

**WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Regular Meeting
7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 38383
October 27, 2015 @ 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: All members were present.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Chairperson
Deb Deren, Vice Chair
Linda Erlich
Rhonda Grubb – Planning Commission Liaison
Jean-Philippe Loew
Andrea Voorheis
Barbara Workman

Also Present: Jason Iacoangeli, Staff Planner
Lynn Hinton, Recording Secretary

Visitors: 3

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Ms. Erlich moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Loew supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (7 yes votes)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. September 22, 2015

Ms. Grubb moved to approve the minutes of September 22, 2015 as submitted. Mr. Loew supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (7 yes votes)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Carlock opened the discussion to the public for comments on items not listed on the agenda, but none was offered.

Students from Lakeland High School were present to observe the meeting for their AP Government class.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. 2016 Projects and Grant Cycle

Mr. Iacoangeli distributed copies of the action plan portion of the 5-year Master Plan. He'd like the committee to review the action plan and be prepared to have more discussion next month.

Mr. Iacoangeli reviewed the high priority items on the plan: Hidden Pines Park, where the township currently has a grant application in front of the state of Michigan and we will know by the end of the year if funds are available. If approved, we will move forward next year. Teggerdine Road and Bogie Lake Road pathways connections; Bloomer Park Phase II, which may now be a "medium" priority; the White Lake ITC Corridor; the M-59 Pathway renovation, which would be a rehabilitation of the existing pathway and the installation of new pathway connections; the White Lake Community Center and Village study, which is more of a planning document that was discussed; the Oxbow Lake Mini-Park, which was an acquisition project in 2014, not a capital project. It was noted that the township does not have this property under control at this time; and the Brendel Lake Acquisition.

Ms. Carlock questioned whether he had talked with the Supervisor about submitting a few acquisition grant applications. Mr. Iacoangeli didn't think the township has gone for acquisition grants in the past, but he will check into this.

Mr. Iacoangeli asked the committee whether there was one particular development and/or acquisition that they would like to concentrate on.

Ms. Deren and Ms. Erlich would like to see the Bogie Lake pathway pursued. Mr. Iacoangeli noted that the Safe Routes to School Program requires a lot of time and effort and has to be initiated by the schools. Whatever the groups preference will be his primary focus. The TAP grant through MDOT will be looked at, and the ITC Corridor. Ms. Carlock indicated that TAP grants funds come from SEMCOG and the state, and he should solicit outside support. Road and trail projects tend to fall to engineering firms, rather than Parks & Rec committees.

Ms. Carlock suggested possibly using park funds to finish the pathway in front of doctor's office in front of Fisk Farm. Mr. Iacoangeli stated that the steering committee for Fisk Farm is discussing this as well. Mr. Loew would like to see a pedestrian connection to the south of M-59, and Mr. Iacoangeli will also look into this.

b. Bloomer Park Update

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that there has been some vandalism at the park and the township has since invested in motion activated cameras that are recorded with a time stamp. They are currently placed on several trees in the park. The quality of pictures is detailed enough to identify people and vehicles. Ms. Carlock would like to see a sign erected notifying visitors that the park is under surveillance.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. M-59 Huron River Pathway Update

Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that he had a final walk through on the site and the pathway is complete and the seed is down. Hopefully the grass will get established before the snow comes. He encouraged the committee members to go look at the pathway if they haven't already done so. He asked whether the ribbon cutting ceremony should be held in the fall or in the spring. The consensus of the group was to have it in the spring. Mr. Iacoangeli also noted that the project came in \$3,000 under budget and those savings can be applied to another project.

b. Fisk Farm Master Plan

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that the steering committee had their kick-off meeting. There is a charrette scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, from 6-9 p.m. at Fisk Farm if anyone wanted to attend. He explained the difference between charrettes, (which are used more for smaller projects and are design

oriented rather than for policy making), and public visioning sessions, (which are intended for large projects that would determine issues and solutions).

c. Victorian Haunting / Fisk Farm

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that there were 15-20 cars that attended this event, with 50-60 kids participating. The event was done by 9:00. The kids did the trunk or treat event and some people even ordered pizza for the movie event. The Supervisor was happy with the turnout and in the future, we may put more focus on the Halloween movie theme event rather than a summer program.

Mr. Loew attended the event with his family and shared pictures with the group.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that the township is wrapping up and ramping up several projects. Kmart is gone and there will be a pre-con meeting with Kroger next week for other components. They will go through winter construction. Discount Tire will be open in a few weeks. The final site plan on the Meijer outlot is being reviewed, but no tenants have been named. It seems national retailers are hesitant on making a major commitment right now. Szott is almost finished and there may be a "Rears on the Wrangler" event sponsored by Mojo in the Morning, 95.5 Radio.

COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Commissioner Comments

Ms. Workman stated she likes the new walkway over the Huron River. She asked about the Haley Hills Farm project listed on the 5-year plan. Mr. Iacoangeli will check on that.

Ms. Deren reiterated that she would like to pursue the Bogie Lake pathway project.

Mr. Leow shared a video of man trying to dump pallets on vacant property. He filmed it and confronted the man, who then put them back in his truck and backed out of the property.

Ms. Voorheis reported that the Township Board purchased a new hydraulic rescue cutter for the fire department; they approved the preliminary site plan for Doyle Used Car Dealership; they approved the purchase of 12 Surface Pro Tablets for the Planning Commission, which will streamline processes with developers by going paperless.

Ms. Grubb reported that in addition to the Planning Commission recommending approval of Doyle Used Car Dealership, it also recommended approval of Modern Messages Dance Studio, which is a new construction on Nordic drive behind Jets Pizza and the car wash.

Ms. Carlock asked whether the meeting Thanksgiving week could possibly be bumped up one week and also the meeting Christmas week. It may be an opportunity to do a joint meeting with the Historical Society and/or Township Board.

b. Next Meeting Date: November 24, 2015

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.