

**Whitewater Township
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Regular Minutes for Monday, November 12, 2018**

Call to order 7:09 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Also in attendance Clerk Goss

Set / Approve Agenda: Set

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

Public Comment. None

Approval of minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of September 10, 2018, by Butler, second by Hubbell. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to approve minutes of October 8, 2018, by Hubbell, second by Butler. All in favor. Motion carried.

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments/Correspondence:

Discussion of Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (GTRLC) guests visit last month. They are going to help with the kiosks, benches and signage as they have experience with these. GTRLC has a pool of volunteers to help with projects. They also help with grants. They offered to come back in the spring and walk the trails. There are multiple ways trail systems can be done regarding set up and maintenance. Phil Knapp is very interested in helping.

Board meeting draft notes from October 23, for Whitewater Township Park (WTP) master plan: A motion carried to hire Fleis & VandenBrink. "Proposal for Day Use Area/Boat Launch Expansion and MDNR Waterways Grant Application for WTP at a cost of \$4,900."

Discussion: Parking at the boat launch and pavilion, kayak launch, dock improvements, fish cleaning station and the whole park are being looked at. They brought back a full master plan. Initially it came back pricier than we would want. Came back with something to deal with parking, new kayak launch and fish cleaning station. They have been very successful getting grant money from the state and they feel these projects would be good for a water ways grant. They will come back with a conceptual plan that will be presented to the Board and the public. Need to come up with a starting point. Paddle Antrim may also be a grant source. These projects may be done in phases. We still don't have enough boat trailer parking. Valet parking could bring in funds.

This would be a long range plan.

Would Fleis & VandenBrink work with us with the walking trail at Hi-Pray Park?

Unfinished Business:

1. Hi Pray Batting Cage picture presentation of the progress. Placing the posts was one weekend. Rafters were one weekend. The crew(s) have spent 4-5 weekends so far. It is not completed but the rafters are tied. Hurricane braces and roof panels are left to do. May do more bracing. Completion this year depends on the weather. The next stage is the ground cover and netting. Weed mat and diamond dust for the coming budget. Diamond dust for the big field and the little league field. Possibly Harley Rack both. Still have to plan for usage. Comp time for those that have contributed with the project. Bob Cooney, of Rotary, recommends a fee for use.

2. BCNA: Appendix map updates. Melissa walked the Lossie Trail from Cook Rd. to Skegemog Pt. Rd. using GAIA GPS. Shared pictures of her walk of the trail. The bridge looks like it will need maintenance in the next couple of years. BCNA and Lossie Trail to do not connect. Walked the BCNA also. If it is possible to make a loop it would be more appealing to

walkers. Will do some of the walk again.

Melton will send Goss the maps for the county and get the plan appendix maps updated.

Goss will order the "Stay on Trail – Respect Private Property", 18" x 24", red on white signs.

Leach indicates there are two hunting blinds in BCNA. Only portable blinds are allowed and are to be removed daily.

Goss will prepare a note and Leach will post at the illegal blind and tree stand.

3. Whitewater Twp. Park Playground equipment: Swings will be installed, monkey bars will be checked for sturdiness and the merry-go-round will be assembled in the spring. Goss will schedule a playground inspection in the spring.

4. Other projects:

BCNA & Lossie Trail signage: Wait until spring to complete by July 4, 2019.

Dugouts at Hi-Pray Park (HPP): Melton does not want it to be a community project. Would prefer it be a professionally installed project. Discussion of various options ensued. Melton and Goss will look at Decker's information and will help to research materials and installation. Concrete is low maintenance. Possibly put concrete under the bleachers.

Expenditures that were planned / budgeted will be transferred from the General to the Rec. Fund that can be used for 2019. The 2019/2020 Rec. Fund budget will not be affected by the funds that are left over from the FYE 2018/2019 budget. Do not need to ask for more money to cover the items that have been budgeted for previously (2018/2019).

New Business:

1. Start evaluation of budget recommendations for 2019/2020. Budget should be in to the Board by the end of January or early February.

Melton has started working on budget items.

Brandon will get quotes on concrete for dugouts and bleachers.

Can get specialty weed kill for the whole field.

Get a price from Kyle Riegle on raking of the ball fields.

Clean and stripe tennis and basketball courts, including pickle ball striping for the second tennis court. (approx. \$2,100)

Better signs at the roads for the trails.

Remove the brush around the fence at the ball park.

Facility manager pay would come out of General, Rec. and Park as their work is done in the various areas.

Discussion of hiring a handy-man for the township. We need to get and stay ahead of things as our township continues to grow. Today is the smallest our township will ever be – it will continue to grow.

2. Projects to apply to DNR for grants? There are so many restrictions and they are looking at really big projects.

Next regular meeting: December 10, 2018

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois MacLean

Recording Secretary