

**WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Regular Meeting
Fisk Farm Pavilion
White Lake, MI 38383
OCTOBER 10, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Deren called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Chairperson - Excused
Deb Deren, Vice Chair
Rhonda Grubb – Planning Commission Liaison
Jean-Philippe Loew
Andrea Voorheis – Township Board Liaison

Also Present: Jason Iacoangeli, AICP, Senior Planner
Sherri Ward, Recording Secretary

Visitors: 14

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Ms. Deren moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Grubb supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (4 yes votes)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. September 12, 2018

The minutes were not available for approval and will be approved at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Tony Hawk Foundation
Mr. Iacoangeli reported that the Tony Hawk Foundation gives away money throughout the US to fund skate parks. They have partnered with the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation. Wilson was the founder of the Buffalo Bills and lived most of his life in the City of Detroit. Looking at the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation Mr. Iacoangeli found that it only gives away money to

Southeast Michigan Western New York. The foundation gave 3.5 million for paths in Washtenaw County. Starting in 2016, they have 1.6 billion of endowment to give away within 20 years. The recipients include parks, trails, green design, in-home caretakers, and adult education. The board might want to look at this for Hidden Pines. The foundation has given away money for playground and park space. Looking at the projects, Mr. Iacoangeli felt that they are thoughtful spending the money they give away. Mr. Iacoangeli has information available for skate park grants.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

a. Fisk Farm Pathway Discussion

Mr. Iacoangeli was asked to host the meeting tonight at Fisk Farm so committee members could meet with historical society to see the staked pathway. Greg Barone asked attendees to walk the staked area to be able to visualize the proposed pathway. Mr. Barone is concerned with the pathway being on park property and being too close to buildings with the possibility of vandalism. Mr. Barone stated that there are people who are in wheelchairs in White Lake Mobile Home Park and does it make more sense to have the mobile home park create a sidewalk on their side of the street. Mr. Loew has invited mobile home representatives to come to meetings several times and they haven't attended yet. It's probably going to have to go to their corporate offices for discussion. Mr. Barone said he will speak for the entire historical society and they are opposed to the pathway as proposed. This 5 acres is a slice of history for the community. Mr. Barone stated they asked for the driveway only, and the thought was to do both at the same time for cost savings. They would like the driveway width doubled for in and out traffic. Mr. Loew sees two solutions that may have not been taken into consideration; changing the wires so they don't go on the Fisk property or putting the sidewalk along the back of the property. The Master Plan suggested a sidewalk at the same time as the driveway. Mr. Iacoangeli said pathway on other side has merit. The grant is related to parks, and this is the park. Other communities have a separate millage for sidewalks and pathway gaps. Mr. Iacoangeli pointed out that a crosswalk from the mobile home park has to cross to something. Mr. Iacoangeli would be happy to take a driveway plan back and start on that. Ms. Grubb said as much as she thought the pathway would be nice, now that it's staked out she doesn't like it at all. Her opinion is to look at widening the driveway and it would be nice to have the walkway continue from the drive to Walmart and across the street to the mobile home park.

Mr. Loew read from the millage language and wondered if this could include the pathway along the other side. Mr. Iacoangeli said that it's something that could be looked into with the Township Attorney.

Mr. Barone stated if you take a look at the old millage it spells out trails. Mr. Iacoangeli will go back and find out about just doing the driveway project and bring back cost estimates. He will look into the crosswalk from mobile home to Walmart and the north portion of Fisk and up to the driveway. Mr. Barone looks at the Historical society as it is today, and they are all pretty much historical members – Parks and Recreation will have to take care of Fisk Farm in the future. Mr. Iacoangeli stated that as of now the pathway is on hold, and he'll bring something regarding the driveway to the historical society in December or January.

b. Fisk Farm Halloween Event

On October 20th the Halloween event will be here at Fisk Farm. There will be an outdoor movie, refreshments and games for kids. Parking starts at 6 pm, Trunk or Treat at 6:30 pm, and the movie starts around 7 pm. Mr. Barone stated that the event keeps getting bigger and bigger. Additional volunteers to help out would be nice. Saturday the 13th will be Fright Night in the barn to let the community know what is available here at Fisk Farm. There have been some family reunions held at the Farm and they are open to second weddings.

c. MNRTF Grant Update

Mr. Iacoangeli wanted to let everyone know all the additional information was submitted by Oct 2nd. We'll know an updated score at the end of December. There is a meeting in Detroit at the DNR Nature Center and someone from the Planning department might attend. The grant is for the acquisition of 50 acres on Brendel Lake. Mr. Loew asked where the numbers for the acquisition come from. Mr. Iacoangeli reported that the State usually allows the Township to acquire the figures from the local assessing department. An appraisal from the seller from 2016 was obtained, and using that number, it was figured what the property was worth. The municipality has to match 25%, White Lake Township will be matching 26%. Mr. Loew pointed out every tax dollar we put in, the State puts 3 dollars in – it's a great deal.

Mr. Barone stated that the millage is very important to maintain the parks as we have them and without the millage money he doesn't know how it will happen.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli had nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Commissioner Comments

Mr. Loew stated that we're very busy with the web site for the millage. The website is yesparks.org. Homeowners with a Taxable Value of \$100,000 will pay \$ 30. a year toward the millage. Please share this on Facebook.

Ms. Grubb reported that the Planning Commission reviewed animal classes and temporary permits for motor homes on property on the September 20th meeting. The discussion on October 4 was fences.

Ms. Voorheis said the Township is working on open fire ordinances.

Ms. Deren reported that millage signs will be out any day now. She would like to see a path on Bogie Lake Road South of M-59. Ms. Grubb stated she could have a signs to give out at her business because she is there Monday through Friday during the day. Ms. Voorheis offered her Township email address so residents could contact her and she'll get them a sign.

On behalf of the White Lake Historical Society, Mr. Barone wanted to thank everyone for coming tonight and offered the farm for additional meetings.

Adjournment: 7:56 p.m.

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 14, 2018.