



TOWNSHIP

**PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022 BOARD MEETING, 8:30 AM**

**Roselle Park Community Building Meeting Room
1010 Grand River Dr., Ada, MI 49301**

MINUTES

1) Call meeting to order/roll call

Board Members Present: Leisman, Roe, Hurwitz, Crosby, Steketee, Schmottlach, Terwilliger, Levick, Britt

Board Members Absent: VandenBerge

Staff Present: Suchy, Fitzpatrick, McIntosh

Public Present: Ruth Thornton (staff member from the Land Conservancy of West Michigan)

2) Approval of agenda

Moved by Hurwitz, supported by Crosby to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

3) Approval of meeting minutes from September 8, 2022.

Moved by Steketee, supported Britt to approve the minutes. Motion Carried.

4) Guest presenter - Ruth Thornton from the LCWM – updates on staffing, project coordination

Fitzpatrick introduced the guest presenter, Ruth Thornton from the Land Conservancy of West Michigan (LCWM). He provided an overview of past projects LCWM has done in partnership with the Township.

Thornton presented on current projects and future goals of the Land Conservancy of West Michigan. She discussed the strategic conservation plan and how that incorporates Ada Township with the regional area conservation and the importance of regional cooperation due to the proximity of the lake shore and in West Michigan.

5) Old business

Status of proposed potential conservation easement on Egypt Valley

Fitzpatrick provided a brief update regarding the Easement. Township Manager Suchy referred to the recent approval of the rezoning and the Plan Unit Development that recently went before the Township Board.

Board discussion occurred regarding wetland area in the plan, conservancy management, and recommendations from the PRLP board regarding the development and its conservation status.

Update on Roselle Park Parking Lot project

Fitzpatrick announced the EGLE permit came through. The Township Board approved a contract extension regarding excavation, with a deadline of the project at November 14, 2022.

Update on the Leonard Field Riverfront Improvement project

Fitzpatrick referred to the letter of agreement he received between DNR and Township. This is the next step in the process for the grant. He has an upcoming meeting with consultants from RJM-Design regarding project time-lines and the site plan.

Status of PRLP Board Vacancy and training session

Supervisor Leisman stated that the new placement is to be approved at next board meeting. The training session was set for the November 10 meeting from 8:00am-10:00am.

6) New Business

Budget Update – Fund 208

Manager Suchy addressed the attached budget in order to make sure the PRLP Board is kept up to date regarding the budget as we are at the halfway point through our fiscal year.

Fitzpatrick added that there is reformatting to happen regarding recreation department and park program department per program coordinator Deason. Goal is to provide a financial update all board meetings to increase transparency.

7) Committee Reports & Updates

-Stewardship Committee: See attached report

-Programs and Facilities Committee: Fitzpatrick provided a brief update regarding the budget, upcoming Pickleball Tournament, and upcoming fall events hosted by the ABA and the DDA.

-Trails Committee

Update on Wayfinding initiative: Suchy summarized the kick off meeting with Corbin Design, and the organization hopes to visit the Township in early November to assess landmarks.

Update on current project: Suchy summarized the trail work on Pettis Ave that will be concluded in October, and the continuing work on Hall Street. He stated that these trail improvements are in accordance with DGRI and the Grand River Greenway initiative in order to incorporate Ada into a regional trail system.

8) Board Member Comments

Supervisor Leisman acknowledged that Manager Suchy and Fitzpatrick worked really hard on pushing EGLE and thanks to the office of Representative Brinks we were able to get the permitting and get the Roselle project moving again.

9) Staff Comments

a) Directors Reports

Fitzpatrick referred to the attached report to update the board on staffing and continuing to build capacity. He also stated there is an upcoming ball field renaming ceremony to take place on October 26 in recognition of Rob McCormick's retirement.

10) Public Comments

Manager Suchy addressed the general PRLP Board regarding the Mosaic property. The property was approved by the Township board, with the township potentially to acquire the property along the river front area, and final closure of the sale is pending FEMA approval.

11) Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38am

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline Smith, Ada Township Clerk

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