



**ACME TOWNSHIP PARKS & TRAILS MEETING**  
**ACME TOWNSHIP HALL**  
**6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**  
**March 11, 2016 10:00 a.m.**  
**Draft Minutes**

**ROLL CALL:**

Committee:

<u>Absent</u> DeMarsh	<u>X</u> Feringa	<u>X</u> Heffner
<u>X</u> Jenema	<u>X</u> LaPointe	<u>X</u> Timmins
<u>      </u> Wentzloff		

Advisory: <u>Absent</u> Clark	<u>X</u> Heinert	<u>X</u> Henkel
<u>X</u> Kushman	<u>X</u> McDonough	<u>X</u> Winter

**A. PUBLIC COMMENT: None****B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve agenda Feringa 2<sup>nd</sup>. Timmins  
Motion carries****C. INQUIRY AS TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None****D. ACTION:****1. Approve Draft Minutes of:****a. Parks & Trail Meeting Minutes 02/05/16**

Motion to table minutes from 02/05/16 meeting until our next meeting Timmins, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lapointe  
 Motion carries

**E. REPORTS****1. Township Board – Jenema**

Jenema Discussed what happened at the last board meeting.

- Board supported a \$100k match for the Bayside park project, GTRLC raising \$200k going for full grant match of \$300k
- Supported \$67k of phase one summer of 2016 getting bids
- Board has to approve the minutes from the (3/1/16) board meeting, there will be a special meeting on Wednesday 3/16/16 to approve those minutes.

Lapointe asked when documentation would be done to send out and get bids for the Bayside projects

Jenema said that question would be addressed later in the meeting.

**2. TART – Kushman**

TART has had discussions with some of the land owners, Shawn Winter and Jim Heffner joined him.

Gave the committee a map of the lands (those outlined in blue) that had land owners that have given their permission and are ready to work with TART and the township on this project.

Have engaged farmers to find out their concerns and get their input about trails that go along farmland.

Jenema asked to have a conceptual plan presented to the board at the April board meeting. Nothing formal more of a first look. Maybe the May board meeting for a more formal presentation.

Jim questioned what was going to be presented to the board just the concept along Mt. Hope or the one along the bay front parks also.

Jenema discussed

LaPointe asked about long term maintenance as opposed to winter maintenance.

Kushman said that was all part of the conversation that is just starting to take place.

LaPointe asked about winter maintenance vs. summer as far as township responsibility is concerned.

Jenema talked about the different discussions going on as to who will own what, within the county and township.

Kushman clarified that there is no commitment as of now on the part of the township or private citizens.

Discussed who owned the easements from the private land holders

Kushman also clarified that there was zero insurance liability on the part of the township when it came to people injuring themselves on a trail that goes through Acme.

**3. Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy – McDonough**

Confirmed that staff approved the increase in grant match for the township to \$200k

**4. Universal Accessibility – Timmins**

Disability Network is writing a support letter. They are ready to get involved whenever the township is ready.

**5. Autumn Olive – Winter**

Called Roughed Grouse Society about Yuba Creek Natural Area, they said they could come and do it in May or early June. Have been asked to wait until after July 15<sup>th</sup> to accommodate the birders.

Americorp had to stop cutting the autumn olive by hand due to the sap starting to flow. They will be back in the fall. Discussion followed on where the best place to have them cut by hand would be. They used 2 of the 5 gallons of pesticide the township bought. The Americorp group expressed how surprised they were by how much the Autumn olive had spread into the woods.

Lapointe talked about future projects on the steep shelves.

Elizabeth Sanders has requested to plant a Monarch butterfly milkweed garden at Bayside Park. The committee discussed if that was the best placement for it. It was decided Yuba would be a better spot. McDonough talked about how the GTRLC was partnering to establish 20, 2 acre plots to provide pollinator habitat.

Lapointe talked about doing it off the lower trail, on the west side toward the trees. McDonough suggested Elizabeth could contact Angie Lucas at the GTRLC to help decide best placement at Yuba.

**F. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Preliminary Conceptual Trail Alignment – Heinert**

Klaus had a preliminary map to show the proposed bike routes.

Discussion followed about trail connectors and where they could happen within the township, how private property and easements where both looked at.

Jenema talked about needing to know the maintenance cost and up keep requirements. Those things will both be discussed as planning moves forward.

**G. OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. MNRTF Grant Application:**

**a. Updated Park Design**

Klaus gave an overview of changes that were made and the reason for the amount of detail that was put into it, in order to get real enough numbers to work with for the grant.

Included in the grant are;

- 10 ft. walk ways
- Parking lot was moved a bit to make it fit better in the space, the parking lot will connect to Bay Shore Dr., the back lot is one way in order to allow them to use the light to exit. MDOT supports use of the traffic light
- Split the playground into 2 smaller components, to be split into 2 phases.
- Provided bike racks, large racks to accommodate 5 or 6 bikes
- Discussed different methods of water infiltration for the groomed maintained green spaces to keep them from getting soggy.
- Mobi mats and transfer station

- Beach wall
- Shade canopy's
- Trail/walk way within the park
- Natural area

**b. Draft Narrative/Outline**

Grant discussion began Jean Aukerman was brought into the discussion

Klaus had all the grant worksheet numbers, he was ready to cover any section the committee wanted. He was still working to put together the supporting documents and graphics at the time of the meeting.

Jean asked about Acme's advantages over other community's in the area. Discussion followed.

Klaus talked about thinking about universal access not as just those with disabilities but also the other ends of the scale. Seniors and young kids and the needs that they have and how the park supports that.

Klaus discussed inventorying things that the township already owned, picnic tables, etc. and what we are going to reuse and what we won't. Not at that level of detail yet.

Gordie asked how much the DNR trust fund had to award?

Klaus and Matt confirmed that last year it was 9 million, this year would be less but not sure yet how much that amount would be.

McDonough went through the Trust fund point system so we could better understand it, and the things that are important to the DNR, to have represented within the park.

Discussed the importance of having a regional trail head identified on the plan.

LaPointe asked about when bids would be going out for the first phase.

Klaus has to get the contract to Jay. Will be ready no later than the week of March 21<sup>st</sup> to put bids out to contractors.

Klaus will have the narrative to Shawn and Jean the morning of Wed. 3/16, so that Jean and Shawn can have time to review and turn it back over to Klaus before it gets submitted.

Letters of support and documents still needed to obtain and person responsible for following through.

- Watershed Center- Timmins
- Rotary Charities- Aukerman
- Combined tax ID and legal description of Bayside park-Winter
- Resolution and Board meeting minutes- Winter ( as soon as the board minutes are approved

Target day to have everything gathered and grant to be submitted is Friday March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**H. PUBLIC COMMENT none**

**ADJOURN: Timmins makes a motion to adjourn 12:15 , 2nd. Heffner.**

**Motion carries.**