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WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

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WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting
7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383
October 25, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.

Vice Chairperson Carlock called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called: Ms. Dehart and Ms. Shiloff were excused.

ROLL CALL: Steve Anderson
Merrie Carlock, Vice Chairperson
Debby Dehart - **Excused**
Deb Deren, Secretary
David Lewsley, Board Liaison
Jean Shiloff - **Excused**
Andrea Voorheis

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

Visitors: 1

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Anderson 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 September 27, 2011 special meeting

Mr. Lewsley moved to approve the minutes of September 27, 2011 as presented. Mr. Anderson 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, but none was offered.

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Mr. Anderson reviewed the financial report for September. He indicated this would have to be tabled as he had not received a copy from the accounting office yet.

Mr. Lewsley noted the Township Board passed 2 budget amendments that affect the Parks & Rec budget. The next report will be more comprehensive.

Mr. Anderson moved to table the Financial Report for September. Ms. Carlock supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a unanimous voice vote. (5 yes votes)

New Business:

a. M-59 Pathway Rehabilitation

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that he and Mr. O'Neil have been involved in meetings with MDOT with regard to spending money on the pathways in conjunction with the work MDOT is currently doing along M-59. MDOT has encouraged the township to apply for an enhancement grant and they will sponsor it. Mr. Iacoangeli gave an overview of how grants work and noted the timeline to submit for the 2012 cycle would be in January 2012, which would be for the March selection. He reviewed the eligible activities that the grant would support.

Mr. Iacoangeli added that the grant would require a 20% match, but it is unlikely 80%/20% would be approved. Typically, MDOT is looking for a 30% match. Ms. Carlock asked whether MDOT would split the match with White Lake Township. Mr. Iacoangeli didn't think so, but he would ask.

Mr. Iacoangeli also noted that M-59 is scheduled for a total rework in 5 years. What exists now will not be eliminated, but MDOT will look to the township to put in pathways at that time. If this is a priority for the Parks & Rec right now, MDOT will partner on an enhancement grant. If the committee chooses to wait, MDOT will do this in 5 years anyway. He asked the committee members whether they wanted to move forward in pursuing this grant, or wait and concentrate on other projects. The \$1 million will surface one mile and has to be in an area of the corridor where there is not a lot of business and driveways. White Lake Township would cover the costs with design, and MDOT would review.

Ms. Carlock feels 5 years is a long time not to do anything. The \$147,500 in current grant funding would be eligible for this project. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that the pathways would have to be 10 ft. wide with a 2 ft. shoulder on each side and this would be in MDOT's right-of-way, so there would be no need for easements. The stretch of pathway should be in a virgin area where no pathway exists.

Mr. Lewsley indicated it is his observation that the most heavily used section of the existing pedestrian pathway is from the Pontiac Lake bridge to Fisk Road. It is his opinion that it makes sense to rehab the pathway in this area since it is a very visible and heavily used segment. However, Mr. Lewsley went on to suggest that Mr. Iacoangeli and Mr. O'Neil carefully inspect the full length of the existing pathway on the south side of M-59 to identify the heavily used segment that is most seriously in need of repair so it can be recommended for the initial phase of rehab.

Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that they have looked at the area from Teggerdine to the township hall on the north side of the road. Mr. Anderson thought having the pathway on the south side of M-59 would be more beneficial because he feels there would be a business conflict to the north. He suggested the area by the bridge on the south side of the street. Mr. Iacoangeli will look into this.

Ms. Deren moved to have the Community Development Department pursue an enhancement grant for a pathway along M-59. Ms. Carlock supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a unanimous voice vote. (5 yes votes)

b. White Lake Road Park Design

Mr. Iacoangeli reported there was a stipulation from this committee that it be able to do a design plan for the remainder of the park. The Township Board has asked the committee to proceed.

Ms. Carlock questioned whether a quote could be obtained from Beckett Raeder. Mr. Iacoangeli responded that would be feasible since Beckett and Raeder are on a retainer and we can ask them to extend their scope of work they are currently doing to give us a preliminary design of the park.

Anderson moved to contact Beckett and Raeder to see if they can extend the scope of their existing work to prepare a concept plan and activities for the White Lake Park site. Mr. Lewsley supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a unanimous voice vote. (5 yes votes)

c. Holiday Meeting Schedule

Mr. Iacoangeli reported the next meeting is scheduled for November 22, which is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Also, the December meeting is scheduled for the Tuesday after Christmas. He asked the committee members to contact him as soon as possible if they cannot attend either meeting.

Other Business:

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that Vetter Park is almost complete. The stainless steel roofs are being put on this week and there are a few small punchlist items remaining. The ball field is complete and grass has been planted.

With regard to Rules and Regulations of the parks, Mr. Iacoangeli will send a formal request this month that the committee be able to make adjustments with regard to field rentals, etc. This item will be added to the next agenda for discussion.

The Bloomer Park design has been given approval to proceed. There were 2 survey awards for Area I and Area II. The Board is proceeding with Area I at this time. Wetlands have been delineated and they will start soil borings. TEC was awarded the contract for borings and Arbor Survey was awarded the contract for the survey.

Communications:

a. Liaison Reports

Mr. Lewsley reported the Hidden Pines Park/Oak Tree Park project Phase I for a ball diamond and parking lot was approved by the Township Board at their last meeting. It was understood that any additional work would be after the Parks and Rec enlisted recommendations for design. They also approved Bloomer Park construction plans, and secured survey and soil boring bids. Budget amendments were made to move money from Parks & Rec to pay for the work at the park.

b. Committee Member Comments

Mr. Anderson asked if there would be a groundbreaking ceremony for Vetter Park. Mr. Iacoangeli responded that they would like to have something like a township event for the park reopening with invitations. He will provide details at the next meeting.

Ms. Voorheis moved to recommend an reopening event of Vetter Park within the timeframe of April or the first part of May. Mr. Anderson supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a unanimous voice vote. (5 yes votes)

Mr. Anderson reported that the Planning Commission is working on Clearzoning, which is being able to incorporate all the different policies and have a process in place to review and categorize it. This enables the public easy access to any documents on the township website.

Resident Jean Phillip Loew noted that the soccer field at Vetter Park didn't look flat. Mr. Anderson confirmed that the ground is not pitched for a soccer field. A soccer field was laid out, but they found it wouldn't work.

Mr. Loew asked for a status update on the connecting sidewalk from Broadmoor subdivision to Vetter Park. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated the township decided they wanted to do this all at once and asked the Community Development department to contact the subdivision association.

Ms. Carlock noted there is a meeting this Thursday at Hess Hathaway to review their Master Plan.

- c. Next Meeting Date: Regular meeting of November 22, 2011

Adjournment

Ms. Voorheis moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Mr. Anderson supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)