

Parks and Recreation Committee

November 14, 2024

Bois Blanc Township Hall

Present: Committee members – Diane Akright, Jay Beugly, Ginger Canup, and James Robinson

Meeting called to order at 4:05 pm.

Minutes – Jay

Previous meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report – Ginger/Diane

Ginger brought a record of all of the donations and expenditures that she has tracked. We used her list to compare it with potential categories for accounting under the new millage that the parks will be receiving.

Millage – Diane

Millage passed 51 to 36 in favor of generating funds for the parks. Diane will be working with the auditors and accounting software designers to organize and create the separate sub-accounts and descriptions for the new parks department. All of the ledger accounts have to be coded, some of the codes are dictated by the State of MI, so it takes some time to organize. It is much easier to set up the account descriptions and new codes ahead of time. The committee is tasked with looking through the list and trying to determine what might be missing and what the parks might need in the future.

The trend for even the general ledger is to improve the specificity so that auditors can more easily track funds. We will try and balance the appropriate scale by making things trackable, but not overly detailed so that entering the accounting information becomes burdensome.

North Shore – James

Clean up went well, all old outhouses were removed and holes were filled. James brought up concerns about how much the base of the new vaulted toilet is exposed. It's estimated that we will need several yards of fill to bring the landscaping around the toilet up to the base of the top. Diane thinks that maybe we can lump the cost of fill at the north shore in with the low spot at Brightwaters that needs filled.

Slate Signs – James

James was able to get the signs and left them with Diane in the township office. There are 4 slate signs, one for each park, they depict a map of the island and the parks. The park the sign is destined for is marked with a red dot and the other parks on the sign are marked with a green dot.

Signs and Kiosks – Diane

None of them are here yet, Diane thinks that we may have to wait until spring so that Plaunts doesn't have to store them over winter. Ginger pointed out that a lot of times they have sale prices towards the end of the year as well, so we may be able to save money by purchasing them later this winter and either shipping to someone on mainland, or delaying shipping.

Vaulted Toilet @ Bright Waters – Diane

No change, LMAS's schedule hasn't worked with the township so they haven't seen the property and our plans for placement. They did suggest that there should not be a need for additional test holes given its distance from the shoreline.

Nichols Point – Ginger

Planning commission is looking at our plans at the same time as this meeting. We will find out their thoughts and receive their feed back at our next meeting.

Photo Contest – Ginger

We ended up with 67 entries, which is within 10 entries of our last 2 years. Prior to todays meeting we voted on the 12 entries to be in the calendar and the 1 winner. Peter Struble was the overall winner.

Open Position on Parks and Rec – Diane

Ginger and Jim MacKay have agreed to remain on the committee, James is still undecided. Jay will not continue, so at least one spot will need to be filled. There are a couple of people who have expressed interest in joining the committee. Diane is going to follow up with them to get a final commitment.

New Business

MDOT Grant Application – Ginger

Ginger is looking for some assistance to fill out an MDOT grant application for the historical marker at the Nichols Point property. Diane suggested a couple of people she thought might be willing to help, and Ginger was going to reach out to them.

Public Comment – Tom Bach

Tom suggest that we use Gingers accounting of our parks income and expenses to try and match it to Diane's draft of our new township ledger. In this way we can see if there are descriptions or categories that we are missing in the draft ledger.

Next Meeting – Ginger

We will plan on meeting on Dec 12th at 4pm, unless we are unable to reach a quorum.

Motion to adjourn at 5:30pm.