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WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

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WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

Regular Meeting
7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383
May 28, 2013 @ 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Deren called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called: Ms. Carlock and Ms. Voorheis were excused.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Chairperson - Excused
Debby Dehart, Secretary
Deb Deren, Vice Chairperson
Jean-Philippe Loew
Andrea Voorheis - Excused
Barbara Workman
Linda Erlich

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

Visitors: 0

Approval of Agenda:

Ms. Erlich moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Loew supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)

Approval of Minutes:

- Minutes of April 23, 2013

Ms. Workman moved to approve the minutes of April 23, 2013 as presented. Ms. Dehart supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)

Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)

Ms. Deren opened the discussion for public comment on items not listed on the agenda, but none was offered.

New Business:

a. 2014-2018 Parks & Rec Plan Recommendation

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that one of the final steps to be eligible for state funding is that White Lake's Parks Plan has to be published in local paper, at which the Spinal Column posted a notice where the plan is now available for review for 30 days. Residents can view it online or view it in hard draft copy form in the township office. This also allows residents options for comments. The Township Board has already received draft copies and is in the process of reviewing it. Final adoption is expected at the June board meeting and a public hearing will also be held at that time for any final comments. To date, no comments have been received in favor or opposition of the plan. He noted that after adoption of the

plan, copies will be sent to SEMCOG and the surrounding communities. A final application will be filled out and attached as part of the appendix. Once reviewed and approved by the state of Michigan, White Lake Township will be eligible to request state trust fund grants until 2018.

Ms. Deren moved to recommend to the Township Board to approve the 2014-2018 Parks & Rec Plan. Ms. Erlich supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a roll call vote: Workman – yes; Erlich – yes; Loew – yes; Deren – yes; Dehart – yes. (5 yes votes)

b. Movie Night Contract Recommendation

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that this year the township would partner with Huron Valley Continuing Education and Recreation to host this event. In the past, the township has worked with Oakland County Parks, but has not seen a lot of growth. The event is scheduled at the Lakeland High School campus for Friday, July 26, from 6-11pm, with open swimming from 630-830pm. The township is contracted with Great Outdoor Movies in Rochester Hills, who it has used for the last 3 years. The total cost is \$1,450 inclusive of a \$400 deposit to hold date and the remainder due upon completion of the movie. There is a \$50 rate increase this year, but he doesn't feel this is unreasonable considering they haven't asked for an increase in the past 3 years.

Mr. Loew moved to recommend to the Township Board to approve Great Outdoor Movies for Movie Night on July 26 in the amount of \$1,450. Ms. Dehart supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli had nothing further to add.

Communications:

a. Commissioner Comments

Mr. Loew referenced Bloomer Park and their suggested completion date in May. Mr. Iacoangeli confirmed the date of completion is May 30, and the contractor is slightly passed his personal deadline of May 15, but not past the state deadline. There is a meeting this week to go over last remaining items, one of which is the main sign. The sign company hasn't finished fabricating it yet and they are hoping it's done by Friday. Final grading and pathways have been put in and the developer will touch up any paint that has scratched or chipped due to assembly, etc.

Ms. Workman questioned if there was a possibly of having a sign to let horse owners know they can enter the park at the north end. Mr. Iacoangeli thought that was a feasible request and he will follow up on that.

Ms. Erlich noted that the original park plans include a route for horse trails, but they haven't been developed yet. She asked what the timeline would be for this. Mr. Iacoangeli indicated that Phase I was determined to be completed first and this group has been charged with determining how to do Phase II, which includes the horse trails. In 2011 the parks committee wanted to put in amenities for people to use now. Phase 2 would be a hybrid township effort, encompassing township funds and a friends group to stake out where they want the pathway. He will put this on a meeting agenda to discuss further.

Ms. Dehart stated she spoke with Haver Hill to work on laying this out and had hoped they could be present this evening. Since this will be an agenda item in the future, she would like to have the original drawing available and a letter sent to the neighbors inviting them to come help lay out the trail.

A public comment from Caren Robinson, former Parks & Rec Chairperson, noted that horse owners are looking for an easy pass through from the parking lot. The section of the road where they currently pass is dangerous. The Haver Hill entrance is south of the park entrance. She would like to see access from the south to the north (and vice versa) with a loop within the park.

Mr. Loew brought up ITC and questioned why they do not want horses to use the trail. He would like to get the parties involved together for more discussion. Mr. Iacoangeli stated this has always been used for horse traffic, but there's been nothing formal in writing. It becomes a liability issue if the government gets involved and there is a legal agreement.

Ms. Erlich referenced the trees at Bloomer Park that were taken down. She heard it was dangerous for traffic, but now the developer is putting trees back in. Mr. Iacoangeli stated the trees were all looked at by an arborist, some were saved and some died off due to too much disturbance to the root line. The replacement trees being added are more for landscaping and aesthetics.

Mr. Loew reported he went to the last board meeting and asked about the sidewalk connection for Broadmoor subdivision to Vetter Park. Mr. Iacoangeli stated the project was turned over to Mr. O'Neil and he is in the process of coordinating a renovation project with the senior center to map out the sidewalk and design. There have been concerns from neighbors with removing greenery at the senior center and greenery on Haymarket, but he is confident the project would happen sometime this summer.

Mr. Loew gave a powerpoint presentation on a proposed Hess Hathway Park Trail Connection with OCC Park. He showed the fenced in area at Hess Hathaway with a connecting trail directly on the other side on OCC property and what the possibility of a trail connection would look like. He found that the trails are abundant, but there is no connection. There are benefits to having connectivity to visitors of both parks and the connected subdivisions near the parks. He took his presentation to Hess Hathaway a few weeks ago and the majority of members were receptive to the idea. His next step is to update the proposal with a detailed map and actual distances and present to OCC.

Next meeting dates:

- Regular meeting – June 25, 2013

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.