

Gregory R. Baroni, Supervisor
Terry Lilley, Clerk
Forrest Jay Brendel, Treasurer



Trustees
Carol J. Burkard
Michael Powell
Todd T. Birkle
David Lewsley

WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

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WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383
April 24, 2012 @ 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 and Mr. Leow were excused.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Vice Chairperson - Excused
Debby Dehart
Deb Deren, Secretary
Jean Philip Leow - Excused
David Lewsley, Board Liaison
Andrea Voorheis

Also Present: Jason Iacoangeli, Staff Planner
Greg Baroni, Township Supervisor
Lynn Lindon, Recording Secretary

Visitors: 12

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. Minutes of March 27, 2012 meeting

Ms. Deren moved to approve the minutes of March 27, 2012 as submitted. Ms. Dehart 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Hidden Pines Park Design Review

Mr. Iacoangeli welcomed the public and introduced Brian Barrick and Deborah Cooper of Beckett and Raeder, who will present the conceptual plan for Hidden Pines Park. The design was a result of the feedback provided by the residents from the visioning session that was held in September, 2011.

Mr. Barrick gave a powerpoint presentation reflecting the park in its current state, and gave an overview of the proposed enhancements. He described the expectations and concerns of the residents that came from the visioning session. Top expectations were to have a walking path around the park and a playscape for children. The main concern pertained to landscaping and screening.

Mr. Barrick continued showing slides with the proposed ball field, plantings, and a new looped drive to provide internal parking and alleviate parking on Hidden Pines Boulevard. This looped drive could also be used for school buses to load/unload students if the schools desire.

They are proposing a picnic shelter and children's play area, which is strategically located near the ball field to allow parents to monitor their children. Also provided is a series of walking paths near and around the ball diamond and connecting to the boulevard, and rain gardens to pick up storm water.

Linda McDonald, 6080 Raphael Court, noted that Hidden Pines Boulevard is a private road and she purchased her property not knowing there would be an access road and trails of this road. There are general common elements that the residents own. Mr. Barrick responded that the presentation this evening is a concept and the purpose is to introduce this concept and have discussion and communication with the residents. There will be a negotiation between the homeowners association and the township at a later date. Ms. McDonald was also concerned with insurance costs and liability on the road.

Mr. Lewsley explained that the presentation this evening is a potential concept plan put together by professional park planners as requested by Ms. McDonald's neighbors to have a park with more amenities. This concept was put together to present to the neighborhood based on their feedback during the visioning session. Many concerns from the residents at that session were addressed in this plan. Mr. Lewsley noted that private roads deal mainly with maintenance of the road and the public is allowed to drive on a private road. Discussion continued with obtaining easements, and wear and tear on the road at the entrances.

Mary Earley, 5925 Pineridge Court, questioned whether there would be 2 ball fields as discussed at the visioning session. Mr. Barrick responded that when looking at the available land and topography, they concluded that to get the most variety of activities of the park and the space they need, one field was most appropriate. Ms. Earley asked if the fire station was still a possibility. Mr. Iacoangeli responded that the township wants to reserve the option of building a fire station in the future and the property is available. Ms. Earley asked about the need to hire attorneys if an easement was going to be needed. Mr. Iacoangeli assured her that if this plan came to fruition, this would be done in a fair and equitable way and the township would find a way to accommodate the residents.

John Earley, 5925 Pineridge, questioned how much of a drop in property was on site. Mr. Baroni responded there was a 20 ft. drop on the property.

Barb Juliano, 5490 Irene Blvd., asked how much of a distance the walking path is. Ms. Cooper of Beckett and Raeder thought it might be ¼ mile.

Mr. Spillane stated he was concerned with lights shining in his windows at night. Mr. Iacoangeli responded that the parks operate from dusk to dawn and there would not be lights at the park. Mr. Spillane also questioned water retention on site. Mr. Barrick explained that bio swales are designed to maximize infiltration into the ground and they amend the soil to make it as permeable as possible so water goes down and eventually released.

Ms. Earley asked whether waste baskets and porta potties would be provided. Mr. Iacoangeli responded that there isn't currently a plan for porta potties, but waste baskets would be provided and emptied on a weekly basis, unless it required more. After comments from the audience regarding the need for porta potties, Mr. Iacoangeli indicated this issue would be taken into consideration and discussed.

Devon Dobrin, South Brian, asked if there would be time restrictions on the field, as his concern is with weekend morning ball games and people hitting balls into his yard. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that league play occurs with scheduling the field through the township hall and typically after school and on weekends. Mr. Lewsley noted that the field is designed to be youth-oriented, mainly for little league.

Margie Grode, 6049 North Brian, asked if the walking path and swingset were part of Phase I. Mr. Iacoangeli responded that it was not. Those would be Phase II enhancements and the next step in the process would be to look into funding for Phase II. If the township wanted to move forward, there would need to be discussion and a more formal site plan with construction drawings.

There was a brief discussion regarding water pooling on the site, at which the township is aware and taking steps to rectify the situation.

Pam Durk, 5431 W. Alyssa Court asked when the final fencing for the ball diamond would be in. Mr. Baroni responded that the footings have been poured and the fence should be up by next week.

Ms. Earley asked about funding and whether it would come from tax dollars, fundraisers, etc. Mr. Lewsley responded that there is a Parks and Rec millage renewal coming in the fall and expenditures for modest improvements to date have come from the existing millage fund. These funds, coupled with possible grants, could provide funding for Phase II. The millage could also be used for pathways, etc. in other areas of the township.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that the RAP, Recreation Assistance Program, grant was approved and mobile recreation units will be available for the movies.

The swings have been ordered for Hawley Park and should arrive shortly. The asphalt contractor has been scheduled and patching of pathways will happen soon.

Mr. Baroni explained the tracks at both Vetter and Hawley parks will be resurfaced and the new swingset was ordered for Hawley Park.

COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Liaison Report

Mr. Lewsley noted that Mr. Iacoangeli covered most of what had transpired at the last board meeting. Millage language was not yet approved and there is a special board meeting on May 3 to revisit this.

b. Commissioner Comments

Ms. Voorheis asked whether the White Lake Presbyterian Church could bring water and popcorn to pass out at the Movie in the Park event. None of the committee member saw a problem with this.

Ms. Dehart asked Mr. Barrick for a status update on Bloomer Park. Mr. Barrick responded that they have applied for permits from the Township, Oakland County Road Commission for access into the park and the DEQ for wetlands. The permits have been submitted and as soon as they have positive reviews and

approvals, they will go out for bid. Mr. Baroni noted that the township environmental department was reviewing the permits today.

Ms. Dehart asked if the entrance to Bloomer Park had been secured. This was a concern from a resident at the last meeting. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that he and Mr. Wheaton went out and removed the sign and posted "No Trespassing" signs. Residents thought this will help to keep the park in good order until permits are finalized and construction can begin.

Movie in the Park suggestion: Mr. Spillane offered Marco's Pizza to provide pizza by the slice for the event. They do this for Waterford's events and it seems to go over well.

- c. Next Meeting Date: Regular meeting of Tuesday, May 22, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Voorheis moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Ms. Deren supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (4 yes votes)