equipment at Hi Pray Park and one will be installed at BCNA. One will be installed at a currently unknown location. They will be fastened down.

Cosgrove will provide the receipt for reimbursement for the bench he purchased.

Benches will be purchased and they will be stored for the winter.

Decker will submit to Rotary for a grant for the benches. Will need the board minutes indicating the purchase approval.

4. Recreation Plan: Appendix 9 and 14 maps are incorrect. Appendix 9 is good with the property line adjustment. On Appendix 14, the "proposed trail" in red that goes south off the property should be removed. The red trail to the pond should be removed.

Goss will ask the GIS office if GPS coordinates would be helpful in correcting the map.

5. BCNA Tree Cutting/Trail Not Accessible. The committee is questioning whether a project was paid for that did not get completed, i.e., was the trail supposed to be opened up all the way to the water?

Discussion on putting up a sign saying the trail is closed after a certain point or do we remove it from the map?

Leach says the original trail went through the swamp but it was dry. The trail was probably eight foot wide. Cosgrove notes that it was in rough shape.

Discussion regarding whether the resources should be spent on the trail. Excluding finding out whether the township paid to have the trail opened up all the way to the water / bench, do we want to spend time and money expanding the trail to that point? Can get a quote to complete the trail to the water where it is at currently.

More return on the dollar would be to put a walking trail at Hi Pray Park.

Goss indicated that she will bring up the subject at the next board meeting to find out whether there is work that was paid for and not done and whether the board wants the trail opened to the water.

**New Business:**

1. Projects to Start Application Process for Grants. Discussion of getting numbers together by the end of January for the board's next budget process for the 2018/2019 fiscal year.

Decker brought up the subject of signage and suggested that we need to make a list of signs so that Decker can apply for grant money.

Concerning improvements at the ball fields at Hi Pray Park, Decker stated that if we work with the Little League, Decker can approach Major League Baseball for grants.

Goss brought up the tennis backboard idea. Money was set aside in the budget for it. Needs names and numbers of people to contact to build the backboard. Cosgrove will get measurements.

Goss ran through a list of things that have been completed at Hi Pray Park and BCNA this past summer.

Discussion of hiring a seasonal handyman for the township.

Melton asked for a budget update at next month's meeting.

Next regular meeting November 13, 2017.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment: 9:12 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lois MacLean

Recording Secretary