

**WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Regular Meeting
7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 38383
July 26, 2016 @ 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: Ms. Carlock was excused.

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

Also Present: Jason Iacoangeli, AICP, Staff Planner
Lynn Hinton, Recording Secretary

Visitors: 0

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. April 26, 2016

Ms. Deren moved to approve the minutes of April 26, 2016 as corrected. Ms. Erlich supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (4 yes votes)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Deren opened the discussion to the public for comments on items not listed on the agenda, but none was offered.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Hidden Pines Park Grant Update

Mr. Iacoangeli indicated he met with the grant coordinator for the state who handles Oakland County. He noted that there are a lot of applications coming in and Hidden Pines will have some competition. He will

get back at the end of August with a preliminary score, at which White Lake Township could resubmit to raise the score. We will be notified in December if we are awarded any funding.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Huron River Blue Trail Concept

Mr. Iacoangeli stated that Oakland County Parks has purchased a 40-acre parcel from the Girl Scouts of America and county officials want to open access to the Huron River through their property via a series of boardwalks to allow for canoes and kayaks. The township owns an adjoining 8.6 acre parcel on Elizabeth Lake Road and there is an opportunity to coordinate access to the 2 mile river path from Oxbow Lake. One impediment is a bridge at Shotwell Street because there no through road. They would have to look at the feasibility of allowing people to go underneath the bridge, or have concrete steps to allow people to go over. He noted that Ms. Carlock had previously mentioned the Michigan grants are heavily funding blue water trails right now and we should have discussions with Oakland County on a possible joint grant to develop this. We will have to have a public discussion when this gets more to the planning stage.

b. Halloween Movie and Trunk or Treat

Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that he has already asked for a contract from the movie company, and he is expecting the rates will be the same as last year (\$400 deposit and \$1000 due at the end of the event). This event will go in conjunction with the Historical Society's Halloween festivities. Mr. Voorheis thought the date set this year by the Historical Society is Saturday, October 22. Mr. Iacoangeli continued that the township would do the same format this year, starting at 6:30 p.m. with the drive-in style movie at 7:00. He will take ideas and movie suggestions now, and start advertising on Facebook, the township website, and the Police Department home page. He will forward the contract to the group when he receives it.

There was a brief discussion on printing signs to post on doors at the township hall and the put in the vestibule at the Library. Another suggestion would be to put a banner at the farm or at each entrance to the township. The goal is to make this event bigger each year.

c. Pokeman Go and what it means for our Parks

Mr. Iacoangeli explained that Pokemon Go is a phone app where a virtual boy or girl walks around with you searching for a Pokeman character that looks like it is near you. The object is to use a virtual ball to capture it. When you arrive at a "pokey stop", the app will tell you things you need to play the game. The Township Library, old Township Hall, Bloomer Park and the Dublin Center are all pokey stops. The premise for the game is that it gets people outdoors and monitors how far you are walking. You have to collect eggs and can only do so by walking. This new game will bring more people to the parks and library.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that the planning office has been swamped. Kroger had their pre-con meeting; there is a new dance studio going in on Nordic Drive; Exodus Ride Shop has relocated next to Highland Tire; and several developers are looking at parcels within the township for redevelopment. One developer came to the Planning Commission with a conceptual plan to redevelop the corner of Union Lake and Cooley Lake Roads. There have been contamination issues with the site and the DEQ currently has 83 monitoring wells to make sure no pollutants are getting into the lake. No final decisions have been made yet by the developer.

COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Commissioner Comments

Ms. Deren asked whether Mr. Iacoangeli had any further information regarding a potential skate park. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that a company out of Kansas is putting some sketches together for a pump track and equipment to use over the basketball court. He mentioned to the company that a purchase is predicated on getting grant funds. He will include this project in the next grant cycle and he's looking at a possible Passport grant. Ms. Deren mentioned that the weeds on the volley ball court need to be pulled or sprayed, and Mr. Iacoangeli agreed and will talk to the maintenance department. Ms. Deren asked if there were any new updates on the Bogie Lake pathway. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that the township is still actively working on it. It may be helpful to get a petition from the neighborhood with 500 signatures to bring to a public meeting.

Mr. Loew asked for a follow up from last minutes regarding the Fisk Farm Plan. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that the Planning Commission was shown the final project, where as a result from the presentation to the Parks committee, some trees were eliminated, the outhouse was moved, and a few other minor adjustments to the plan were made. Mr. Voorheis noted that this plan hasn't gone to the board yet, and will most likely do so after the election. Mr. Loew asked for an update on repair/replacement of the play structure at Hawley Park. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated the structure will stay for the summer and they will investigate the cost of replacing it next year by either putting this out as a Passport grant project, or funding it outright.

Ms. Grubb asked whether the proposed residential development across from Meijer was still going to happen. Mr. Iacoangeli stated that the project was approved, but the developer still hasn't closed on the property. They are waiting for easements from ITC.

Ms. Voorheis stated she received dozens of negative calls and emails regarding the proposed rezoning and potential use at Calvary Baptist Church. Also, the township has been heavily involved with sewer projects, and the Police Department will be purchasing a new vehicle to replace one that was involved in an accident. With the upcoming election, she encouraged everyone to go to the polls and vote.

b. Next Meeting Date: August 23, 2016

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Deren moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Ms. Grubb supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)