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WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

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WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

Regular Meeting
7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383
January 22, 2013 @ 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Deren called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called: Ms. Carlock, Ms. Dehart and Ms. Voorheis were not present.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Chairperson - Absent
Debby Dehart - Absent
Deb Deren, Secretary
Jean-Philippe Loew
Andrea Voorheis - Absent
Barbara Workman
Linda Erlich

Also Present: Jason Iacoangeli, Staff Planner
Lynn Lindon, Recording Secretary

Visitors: 0

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Loew requested to add a discussion on the Dublin Senior Center sidewalk connection.

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

Approval of Minutes:

- Minutes of November 27, 2012

Ms. Deren moved to approve the minutes of November 27, 2012 as presented. Mr. Loew supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (4 yes votes)

Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)

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

New Business:

a. Parks and Rec Visioning Session Results

Mr. Iacoangeli reviewed the results from the public visioning session that took place on January 16 at the Dublin Senior Center. The purpose of the session was to gain public input on what the residents felt was working well in the township and what they felt was not.

Residents are proud of the township park system, but would like to see better connectivity and pathways. They also discussed what the residents would like to see the township embark on if there was no need for funding or approvals. Of that, the majority of residents would like to see a sports complex, canoe launch, multi-purpose trails, equestrian center, skate parks, and more neighborhood parks.

Mr. Iacoangeli reported he hasn't shared the online survey results yet, but will shortly. It was interesting that of those surveyed, the majority of those said they do not visit White Lake parks at all, but they may if they were closer. Ms. Erlich added that the parks are not promoted well and if they were, they might use them more.

The participants were asked how the township might achieve these goals. Suggestions were to have contests, sell bricks, and grant funding.

Participants were also asked to take all ideas listed and vote on their top 3 items. Bike and walking paths, a dedicated downtown village area, an equestrian center, horse trails connectivity, a community center, and development of a lakefront park with a nature preserve and canoe launch topped the list.

Ms. Erlich noted that a community center could encompass many of the things on the list. She attended the session and it seemed that the majority of residents want more of a community feel as opposed to what the high school has to offer. She understands this would be a huge undertaking, but it would be the envy of all communities. There was a brief discussion on the disadvantages of using the high school facilities. Ms. Deren indicated that years ago several people came together to talk about a sports complex, but when the high school said they were doing their pool/center, the Parks and Rec dropped this idea. Ms. Workman noted there is a lot of property down Porter Road that could be utilized.

Mr. Loew asked how the survey results would be published. Mr. Iacoangeli responded that it would most likely be in PDF format on the website and will stay open while the committee works on the 5-yr plan. Mr. Loew suggested mentioning all this in the paper of what transpired at this session.

There was a brief discussion on the ITC corridor, which is concentrated more on walking paths, rather than horse paths.

b. Parks & Rec Plan Community Description Chapter

Jason distributed the chapter in the plan that goes over the community's description. With new census data, comes a new description. He asked them to review this at home for grammatical changes or ideas and suggestions. The 2010 data was used and White Lake had a modest population growth over that 10-yr period. Population age is important when it comes to park planning. People in the baby boom generation are beginning to reach retirement age. This is a large section of the population. Another trend with a significant decline is the 25-45 year old group. White Lake is losing the family formation group. He talked about the current household dynamic and future projections based on SEMCOG research.

Old Business:

a. Bloomer Park Construction Update

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that the developer has mothballed the park for the winter from people getting on the paths with 4-wheelers and snowmobiles and ruining them. The park is 90% complete and the 10% needed to be completed is signage, landscaping, seeding, and grading.

b. Dublin Center Update

Mr. Iacoangeli reported he met with the North Broadmoor Homeowners Association. They talked about different scenarios for putting the path in place; (1) where the township will sponsor a permit and the association will pay for connection through the right of way or, (2) get a signed memo from the association board stating the project and having neighbors sign a petition asking if the township would consider funding

this as part of the Dublin project and would turn it over to the association in the spring for maintenance. Preliminary estimates are in the range of \$3-4,500. Mr. Loew stated he would attend another subdivision meeting tomorrow evening.

Other Business:

a. Staff Report

The Park Rules and Regulations were adopted and the Park Fees are before the township board at special board meeting next week for a second reading.

Communications:

Next meeting dates:

- Regular meeting – February 26, 2013

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.