



**ACME TOWNSHIP PARKS & TRAILS MEETING
ACME TOWNSHIP HALL
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690
January 22nd, 2016 8:30 a.m.**

**ROLL CALL:
Committee:**

 Absent DeMarsh Absent Feringa X Heffner
X Jenema X LaPointe X Timmins

 Absent Wentzloff

Advisory: Absent Clark X Heinert X Henkel
X Kushman Absent McDonough X Winter

A. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Winter pointed out 2 mistakes 1) Henkel is on the Advisory staff, not the committee so his name will be moved on future agendas. 2) Move under old business 1) *North Bayside Park Design- Klaus Heinert, Gosling Czubak up to New business so that Klaus can flow from one to the other.*

Motion: Timmins 2nd. Heffner to approve the agenda with the changes mentioned.

C. INQUIRY AS TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: none

D. ACTION:

1. Approve Draft Minutes of:

a. Parks & Trails Meeting minutes 12/18/15

Motion to approve the Park & Trail meeting minutes 12/18/15 .

Motion by Timmins 2nd. Lapointe

E. REPORTS

1. Township Board -

Jenema updated the committee on the agreements between the Township and the GTRLC and TART. Hoping to finalize the commitments at the February board meeting so that McDonough can take it to the conservancy's board at the end of February.

Board officially dissolved the park and rec. committee and appointed the members of the park & trails committee to move the parks forward into the future. For 6 months, well the committee gets going Jenema will act as chair, the committee will than vote for members to hold positions just like any other. Bi-laws and mission statement will be worked on in the next 6 months also.

A second committee was formed to work in conjunction with the Park & Trail committee. It is a park maintenance committee to come up with how the parks will be maintained into the future. As of now the committee is made up of; LaPointe, Jenema, Zollinger and Henkel.

2) Kushman- Reported on TARTS efforts to explore East Bay connection options North of

Bunkerhill Rd. No easements found

Next is to follow the railroad tracks and talk to the 2 hotels(Sleep Inn and Holiday in on Mt.Hope Rd.) about the strip of land between them that maybe a possible connection.

3) Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy – No update just waiting for Acmes board to ok the resolution that will be taken to the conservancy board in late February.

4) Committee Member Actions

Timmins reported on her meeting with Jim Moore and Dayna Valpey from the Disability Network. Connected Klaus and Jim so they can talk directly to answer any design questions needed. Once we have a more solid plan I will go back and get more feed back. Discussed how they will partner with the township to help raise funds for the accessibility components. Went over the make up of the 2 different types of matting. Spoke with Lauren Vaughn from the city, went over the maintenance of the 2 different types of mats.

Discussed alternative grants. Klaus said that we don't want to remove all the components from the MDNR grants so we don't lose points.

Winter went over the autumn olive removal at Yuba natural area

Has contacted John Page of the ruffed grouse society, they offered to come in 2 weeks, the township is not ready. John Page will be contacting Acme later in the season, if Shawn hasn't heard back by the first of March he will call to make contact with John. Has been in contact with Paul Galligan from the resort about it incase they are also interest in autumn olive removal on the resort property, thought we could share transportation cost. Will stay in touch with him

There will be a nature hike hosted by the land conservancy at Yuba natural area on February 27th from 1-3, register on line of people can, link on Acme's website. They will be teaching educating about autumn olive during the hike.

- Jay got a quote for the removal of the 3 black willows at Bayside park. Prices from Hessel tree service were: \$2000 for the northern most tree
- \$1700 for the middle tree
- \$ \$2200 for the southern most tree

Timmins asked about if the health of the trees had been inspected. Henkel stated that they have been topped.

Jenema asked Heffner if he would like to take a leadership roll on the trail connectors to be a go to person, Heffner agreed.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review Trail Base Map & Preliminary Route Alignment- Klaus Heinert, Gosling Czubak.

Klaus went over the base map generation and discovery that he has worked on to start mapping out the trails to discover public right away, it also shows where we may need private agreements.

Klaus talked about having primary and secondary routes to connect everything. Good trails should have good circulation and connect things. In our region trails are not just for recreation but also for commuting when they are available (by season).

Looking at off road and sometimes on road routes, also want to make it ADA accessible. 5% is the maximum grade you can have for ADA compliance. Mt. Hope, just across the tracks on Bunkerhill and the south entrance of North Bayside park, and a couple spots on M-72 are the 4 areas of concern for slope with a grade over 5% within the township.

TART is in discussion with Hope village, the Lutheran church ad Dan Kelly about easements for the trail.

Next step is to get with TART and landowners to look at maps and come up with solutions as to best placement of the trails. A lot will depend on individual properties. Not all sections will be the most ascetic but they will be connections needed to get to other areas of trail segment. May need to have separate sections to work with individual land owners. Looking at setting up meetings with landowners in mid-February. Klaus will work with Shawn and Chris to set them up.

Talked about easements and the goal is to get long term access. Best case would be to make the easement part of the deed.

Klaus talked about the importance of working with the planning commission to create zoning that would foster trail connections through neighborhoods and different areas that need to connect to the main TART trail, including future build sites.

2) North Bayside Park Design- Klaus Heinert, Gosling Czubak

a. Review updated plan drawings

b. Discuss phasing options for summer '16 and grant proposal

Klaus went over the function use diagram which covered; land use functions, systems of circulation, relationship of the land use function as it relates to the park, views, access to water, road way corridors and all the relationships that come out of those functions. Connected that to how he came up with the plans he is presenting.

Discussion started on the three willow trees and what to do with them and how they would change the plans for the park if they stay or are removed.

Discussion about parking on the South end of the park. Discussion will continue at the next meeting. Consensus is to keep the curb cut, so at a minimum we could use that access for maintenance and emergency access. Discussed the small building (maintenance building) and what people saw as a use for that building. Henkel pointed out that he liked having it to keep park tools and such in it. Also discussed it as a future extra bathroom/drinking fountain site in the future while still leaving room for some equipment storage.

Discussed the areas of the beach that could be groomed. Henkel pointed out that we have a permit to groom 1/3 of the beach. Winter shared his meeting with Robin Schmidt from the DEQ, according to her we can't really touch the south end. The idea of turning the South end into a native planting area with educational signage was discussed.

Motion: By Heffner 2nd by Lapointe. Motion to keep the south (championship) willow and chop down the other two that are visibly distressed.

Motion carries.

Motion: By Lapointe 2nd by Heffner. On the South end to have minimal impact drop off with only minimal handicap parking, non-asphalt surface ascetically pleasing , low volume traffic area.

Motion carries

Next meeting Thursday 28th. 1Pm

2. Committee Mission & Vision Statements- Shawn Winter, Amy Jenema- tabled until the January 28th. meeting please email any ideas to Shawn.

G. OLD BUSINESS:

H. PUBLIC COMMENT none

ADJOURN: Motion to adjourn Timmins 2nd. Heffner

Motion carries