



**ACME TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, September 29, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Members present: O. Sherberneau (Chair), V. Guntzviller, M. Guy, S. Vreeland, Township Manager, H. Yamaguchi
Members excused: P. Brink, K. Challender, S. Feringa
Staff present: T. Henkel, Parks & Maintenance Manager
N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary

A. Consider approval of the minutes of the 04-02-09 meeting:

Motion by Guy support by Yamaguchi to approve the minutes of 04/02/09 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Limited Public Comment:

C. New Business:

1. Discuss Five Year Action Plan/Non-Motorized Trail Network 2009

Sherberneau referred to the Acme Township Parks System Plan 2008-2013 manual. He read that one of the charges of this advisory committee was to prepare a township-based trail network master plan in conjunction with TART.

Sherberneau asked Yamaguchi for a review on what has taken place to date. Yamaguchi talked about the gap between Lautner Road and Bunker Hill road. This passes through property owned by Todd Gokey, who has not been cooperative about the trail running through his property. Yamaguchi said the proposed trail would be on the Southern boundary of the Village of Grand Traverse (VGT) property to Lautner Road. Attorneys from TART have talked with representatives from VGT about acquiring an easement.

Yamaguchi talked about a shift of Bates Road north of M72 to the boundary of the tribe property. He said the tribe was also going for a grant. A letter from TART was written to the tribe to consider a non-motorized trail.

Yamaguchi said that Elk Rapids wanted to have the trail running up US 31 to Brackett road and then connect with Lautner. The Elk Rapids group had planned on getting funding from MDOT, but because of serious funding issues there will be no transportation enhancement grants until 2011.

Sherberneau asked Vreeland if we have requests or ideas for additional trails in the township. She said the residents on Deepwater Point road would like to be connected to the Tart trails along with the Shoreline project.

Sherberneau asked about Bartlett park near the VASA trails. Vreeland said that was owned by the County. She gave a review of the history of Bartlett park. In some of the documents the township had an option to buy the land back from the County.

Kladder encouraged the advisory to look at the land and investigate rather this would be a good investment for the township. He can visualize baseball and soccer fields and additional

walking/biking trails. Kladder had some handouts about Backroads Bikeway in Three Oaks, Michigan. There are 14 trails with lengths of 5-60 miles. The routes follow secondary roads through picturesque rolling hills, patchwork farmlands, parks and forests. Henkel said there are trails in Atwood, referred to as Breezeway, that are similar to the Three Oaks. Kladder also mentioned that the Resort is interested in bike trails.

The advisory set a date of Thursday, October 15th, at 6:00 p.m. to tour the property.

Vreeland encouraged the advisory to be working on a township-based trail network master plan by meeting with various people in the community, Bob Otwell, TART, Steve Timmer, GT Resort, Acme Planning Commission chairman, Matt Vermetten and John Hull, Acme Zoning Administrator.

D. Old Business:

Kladder spoke of working with legal counsel the last six months regarding the Advisory committees. He would like to have in place guidelines. He would like to see a membership of 5-7 people who would then appoint someone to be the chairperson. All members would serve two year terms.

Guntzviller asked Vreeland what was happening with the Sayler Park boat launch. She said that Kladder was concerned about the projected dredging costs of \$13,000.00. He wants the launch to be self-sustaining. Guntziller and Sherberneau are going to seek out other contractor bids for dredging and report back to the committee.

E. Public Comment/Any Other Business:

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.