

**ADA TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2011 SPECIAL MEETING**

A special meeting of the Open Space Preservation Advisory Board was held on Thursday, February 3, 2011 at the Ada Township Park Learning Center, 1180 Buttrick Ave., SE, Ada, MI. The meeting was a joint work session held with the Ada Township Parks Committee on the development of the 2011 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

The meeting called to order at 4:10 p.m.

PRESENT: Betty Jo Crosby, Randy Damstra, George Haga, Jamie Ladd, Elise Roe, Mischelle Sytsma.

ABSENT: Jeff VandenBerge, Randy VanDragt, Rick Steketee

PARK COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne Nowak, Norm Rhoades, Ginny Wanty,

STAFF PRESENT: Rob McCormick, Jim Ferro, Mark Fitzpatrick

Planning Schedule

Fitzpatrick provided a handout with a tentative schedule for completion of the Plan by mid-April. After discussion from the group it was decided to aim for mid-June for the completion time. This was based in part on the Township not applying for a MI DNRE grant by April 1, waiting to incorporate the revised Roselle Park Master plan into the document, hoping to have more 2010 census data, and not having to amend the plan right after submitting it. The group agreed to this objective. A revised schedule will be made up incorporating key dates including Board and Committee meetings, an additional joint planning session, public input time frames and public hearings.

Public Survey Data

Ferro provided a report on the survey data with tallies and charts. Copies were sent out via email and some print outs were at the meeting. Over 500 surveys have been returned so far. General impressions: residents prefer us fixing up what we have over buying new; they prefer the more natural areas to the highly developed parks; they prefer facilities for passive recreation. More surveys are coming in each day. An updated tally will be included in the Plan.

Goals and Objectives

Mark reviewed the latest version of the "Goals and Objectives" section of the Plan highlighting key changes, areas of question and concern and additional needs. Discussions focused on the resource protection goals and land acquisition goals. Our millage funding framework was also discussed. There were no changes from the Trail Committee due to their meeting being snowed out. The framework for the CIP was also discussed with recommendations to include a CIP framework for Open Space and for the recreation programs in addition to the parks and trails.

Members of the Open Space Advisory Board and Parks Committee submitted orally and in writing some recommendations for edits to the document ranging from spelling and grammar corrections to format and goal/objective changes.

Mark will update the current draft with the input. Open Space Advisory Board, Parks Committee, and Trail Committee members are to send additional comments and recommendations on to Jim or Mark. Jim and Mark will continue to edit and re-format the primary document.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burton
Township Clerk

RS: jf