

Ada Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board

April 13 Meeting

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**PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
BOARD MEETING**

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023, 8:30 AM

Roselle Park Community Building Meeting Room

1010 Grand River Dr., Ada, MI 49301

MINUTES

DRAFT

1) Call meeting to order/roll call (introductions)

Board Members Present: Leisman, Roe, Crosby, Heule, Schmottlach, Hulst, Terwilliger, Levick, VandenBerge,

Board Members Absent: Britt, Hurwitz

Staff Present: Said, Fitzpatrick, McIntosh, Deason, Suchy

Public Present: Rick Steketee, former board member.

2) Approval of agenda

Moved by VandenBerge, supported by Hulst. Motion Carried.

3) Approval of meeting minutes from March 9, 2023.

Moved by VandenBerge, supported by Roe. Motion Carried.

4) Financial report & FY 2023-24 Budget update

Fitzpatrick gave a summary of the budget to conclude the 2022-2023 Fiscal year, and then he presented a brief overview of the upcoming 2023-2024 budget.

5) Old business

a) Update on Ada Township Master Plan

Planning Director Said presented the progress regarding the Master Plan. This involved collecting information, identifying issues, and highlighting the vision for the community. Said stated that the last Master Plan for Ada was completed in 2007. An updated plan will allow Ada to continue to grow and provide a positive community for current and future residents.

The Master Plan is available on the Ada Township website until June 15th. The Planning Commission will review the Master plan and is set to be approved by the Ada Township Board at the June 26 meeting.

Link: [Ada-Township-DRAFT-Master-Plan-03-22-2023-Version.optimized.pdf](https://adamichigan.org/Ada-Township-DRAFT-Master-Plan-03-22-2023-Version.optimized.pdf)
(adamichigan.org)

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b) Update on Leonard Field Riverfront Improvement Project

Fitzpatrick announced that Phase 1 of the project has been put out to bid. This was done in cooperation with RJM-Design, who developed the project. The Parks Department is set to meet with the Programs and Facilities Committee between April 27 and May 8 to assess the bids.

6) New Business

a) Elections for PRLP Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair positions, Term updates. Terwilliger transitioned the board into elections for the Chair and Vice Chair positions. No other nominations were presented. Chair nominations closed. Motion to approve Hulst as new Chair of the PRLP Advisory Board, moved by Levick, supported by Schmottlach. Motion Carried, electing Hulst to serve as Board Chair for the 2023-24 year.

Terwilliger moved board into nomination of Vice Chair. Leisman nominated Terwilliger. No further nominations were made. Leisman motioned to approve Terwilliger as Vice Chair of the PRLP Advisory Board, moved by Levick, supported by Crosby. Motion Carried, electing Terwilliger to serve as Board Vice Chair for the 2023-24 year.

b) Annual Report

Terwilliger, Chair of the board, presented his annual report. Terwilliger, within his report, gave updates regarding the various improvement projects including the Leonard Field, Legacy bank erosion, and Roselle park. The PRLP committee and the stewardship committee enacted a new conservation easement and continued work on the visioning of the Thornapple River corridor. He also gave updates regarding the progress made by the Trails committee, the Stewardship committee, and the Program and Facilities committee. Terwilliger encouraged the monthly Director's Reports be posted in addition to the minutes.

7) Committee Reports & Updates

-Stewardship Committee

Fitzpatrick provided a summary regarding the meeting that took place on April 10. This included: a natural resource inventory, updates on new easement approvals and protocols, as well as reviewing the master plan of Carl Creek Nature Preserve.

-Programs & Facilities Committee

Fitzpatrick noted that the program and facilities committee needs to set a meeting date. Terwilliger stated that there is a need to meet to begin site visits in the spring and will meet soon regarding the Leonard Field Improvement Project.

-Trails Committee

Suchy gave an update regarding trail progress. He stated that the trail from Legacy Park to Fulton Street is set to begin, with a tentative end date of September. Pettis to Vergennes is in final review and the Rix street trail is designed, and we are waiting on the railroad in order to improve the design, with no current timeline set. Suchy stated that in the current 2023-24 fiscal year there was \$400,000 set to be spent on maintenance of current trails and bridges. Finally, he stated that the Wayfinding project is continuing to make progress.

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8) Staff Reports

-Director's report

Fitzpatrick recognized Rick Steketee as a long time member on the Open Space Advisory Board and the Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board, and he was thanked for his years of service.

-Others

Deason stated that AYSO and Zig Zag started in Ada Park this week. He has an upcoming wellness workshop and will begin the photography club this spring. The summer softball program is set to start in the coming weeks. Due to upcoming construction at Leonard Field, it will only be utilized in May and a part of June.

Suchy discussed the current concern regarding a diesel spill on 4 Mile Road. The Township is connected with EGLE on the issue, and the issue will be handled by EGLE.

9) Board Member Comments

Leisman provided updates regarding term updates for current members.

10) Public Comments

11) Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:45am

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline Smith, Ada Township Clerk

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