

**ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019 REGULAR MEETING  
8:30 A.M., ROSELLE PARK, MEETING ROOM  
1010 GRAND RIVER DR NE, ADA, MICHIGAN**

**1. Call meeting to order/roll call**

**Present:** Crosby, Haga, Levick, Terwilliger, Nowak, Schmottlach, Steketee, VandenBerge

**Absent:** Roe, Damstra, Jacobs (arrived at 8:41 a.m.)

**Staff Present:** Fitzpatrick, Ferro, McCormick, Winczewski

**Public Present:** None

**2. Approval of agenda**

Terwilliger moved to approve the agenda as presented. Haga supported. Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Approval of minutes of the September 12, 2019 meeting**

Terwilliger pointed out a grammatical error on the first page. 'Raided' should be 'raised'.

Terwilliger moved to approve the September 12, 2019 minutes with the noted correction. Steketee supported. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Approval of payment to Kent County Parks for local matching funds toward Chief Hazy Cloud Park land acquisition**

Schmottlach stated this land acquisition and payment have been discussed in past meetings by the PRLP Advisory Board. Crosby asked if the Land Conservancy of West Michigan's \$60,350 contribution toward the \$300,000 in local matching funds had been received. Ferro confirmed it was received.

Crosby moved to approve the \$300,000 payment to Kent County for land acquisition to expand Chief Hazy Cloud Park. VandenBerge supported. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Review of proposed exchange of a portion of Township-owned open space at 7980 E. Fulton St. for a portion of 8066 E. Fulton St. property owned by Jeff Engler**

Ferro summarized options as presented in drawings by Mr. Engler. Ferro stated he drew up another, more preferable, option which would make the property lines cleaner and easier to distinguish. He is waiting for Mr. Engler's feedback. Board discussed the different options and decided to wait for Mr. Engler's feedback before making any decisions.

**6. Recommendation regarding purchase of a replacement tractor and snow blower**

Fitzpatrick summarized the need for a new tractor and snowblower as outlined in his memo in the PRLP board packets. The Kent County Purchasing Department assisted in soliciting bids which are due October 11<sup>th</sup>. Parks dept. will continue to use as many of the current attachments as possible in order to keep costs down.

Terwilliger moved to recommend to the Township Board to purchase a new tractor and snowblower, with a combined cost not to exceed \$59,000. Haga supported. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. Recommendation regarding the replacement of storm-damaged silo dome to Roselle Park**

Haga summarized three different price options for replacing the dome. The insurance adjuster recommends an \$11,000 claim. Haga stated it is preferred to have a white dome in order to match the other silo. If stars are painted around the dome, that will be an extra cost of around \$2,000 which would not be covered by insurance.

Crosby moved, VandenBerge supported, to recommend option #2 as outlined in the PRLP Board packets which is to replace the damaged dome with a plain white dome and not include the stars. Motion carried unanimously.

**8. Committee Reports**

**Trails** – Ferro stated the “Connect Ada” initiative is underway. Nelson/Nygaard Consultants have been hired to do a study to review access to the Village and the surrounding trail system. They are in the process of scheduling future meetings. There will be a kickoff meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. which someone from the Trails committee (VandenBerge, Jacobs, Nowak) should attend.

Fitzpatrick stated the information gathered will assist in preparing for the upcoming millage request. Public input meetings are tentatively scheduled for November 11<sup>th</sup>; an afternoon meeting at Amway and an evening meeting at Roselle Park.

**Stewardship** – Crosby and Fitzpatrick discussed the need for a stewardship plan. Do we focus on storm damage, invasive vines which are killing trees, etc.? Crosby would still like to see a pro-active approach of contacting landowners to educate them on preserving sensitive natural features. Ferro stated he will send a few dates to the Land Preservation & Stewardship Committee members to set a meeting.

**Recreation Programs, Services and Facilities** – Fitzpatrick stated the Leonard Field Park Master Plan proposals are due tomorrow. This committee will be participating in the review of the proposals and interviews and will make a recommendation to the PRLP Advisory Board. The PRLP Advisory Board will then need to make a recommendation to the Township Board for their November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Rules Committee** – Fitzpatrick stated that this committee needs to meet in order to update rules around alcohol use and establishing rules for the new Legacy Park.

**9. Park Director's Report**

Fitzpatrick updated the PRLP Advisory Board on items presented in the board packets; highlighting the North Trails Improvement project, the Space Needs Study, and the DNR evaluation for the Trust Fund grant application.

Fitzpatrick stated that rental reservations and related paperwork are taking nearly all of one staff member's time. We want to increase use of our park facilities but need a plan on how they will be serviced in terms of staff. We only have one staff member working on weekends.

Fitzpatrick updated the PRLP Board on community programs including the recent Night Sky event and the upcoming Clean-Up day.

Terwilliger thanked Fitzpatrick for all his hard work.

Levick stated that a community member asked her if benches and trash cans could be placed near the playground at Legacy Park. Fitzpatrick stated he is already looking into additional trash cans around the Township. Adding benches may need to be added into the Capital Campaign.

Crosby reminded staff that she would still like to see a caution sign be added to the exit at Roselle Park's south parking lot.

**10. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Jacqueline Smith, Ada Township Clerk