

Recreation Planning Committee
November 16, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kurt Rudolph, Chairman; Todd Emmons, Township Board Liaison; Marilyn Waite, Allan Hooper, Jim Guerriero, Kali Briggs and John Worden, Summit Township Zoning Administrator

MEMBERS ABSENT: Natalie Stopyak, Planning Commission Liaison;

The meeting was called to order by K. Rudolph, Chairman, on Monday, November 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall Meeting Room.

A motion was made by A. Hooper, supported by T. Emmons, to approve as written the September 21, 2009 minutes of the Recreation Planning Committee. The motion was carried unanimously.

1) McDevitt Path & McDevitt Bike Lane – MDOT Draft

With plans to replace the bridge over 127 at McDevitt, the committee reviewed information provided by MDOT. MDOT information included aerials and a bike lane alignment sheet.

The committee discussed the slope in the General Materials area of the path.

A. Hooper and J. Guerriero questioned how the bike lane would be delineated from the vehicle lanes on the bridge.

J. Worden explained the current standards. As speed limit on the bridge is less than 45 mph a barrier is not needed between the bike lanes and the vehicle lanes.

A. Hooper asked if Napoleon Township plans to pick up the trail once it enters their township.

J. Worden responded saying yes.

2) West Michigan Ave Sidewalk/ Brown to Main Street

J. Worden informed the committee of the improvements that MDOT has planned for the area, and their request for the Township to take on the continued maintenance by signing a contract with MDOT. A sample maintenance contract was provided to the committee members in their meeting agenda packets.

As the Township does not desire to enter into a maintenance contract due to of cost and liability issues, it was proposed as a possibility that the commercial property owners could

agree to maintain their sidewalks with the Township being responsible for the enforcement of any agreement/contract. MDOT will be seeking for bids in December of 2010 and the sidewalks will not be built unless someone agrees to take over the maintenance. Note: MDOT will only sign an agreement/contract with the Township per Kelbi Wallace from MDOT.

3) Safe Route to School (SR2S)

The Township has received requests for sidewalks/walkways to Vandercook Lake schools. Funding for the Safe Route to School program is limited to one mile from any school, and funding is only available to schools. The committee reviewed an aerial of the Vandercook School property for trail possibilities outside of the sidewalk issue. One area was in a flood plain, and the possibility of a nature training area was discussed as a future possibility.

Kali Briggs, a teacher for Vandercook Lake, is excited about the potential project and is ready to get started. She and Tony Hollow, Superintendent for the Vandercook Lake School system will be attending a Safe Routes to School training on December 3, 2009.

T. Hollow will schedule a daytime meeting with the Vandercook Lake Superintendent, Napoleon Township Supervisor, Summit Township Supervisor and a committee member to start Vandercook Lake Safe Route to School discussions in January 2010.

4) Property off the Falling Waters Trail:

Discussion took place on two (2) aerials (Pictures taken April 2007) of properties off the Falling Waters Trail. Discussion on George Covalle, Kurt Nichols, Consumers Energy, and Township owned properties, drains and the water station.

5) Any Other Business:

Chairman, K. Rudolph, provided J. Worden with a copy of the Consumers Trail Plan to be mailed to all committee members.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hubbell, Recording Secretary