

Recreation Planning Committee
November 15, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kurt Rudolph, Chairman; Allan Hooper, Jim Guerriero, John Worden, Summit Township Zoning Administrator

MEMBERS ABSENT: Todd Emmons, Township Board Liaison; Natalie Stopyak, Planning Commission Liaison; Kali Briggs, Marilyn Waite.

The meeting was called to order by K. Rudolph, Chairman, on Monday, November 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall Meeting Room.

A motion was made by A. Hooper, supported by J. Guerriero, to approve as written the March 15, 2010 minutes of the Recreation Planning Committee. The motion was carried unanimously.

1. Update 127 South & McDevitt Bike Lane

The bike lane now goes to the Shell Station and the township contributed monies for the bike lane markings.

Additionally, the contract for the bridge got put off until spring 2012, but work will start in the fall of 2011. The bridge has to be completely removed because of the soil conditions and the traffic rerouted.

2. West Michigan Ave Sidewalk Brown to Main St

The contract has been signed by the Township for the sidewalk maintenance.

3. Safe Route to Schools Planning

Tony Hollow indicated that because Kali Briggs is no longer employed with Vandercook Lake School, Diane McQuillan has taken over Kali's position. The committee will be looking for a recommendation for Kali's replacement and the nomination will come from the Supervisor.

4. Scott TenBrink, Fitness Council of Jackson
Complete Streets Coalition – handout provided

Complete streets are roadways that are designed (or redesigned) and operated to enable safe access for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and persons with disabilities must be able to safely move along and across a complete street.

Complete Streets Resolutions have been passed at the township and county levels. This coalition is now trying to get an ordinance passed that lays out responsibilities.

Coalition provides benefits for Summit Township that include a positive economic development impact and promotes health implications.

K. Rudolph, Chairman, stated there is food available in the Weatherwax and Horton Road area and suggests that these businesses be allowed to advertise at the trailhead.

Brandon Ransom said there is a Kiosk at the trailhead.

J. Guerriero questioned if there was funding available for bike racks on JTA buses?

Scott TenBrink responded that the bike racks are on all the new buses. The Coalition is currently looking at other things with JTA. Also they have received money for shelters and will work with JTA in locating the shelters closer to sidewalks.

J. Guerriero asked if the City is obligated to make a complete streets.

Scott TenBrink responded no but, planning is so important.

5. Brandon Ransom, Jackson County and City Parks Director provided the following updates:

1) The Jackson County Parks went from eleven people to eight since Jim Guerriero retirement. (This was a result of three retirements)

2) Starting July 1st the City and County started sharing personnel.

Brandon Ransom Director, Kelli Hoover and Golf Pro

His goal is to have some details worked out within eighteen months and deemed this as a positive step for the community. The primary focus is funding sources.

3) At Sparks Park there will be a cell tower going in. The tower is a self supporting mono pole that will be one hundred five feet in height and will look like a flagpole with no visible antennas.

4) An urban fishery grant was received and will be installed to the north of the band shell. This project is going to double to size of the pond, a picnic shelter will be added later. There will be no swimming allowed even though it will have a depth of fourteen to fifteen feet. This project is close to the final design phase and is set to start late winter or early spring

5) County was only planning on receiving half of the state revenue monies but, instead, received all of it. The County is looking at spending this money for improvements to the falls and additional projects that the County Manager decides on.

6) For the future he hopes to look to the 5 year plan and would like to connect Cascades with the Falling Waters Trail.

The meeting was adjourned by K. Rudolph, Chairman at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hubbell, Recording Secretary