

East Bay Township Parks Commission
Regular Meeting

Monday, August 11, 2008, 5:30 PM
East Bay Township Hall
1965 Three Mile Road North, Traverse City, MI 49686

Minutes:

Chair Macdonald called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

Guests in audience: 2

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call Members present: Chair Grace Macdonald, Chris Biggs, Laura Truelove, John Rudolph, Louie Groleau, Jim Nadeau.

Absent: Hal Miller

Approval of the Agenda –

Chair Macdonald added an item to Other Business – Gens Park Play Structure added to other business.

Motion made by Nadeau to approve Agenda; seconded by Truelove. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes –

Motion by Nadeau to approve June 2, 2008 minutes; seconded by Truelove. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report –

Board reviewed report. Questions about what each amount represents. Board agreed to have Chair Macdonald ask Clerk Sue Courtade if we can get an explanation of what each expense has been for. Also, if we can get a full report of all line items that we pay out for.

Park Maintenance Report & Discussion–

Chair Macdonald updated board on maintenance items by Jerry Zeits. Truelove read the results from a survey that was posted on the township website regarding the new play structure at Grace Macdonald Park. Most responders seemed happy with the new structure.

Disc Golf –

Nadeau commented on the boards visit to Hickory Hills Disc Golf Course in Traverse City. He passed around photos that were taken there.

Killingsworth Park Grants –

Truelove updated the board on the situation with the grant from the GT Regional Land Conservancy. The August 1, 2008 deadline was not possible to meet as the conservancy has requirements that have not been met yet, such as getting the Recreation Plan wording to include the Parks Commission's intent to purchase the Strait property for future township use along with Killingsworth Park. She will continue to work with Matt @ GT Regional Land Conservancy and Tom Strait, owner of the property to attempt to meet the April, 2009 deadline for this grant request. She will also continue to work on the 2% Allocation grant through the GT Band Chippewa Indians, and also the State of Michigan grant.

Chair Macdonald suggested that the board consider touring Killingsworth Park along with Todd Lewis for Disc Golf consideration. The board agreed to meet next Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 5:30 PM at the Township hall to tour this park.

Discussion as to whether Pines Park land can be used for the Disc Golf project. The board consensus was that 60% of this land was to be kept in its natural state per the agreement with the township regarding this property, so there might not be enough land for this project.

Public Input –

Gail Mason, candidate for East Bay Township Supervisor wanted to introduce herself to the board.

Sue Courtade reminded the board that there are 85 days until the Presidential Election, if anyone needs an absentee ballot to vote. Also, all township elected officials will be sworn in on Thursday, November 20, 2008 at 12 Noon at the township hall. All newly elected or re-elected members need to be present.

Pines Park –Fence-Signs-Contract -

Biggs stated that signs have been purchased from Day Signs and are received and ready for Jerry Zeits to post at the parks. Chair Macdonald noted that the fence is scheduled to be put up next week. The contract for tree harvesting was returned to the board by the township lawyer with a comment regarding the hourly fee being charged. After much discussion, the board agreed to have Chair Macdonald ask for a more specific breakdown of the work that will be done at Pines Park.

Playground-Backboard and Slide-

Chair Macdonald gave an update on the parks and commented that the backboard and slide at Grace Macdonald Park are ready for use.

Day Camp –

Chair Macdonald stated that there were only two children at camp today. Other area camps are having the same problem. This week is the last week for this summer. Board agreed to have further discussion in the future as to whether the camp should continue or not.

Copy of Map for Parks–

Nadeau presented to the board laminated maps that are ready to be posted at the townships 7 parks.

Marge's Rock & Plaque –

Chair Macdonald thanked Rudolph and Groleau for their contribution for the plaque and rock for Marge. Board agreed.

Other Business –

Rudolph updated the board on the status of purchasing a play structure for Gens Park. Rudolph will continue to get prices for a smaller slide or one that would be handicap-accessible and what it would require.


Further discussion of Pines Park and whether we need to harvest all of it at this time. It was agreed to have the forester meet us for the tour next week if he can make it, to answer questions. The board asked Bob Perry what his thoughts would be if we were to harvest at Killingsworth Park. He was against it – he did not think there was enough there to make it worth harvesting.

Chair Macdonald asked the board to go over the budget worksheet for 2009. Board reviewed worksheet and made adjustments to the budget for 2009. Biggs suggested checking with Cherryland Electric on what they would charge the township for mercury lights and maintenance - they have some and only pay a monthly fee without having to purchase them.

Special Meeting – August 19, 2008 5:30 PM – Tour of Killingsworth Park.

Next Meeting –September 8, 2008 5:30 PM - Chair Macdonald pointed out the early time due to Labor Day the week before.

Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.



Grace Macdonald, Chair

8-11-08
Date



Laura Truelove, Secretary

8-12-08
Date