

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

September 19, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kurt Rudolph, Chairman; Rick Wilson, Township Board Liaison; Natalie Stopyak, Planning Commission Liaison; Allan Hooper, John Worden, Summit Township Zoning Administrator.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marilyn Waite, Raymond Lowe

The meeting was called to order by K. Rudolph, Chairman, on Monday, September 19, 2005 at 7:10 p.m. in the Township Hall meeting room at 2121 Ferguson Road.

A motion was made by N. Stopyak, supported by R. Wilson, to approve the March 21, 2005 minutes as written. The motion was carried unanimously.

J. Worden addressed the committee on some maintenance issues for the Weatherwax and other paths. Topics discussed were the duration between each mowing and sweeping. Adding stop signs at the ends of paths was also discussed.

J. Worden stated that the Township Supervisor would like to have the mowing done more frequently, specifically the Weatherwax path, and would like the actual billing costs for mowing is not clarified because the contractor doing the mowing also mows other Township properties.

K. Rudolph, Chairman, asked if the issue was contained to Weatherwax path only?

J. Worden explained that other paths are mowed by the surrounding property owners the Weatherwax path is an open area of land.

R. Wilson, questioned the costs involved with mowing the area more than once a month. He also stated that he will contact Jim Parrot, City of Jackson Parks Director, to make the necessary arrangements to sweep the mowed grass and gravel from the Weatherwax path and discuss a possible arrangement to have the mowing and sweeping done on a regular basis by the City.

J. Worden indicated he would like to see a recommendation from the committee on adding stop signs at the end of paths, similar to what the City has done with their paths. These signs prevent people from entering into the road.

J. Worden reported on the proposed north side location for the Horton Road path, indicating that it would not be possible as it would require many trees to be cut and an expensive storm water system to be built. He explained a possibility of relocating the path to the south side of Horton Road but moving it to the south side of the road would require obtaining an easement for part of the path from a land owner.

J. Worden expressed his personal frustration with the process and progress expressing it has not been an easy venture. He reported that \$3,000 of the budget has already been spent on engineering. He also expressed not wanting to cut down homeowners' trees unnecessarily. If the location stayed on the north side of the road 21 trees would have to be cut down.

K. Rudolph, Chairman, pointed out that the land on the south side has a much wider right-of-way and would not require as many trees to be cut. He also noted that the south side proposal would need the additional easement to allow for the ten (10) feet of paved path, however, the disadvantage to the south side proposal is crossing Horton Road twice before entering Ella Sharp Park off Horton Road.

J. Worden expressed concerns about losing momentum and a possible smaller budget in the next fiscal year.

The Committee decided to table the issue until next meeting.

J. Worden reported that the Falling Waters Trail wanted to place a sign in front of the trail to acknowledge donors and also indicate the trail. The Falling Waters Trail is unable to place a sign because the DNR, the land owner, has denied their request. The Falling Waters Trail is asking to place the sign on land owned by either Summit Township or the Jackson County Road Commission. Note: the sign has been approved at either location.

K. Rudolph, Chairman, asked if any other action concerning the Trail was necessary by the Committee or Township at this time.

J. Worden answered no.

J. Worden displayed the site plan for Magnolia Park that was created by Norfolk Development. Magnolia Park features numerous recreational elements including a baseball diamond and a soccer field.

J. Worden informed the committee about Grant information from the State of Michigan. An information document was referred to which lists various sources for funding of recreational facilities.

N. Stopyak discussed a number of state grants and their availability.

J. Worden asked if any member on the Committee was interested in attending the Upper Grand River Watershed Council Community Stakeholder meeting on October 6, 2005. This meeting will feature educational information on the Upper Grand River Watershed and Phase II Communities.

J. Worden recommended a motion to terminate R. Lowe's membership on the Committee since he has attended no meetings.

A motion was made by K. Rudolph, Chairman, supported by R. Wilson, to terminate R. Lowe from the Committee.

A motion was made by K. Rudolph, Chairman, supported by R. Wilson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 21st, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hubbell