

Whitewater Township  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee  
Regular Minutes for Monday, October 14, 2019

Call to order 7:02 p.m.

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

Absent: Cosgrove

Also in attendance Clerk Goss and Angela Keas

Set / Approve Agenda: Set

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

Public Comment. Phil Knapp, 8784 Palaestrum, Update, regarding covering over the wetland of the Lossie Trail, about 220 feet of the wet area. The permit includes engineering and we (the Knapps) will cover that also. Neil Schock of EGLE, said it could take 90 days to get the permit once the application is sent in then we have up to 5 years to complete. Knapp notes that he does not want to pay for a culvert. He has been walking the trail for years and does not see that the culvert would fit the need of what is there. Phil feels that the four wheelers would still be able to use the trail if it had a culvert not a board walk with wings on the ends of the walk. This is a unique three mile trail, it is in the woods with a brook trout stream and I think that people could really enjoy this trail. Cheryl notes that the township does not have a MiWaters account yet. Brandon is familiar with working with the MiWaters website. Possible Land Conservancy people could help. There will have to be all of the permits through the township, county, and DEQ. This is considered a commercial project.

Approval of minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of September 9, 2019, Leach by second by Hubbell. On voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments/Correspondence:

Angela Keas of InMotion Chiropractic. What is happening in Whitewater? Connecting with nature? Get people moving. Committee notes: We have about six miles of natural walking trails. We do have a long term plan for the Hi Pray Park that includes a walking trail around the whole park and ball diamonds.

Wild life and nature.

Keas: Options for the community to be able to get moving in the winter indoors. Yoga for the elderly. Millbrook is right here. Are there buildings / rooms available to the community at the local church or the local school? There is not a centralized information system out here in Williamsburg. InMotion has a Cherryoga class that is focused on the beginner and the elderly. Possibly connect with the school to open it to walking on specific nights of the week.

Unfinished Business:

1. Follow up on projects:

Cheryl has the electrical work and osprey nest removal lined up to be taken care of at Hi Pray Park. The pitching machine will be all ready to go in the spring. The county is finally ready to sign off on the batting cage after our zoning administrator signs off on it.

2. WTP Trails upgrade signage: Melissa: presentation of park trail numbering with distances designated.

3. Hi Pray Dug outs: Goss checked with Icon Dugouts. Mark Pressell will look at the drawing and see if it meets the GTC snow load requirement. Will look into having a local builder and engineer do this project. Melton supplied a picture of a fence dugout which may be a much more reasonably priced option. Goss will check with Apple Fence and

Perfect Fence.

Feel like we can do a lot better price-wise than the originally planned \$20,000.

The lower field dugouts have been cleaned and painted by a young lady who wanted to do it as a community project. They will also put in helmet hooks and bat holders. The little league used the fields a lot this last year and they are anticipating a lot of use next year.

4. Lossie Trail bridge board walk discussion during public comment. Going through EGLE is a very lengthy process.

5. Battle Creek Natural Area trail: Linda: No trail to the lake runs next to the property owner's lot line. Melissa walked the trail area that had been mowed. Discussion of signs and colors.

Cheryl will investigate with 360 Signs. Melissa will get information to the Cheryl.

New Business:

1. Resolution PRAC19-02 to change the regular meeting date in March 2020. Change to March 16, 2020.

**Motion** by Butler, second by Leach to change the meeting date to March 16, 2020. On roll call vote: Butler-yes; Cosgrove-NA; Hubbell-yes; Leach-yes; Melton-yes; Slopsema-yes.

Next regular meeting: November 11, 2019. Agenda: Follow-up on projects

Public Comment: None Adjournment: 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois MacLean

Recording Secretary