

**WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Regular Meeting
White Lake, MI 48383
DECEMBER 12, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Deren called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Chairperson
Deb Deren, Vice Chair
Rhonda Grubb – Planning Commission Liaison
Jean-Philippe Loew
Andrea Voorheis – Township Board Liaison

Also Present: Jason Iacoangeli, AICP, Senior Planner
Sherri Ward, Recording Secretary

Visitors: 4

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Iacoangeli wanted to put continuing business ahead of new business for discussion purposes.

Ms. Deren moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Voorheis supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (3 yes votes)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. November 7, 2018

Ms. Deren moved to approve the minutes of November 7, 2018 as presented. Ms. Grubb supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (3 yes votes)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mary Early (5925 Pine Ridge Ct.) wanted to thank Jean Phillip-Loew for coming to her home owners association meeting and speaking about the millage. She wanted to extend her congratulations for the passing of the millage.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Review of the 5 year plan

Mr. Iacoangeli wanted to go over the projects slated for the Parks & Recreation Committee:

2018 projects

Teggerdine pathway connection
Hidden Pines Park development
Bogie Lake Road pathway (Lakeland to M-59)
Union Lake Road pathway (lot of new construction with pathway requirements)

2019 projects

Bloomer Park Phase II
White Lake Trail (ITC Corridor)
M59 pathway renovation
Brendel Lake campground acquisition

2020 projects

White Lake Community Center/Village
Oxbow M59 mini park
Community central park development
Brendel Lake Complex Properties acquisition/protections (Mud Lake headed east)

b. 2019 Parks & Recreation Project Goals and Grant Targets

Mr. Iacoangeli wanted to help the board prioritize upcoming projects. A list of projects was created from suggestions by board members, and each board member and resident in attendance had three votes for their priority. The projects are listed below:

Pathway connections on Union Lake Road, Bogie Lake Road and Teggerdine Road
Hidden Pines park improvements
Twin Lakes Village pedestrian access.
Oxbow mini park
Cleanup of M59 pathway
Fisk Farm sidewalk (across the street) and driveway
Fisk Farm Improvements
Dog parks
Pickle ball
Lake access/water trail planning/paddle craft launch
Outdoor exercise station
Parks department staffing (internship)

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

a. MNRTF Grant Update

Mr. Iacoangeli handed out the acquisition grant scoring. Mr. Iacoangeli and Mr. O'Neil attended the grant meeting today for the awarding of the grants. The Township received a significant amount of money. \$ 72,000,000. was awarded for combined acquisition and development grants. The State decided to fund about \$26 million worth of projects. 25% of the money can only go toward development grants and 75% of the funding has to be for acquisitions. It is Mr. Iacoangeli's understanding that they may change that in the future because there are more development grants being asked for and acquisitions are slowing down.

White Lake scored 6th from the top with 385 points. 435 points was the top score. The trust funds all the Iron Belle projects right off the bat. The Township can start to do leg work on the grant after the 1st of the year. Because our acquisition is over \$700,000., two appraisals will be required. The State asked about making concessions, but due to the attractiveness of the land, it wasn't possible. Mr. Iacoangeli reported on some of the decisions that were discussed at the meeting. They funded many small projects right off the bat. Everyone should be pleased, this is a big grant.

Ms. Carlock suggested waiting until January to incur any fees associated with the acquisition. A 40 year title history is needed and an environmental study will be required. The appropriation could take 6-9 months. Hypothetically everything could pass quickly. Ms. Carlock stated that they did a great job with the grant.

Once the property is owned by the Township, visioning could be done with Township residents to get some concepts for the park.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that planning has been very busy. They have welcomed a new employee, Hannah Micallef is the new Executive Secretary. The Planning Commission is extremely busy and a lot of new homes will be coming into the Township.

COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Commissioner Comments

Ms. Voorheis stated that the tree lighting at Fisk Farm was a very nice activity. New things are added to the tree lighting every year. Life as a trustee has been a little quieter than usual. Puppy Pirates is open.

Mr. Loew said that there is a nice book available about the history of White Lake Township that you can purchase from the historical society. Mr. Loew stated that he would like to look at park maintenance costs to get a vision of that. He is wondering if there is a way to recommend good ideas that builders should consider such as pedestrian and bicycle connections and little parks within their developments. The homes should be built for electrical connections if you have an electric vehicle. Mr. Loew stated when he got his tax bill in France it had an explanation of the expenditures of the city.

Ms. Deren is looking forward to working with the historical society and looking forward to pathways. She noted that there was a nice newsletter in the tax bill.

Ms. Grubb reported that the Planning Commission met for three hours. The proposed Verizon tower was tabled until January. There was a rezoning request that was approved for the old water softener building, rezoning from Suburban Farm (SF) to Local Business (LB). Puppy Pirates was back before the Planning Commission for overnight boarding, and they were approved. There was a conceptual presentation for a proposed development off Elizabeth Lake Road near Williams Lake Road.

Ms. Carlock wanted to congratulate the Planning Department on the grant funding, and it was an honor to have representatives from White Lake Township at the trust fund meeting. It was a great application and a great score. Supervisor Kowall wanted to thank everyone for the grant – especially Mr. Iacoangeli for his work on the application.

Adjournment:
8:22 p.m.

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 9, 2019