



**ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD  
APRIL 12, 2018 MINUTES  
4:00 P.M., ROSELLE PARK, MEETING ROOM  
ADA, MICHIGAN**

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

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chair Roe.

Members present: Haga, Crosby, Roe, Steketee, Damstra, LeBlanc, Schmottlach, VandenBerge

Members absent: Jacobs, Nowak, Terwilliger

Staff present: McCormick, Fitzpatrick, Ferro, Winczewski

Public present: Elaine Sterrett Isely, Director of Water Programs West Michigan Environmental Action Council (WMEAC), Natalie Henley, Intern and Watershed Fellow with WMEAC.

**2. Approval of agenda**

Moved by Crosby, seconded by VandenBerge, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Approval of minutes of March 8 meeting**

Moved by Haga, seconded by Steketee, to approve the minutes of the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. Presentation on Grand River Water Trail Initiative**

Natalie Henley of WMEAC gave a presentation on the Grand River Water Trails initiative including the recreational, economic, conservation/environmental, and cultural benefits of water trails. In Ottawa County, Grand River is already considered a water trail. WMEAC is encouraging Ionia and Kent counties to sign a resolution to support the Grand River Water Trail.

Ferro asked what was involved in the national designation process. Isely stated there are several things. The water trail needs to be managed for ten years, there needs to be signage, a maintenance plan, education, safety components, and possibly a few other things.

Roe asked if WMEAC is asking for our stamp of endorsement. Isely said yes. Fitzpatrick said it is in the plans to support the water trail but no timelines have been created and it is not in the budget at this time.

It was moved by Haga, seconded by Crosby, to recommend to the Township Board to adopt the Resolution to Support the Grand River Water Trail for The Township of Ada, Michigan.

Roll Call: Yes – Haga, Damstra, Schmottlach, Crosby, Roe, Steketee, LeBlanc, VandenBerge.  
No – 0. Absent – Jacobs, Nowak, Terwilliger  
Motion passed.

#### **5. Update on Chief Hazy Cloud Park in relation to Roselle Park**

Fitzpatrick stated Roger Sabine, Kent County Parks Director is starting work on a development plan. It will take 1-2 months before that process is complete. Damstra stated we need to leverage local support as local residents donate a lot.

Note: Steketee left at 4:52pm.

Damstra inquired if an access ramp would be installed at Roselle. Fitzpatrick stated that is not in the plan at this time. VandenBerge stated it would be good to have a rough access for kayaks.

#### **6. Recreation Needs Assessment RFP status, selection process**

Fitzpatrick stated several proposals have been received. The due date is April 23<sup>rd</sup>. It may be necessary to have a committee review to the proposals. Schmottlach stated he would like to be on that committee.

#### **7. Project Updates**

Fitzpatrick gave an update on various projects.

Haga asked if the Buttrick trail will be straightened and re-paved. Fitzpatrick stated yes. Schmottlach asked if there will be green space between the road and trail. Ferro stated there should be ten feet.

Note: Crosby left at 5:06pm.

#### **8. Park Director's Report**

Fitzpatrick stated a person has been selected for the Recreation Program Assistant position. They are in the selection process for the intern position.

Fitzpatrick recommended everyone read the National Recreation and Parks Association's "Agency Performance Review".

Fitzpatrick stated the Park Rules Subcommittee should look at park rules again.

Fitzpatrick stated the acoustic material installation and painting inside Roselle Park's meeting room was completed today. The acoustics have improved.

Fitzpatrick stated there are not enough kids signed up for the Children's Garden Program. We need more children to make the Garden Program happen this year.

#### **9. Board Member Comment**

No board member comments.

**10. Public Comment**

No public comments.

**11. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:14pm.