

**WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
Virtual Regular Meeting  
7525 Highland Road, White Lake, MI 48383  
**May 12, 2021 @ 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.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Chairperson, White Lake Township  
CJ Bratta, White Lake Township  
Rhonda Grubb – Planning Commission Liaison, White Lake Township  
Kathleen Aseltyne, White Lake Township  
Deb Deren, Vice Chair, White Lake Township  
Andrea Voorheis – Township Board Liaison, White Lake Township

Absent: None

Also Present: Justin Quagliata, Staff Planner  
Sherri Barber, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Ms. Grubb moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Aseltyne supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote, 6 yes votes.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Mr. Bratta moved to approve the minutes of April 14, 2021 as presented. Ms. Deren supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote, 6 yes votes.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No one raised their hand from the public virtually to make public comment.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Stanley Park Entrance Sign

Mr. Quagliata showed the concept for the Bloomer Park entrance sign. The Stanley Park sign would need to go out for quote if that was the direction the Committee wanted to go. The proposed budget for the sign was \$20,000. Ms. Carlock suggested a temporary sign in case it needed to be moved, possibly putting the permanent placard on a temporary base. The grant would pay for the sign base. Mr. Quagliata didn't think the entrance drive would move. Mr. Quagliata stated we had a conceptual plan but sometimes the final site plan adjusts. Ms. Voorheis would like to see a temporary sign. Mr. Bratta liked a consistent sign design throughout the Township. Ms. Carlock agreed, that was done with quality park systems.

b. Stanley Park Update – Parking Area, Picnic Tables, Lawn in Park Core

Mr. Quagliata stated the picnic tables were ordered. Six tables were ordered: 2 standard, 2 square, and 2 ADA compliant tables. The tables had steel powder coated frames with recycled plastic tops. The cost was \$5,000. The tables had a 50-year warranty and were made in the USA. They would need to be assembled when delivered. An anonymous doner paid for one of the picnic tables. Ms. Carlock liked someone donated one and suggested maybe we could offer them on our website as a memorial. Mr. Quagliata stated the parking lot had been graded and asphalt millings were added. Some small rocks line the parking area. The beach area was being cleaned. The meadow area in the core of the park had been graded and seeded. The Township was going to have a cleanup day on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup> from 9a.m.-12p.m. A dumpster was down in the park and garbage bags for light debris would be provided. A Facebook post would be shared. Ms. Aseltyne noticed a lot of concrete and wondered if we would be picking that up. Mr. Quagliata said nothing heavy would be picked up. Ms. Aseltyne asked what the blue tape on trees indicated. Mr. Quagliata stated it meant they had been trimmed last fall. Our maintenance department, specifically John Wheaton, had been doing a lot of work at the park. Mr. Wheaton had been working in Stanley Park on his own time as well and Mr. Quagliata wanted to recognize him for his hard work. The dog waste stations had been purchased and would be installed.

c. Bylaw Amendments

Mr. Quagliata went over the Bylaws, which were discussed at the last meeting. The Township Supervisor reviewed the amendments and gave his consent to move forward. Ms. Deren felt the changes were accurate. Previously, Ms. Carlock didn't know the Committee had bylaws, and these were very nice. Mr. Quagliata noted the amendments would simplify and modernize the bylaws; the original bylaws were from 1997.

**Ms. Aseltyne moved to adopt the bylaw amendments as presented. Ms. Deren supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a roll call vote: Carlock – yes; Bratta – yes; Grubb – yes; Aseltyne – yes; Deren – yes; Voorheis – yes. 6 yes votes.**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

a. Member Comments

Staff report: Mr. Quagliata noted we were still waiting on an announcement for the Ralph Wilson grant. Next year we would need to start on our five-year plan update. Mr. Quagliata noted we may start a study on dog parks to research this further. The Committee would probably meet outside in July, August, and September. Next month we may or may not meet in person. The State had updated some of their Covid policies. Mr. Quagliata shared the State Vaccination to Normal Challenge.

Mr. Bratta asked about the status of the Triangle Trail. Mr. Quagliata noted the Township had applied for a grant to reconstruct Elizabeth Lake Road between Highland Road and Teggerdine Road. It was a \$1.6 million dollar grant; the Township would contribute \$400,000. The roundabouts at Teggerdine and Oxbow Lake were slated for 2022. Mr. Bratta thanked Mr. Quagliata for his hard work with the picnic tables. He would like to look into trails that weren't gravel or anything yet but just mowed at Stanley Park. Could we do that prior to developing the park?

Ms. Grubb noted at the last Planning Commission someone asked about free passes for seniors through Oakland County Parks. No one was aware of a program for free passes for the seniors. Ms. Grubb provided an update from the last Planning Commission meeting.

Ms. Aseltyne said some people had asked her why we weren't having concerts when other communities were. Mr. Quagliata stated it would be hard to monitor how many people would attend. He added the Township wasn't going to police mask wearing and social distancing, we were all on the same page at the last meeting and hopefully next year we could plan events. Ms. Aseltyne said she did some research and there could be a lot of problems with dog parks so it was smart to discuss this ahead of time. Ms. Aseltyne noted the Huron River Watershed Council could help us with some cleanup for the parks. Ms. Aseltyne said Lakewood Village wanted some help with their parks.

Ms. Carlock noted she was just looking at the Oakland County numbers for COVID, and we were not out of the woods and we were doing the right thing by not holding events. Ms. Carlock was looking forward to positive results on the grants we had applied for. She was happy the Township was pursuing grants. When we get to the recreation plan, she would like a non-motorized plan and a consultant who specialized in that – a pathways plan. We had so many trail projects, we could prioritize and seek tap grants. She agreed with Ms. Aseltyne about dog parks, they typically were run by a larger agency and staffed.

Ms. Deren talked with some residents at Hidden Pines and they really liked that park. There had been some discussion about a half marathon in the Township. Highland Recreation and Indian Springs would have one. Ms. Carlock suggested posting the events on Facebook.

Ms. Voorheis apologized for not being at the last meeting but appreciated the Zoom meetings to keep up on the meetings. At the Board of Trustees meeting last night, they approved the purchase of three new police vehicles. The No-Haz day was June 5<sup>th</sup> at Kohls. We had a new Fire Chief, John Holland. Ms. Voorheis thought John Holland was the longest serving White Lake Township employee at this time. He was the first home grown Fire Chief we had in a few years. As always, stay safe and be healthy, and get vaccinated and bring us back to normal.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.**

The next meeting is Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.