

Gregory R. Baroni, Supervisor
Terry Lilley, Clerk
Mike Roman, Treasurer



Trustees
Carol J. Burkard
Scott Ruggles
Andrea C. Voorheis
Rik Kowall

WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

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WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383
November 27, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Carlock called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called and all members were present.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Vice Chairperson
Debby Dehart
Deb Deren, Secretary
Jean-Philippe Loew
Andrea Voorheis

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

Visitors: 2

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Ms. Dehart moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Voorheis supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. Minutes of October 23, 2012 meeting

Ms. Voorheis moved to approve the minutes of October 23, 2012 as submitted. Ms. Dehart supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Carlock opened the discussion to the public for comments on items not listed on the agenda.

Robert Szolach, 3120 Ridge Road, White Lake, stated he was at the swearing in ceremony for the new board members. He has never seen any board members attend any Parks & Rec meetings in the past. He feels there is miscommunication between the two boards. He questioned what was involved with putting the Parks & Rec master plan together. Ms. Carlock responded that there are DNR requirements to meet standards and when met, it allows the township to apply for grant monies. Mr. Szolach would like to see better communication, and on the same token, he feels the Parks & Rec members should attend the board meetings to keep the board apprised of money being spent and upcoming projects.

Mike Roman, the new township Treasurer, introduced himself and questioned the Parks Master Plan that the group will be working on. Ms. Carlock gave a brief overview of the process. Mr. Roman asked if this was something that had to be contracted out or whether it could be done in house. Ms. Carlock noted that Mr. Iacoangeli is in the process of reviewing the existing plan and eliminating any unnecessary expenses involved with revising the plan for the next 5 years.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Park Signage

Mr. Iacoangeli indicated the new proposal was taken off the table with the old Board of Trustees. The supervisor would now like to bring that back to the board in December. He would also like to discuss identification signage for Hawley Park and there has been some talk about a monument sign for the office / library / park combined in one sign. The dues and rules and regulations will be presented to the new board. Mr. O'Neil will be in attendance to represent, but if any committee member would like to attend, please do so.

Mr. Loew noted the sign off Union Lake coming into White Lake is looking weathered. Mr. Iacoangeli stated there were 2 signs in the township that will be repainted. Also, they are looking at new designs with field stone bases for the new parks and possibly the township hall.

b. ITC Corridor

Mr. Iacoangeli reported the new representative is Sean Gouda, and he met with him and the supervisor last week to discuss trail possibilities and a new procedure matrix of things that need to be in place. The next step is to create a preliminary trail design. Ms. Carlock stated she has large area maps of the entire corridor. Mr. Iacoangeli stated the goal is to show on the map a general depiction of where the trail will go. It doesn't have to be engineered or follow any rules. ITC will give it a preliminary review and determine where to go from there.

Mr. Loew asked if the trail would be multi-purpose for horses, bikes, walking, ADA compliant. Mr. Iacoangeli explained there is interesting topography in the township and he doubts it would be suited for horses. He would be in favor of equestrian and pedestrian trails, but he believes only the foot trail will be concentrated on at this time.

Ms. Dehart noted that Highland was supposed to have a north/south equestrian, multi-purpose trail that was supposed to link to this proposed trail eventually. Mr. Iacoangeli said if the 2 state parks were linked with an equestrian trail, it would be the largest in the state for continuous destination type loop. The state wants to accommodate horse traffic, but ITC is against it. Future talks need to take place.

Ms. Dehart noted that Oakland County has the highest density of horses in the state with 6,900.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Bloomer Park Construction Update

Mr. Iacoangeli showed a computer graphic of the contractor's timeline. The contractor was not able to meet some of the milestones he said he would be able to. The pavilion and stone piers have been installed and the parking lot is underway. He reviewed the items that have not yet started. The contractor is calling for doing plantings relatively soon before the first of the year. The thought was that the seeding should wait until spring and they could concentrate on some of the other elements. Since there has been progress on site, a request for an extension from the state to wait until spring should not be an issue. He showed before and after pictures of the progress to date.

Mr. Roman questioned whether this was being done with grant money. Ms. Carlock confirmed that a grant was secured and she explained the process of applying for and acquiring grant funding.

Mr. Roman asked some general questions regarding bonds. Both Mr. Iacoangeli and Ms. Carlock gave a brief description of the bond process.

b. Parks and Recreation Plan

Mr. Iacoangeli noted there may not be a December meeting, but asked the committee to put together some questions to put on an online survey to petition the residents. The board did not approve the expenditure to have Birchler Arroyo start assisting with the plan and felt the staff may be able to take care of some of these things internally.

Ms. Dehart noted that if there would be a survey online there needs to be a way to let the residents know. There is the possibility of being included in the Library's newsletter. Mr. Iacoangeli asked if the committee would like to have a public visioning session in January. The consensus of the group was to proceed. He encouraged the members to send emails to groups they would like to participate.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli didn't have anything further to add.

COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Liaison Report

Ms. Voorheis is the new board liaison.

b. Commissioner Comments

Ms. Carlock still sits on the Hess Hathaway board and encouraged members to participate.

Mr. Loew emailed the members earlier a proposal for a Vetter Park connection project by foot and bicycles. He gave a powerpoint presentation this evening. He would like to see a few yards of sidewalk added from the subdivision to the Dublin Center. Mr. Iacoangeli suggested having a meeting with the subdivisions associations to determine specifics i.e., whose property is it on, who will do the work, who will maintain the walkway, etc. He thinks this could be done relatively easy once these questions are answered.

c. Next Meeting Date: (No December meeting) Regular meeting of January 22, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Voorheis moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Ms. Dehart supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)