

**ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS, RECREATION AND LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2017 MEETING**

A meeting of the Ada Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board was held on Thursday, August 10, 2017, 4:00 pm, at the Ada Township Offices, 7330 Thornapple River Dr. SE, Ada, MI.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairperson Elise Roe.

1. ROLL CALL

Members present: Crosby, Haga, Jacobs, LeBlanc, Roe, Terwilliger and VandenBerge

Members absent: Damstra, Nowak, Schmottlach, Steketee

Staff present: Fitzpatrick, McCormick, Ferro

Public Present: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Terwilliger, seconded by VandenBerge, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 8 AND JULY 20 MEETINGS

It was moved by Terwilliger, seconded by Crosby, to approve the minutes of the June 8 regular meeting and July 20 special meeting as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. KNAPP ST./GRAND RIVER DR. LANDSCAPE RESTORATION/COMMUNITY ENTRY SIGN PROJECT, CONSIDERATION OF OPTIONS FOR REBIDDING OR REVISING PROJECT DESIGN

Trevor Bosworth, Viridis Design Group, presented information regarding the high bids that were received for the project. Bosworth stated that the prices for both the poured concrete foundation and the masonry work were very high. Bosworth stated that he believes if we re-bid the project this fall we will see better numbers.

Options for modifying the design were discussed. Bosworth presented a ketch that would place the metal sign on top of four poured piers instead of a complete foundation, with stacked stone surrounding and obscuring the piers, and stated this would reduce the cost of concrete and eliminate the need for a masonry subcontractor.

Following discussion, it was moved by Haga, seconded by Jacobs, to recommend that the design of the sign be modified to use poured concrete piers and stacked stone base around the piers, and that the modified design be re-advertised for bids this fall.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. DISCUSSION OF CARL CREEK WETLAND PRESERVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE AND FINAL DESIGN

Fitzpatrick stated that in review of the Carl Creek Wetland Preserve Master Plan, areas that he was interested in considering for revisions included the option of using unimproved surface trails rather than

trails improved with crushed stone, reducing the length of trail through the property, reducing length of boardwalk and bridges, and finalizing the design of parking on the property.

Bosworth indicated that we will be unlikely to be able to reduce the length of boardwalk across wetlands, unless the adjacent property owner is willing to grant an easement to the Township to enable the trail to avoid much of the wetlands on the site. Bosworth indicated that to finalize the design, we need to have the wetland boundaries identified by a wetland consultant.

Following discussion, it was moved by Terwilliger, seconded by LeBlanc, to allocate up to \$2,500 to obtain a wetland determination on the site from a qualified wetland consultant.

In discussion, LeBlanc asked Bosworth whether there would be any additional professional fee from Viridis Design Group to update the Master Plan once the wetland determination is completed, and Bosworth stated there would not be any additional fee.

On a call for a vote on the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Ferro indicated he would contact King & MacGregor Environmental Consultants regarding a proposal for a wetland boundary determination.

6. ROSELLE PARK MASTER PLAN, FINAL PLAN GRAPHICS AND COST ESTIMATE

Wes Steer, O'Boyle, Cowell, Blalock & Associates, presented the final updated Master Plan graphics and cost estimate for Roselle Park.

It was moved by Terwilliger, seconded by LeBlanc, to approve the updated Master Plan for Roselle Park.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. STAFF REPORTS

a. Bid Results for Riverfront Park

Ferro summarized the bids received for construction of the riverfront park, noting that the Township Board had approved contracting with Katerberg-Verhage to complete the project for \$1,360,860.

b. Status of Cooper Conservation Easement Discussions

Crosby reported on the results of a subcommittee meeting with Dick and Tim Cooper regarding the unlikelihood that the Township would be able to offer any more than a small fraction of the value of the development rights on the Cooper property, to acquire a conservation easement on the property.

Ferro stated he has discussed with April Scholtz from the Land Conservancy available grant funding sources for conservation easement acquisition, and her feedback was that there are not any grant sources that would be likely to fund the purchase.

Ferro and Crosby will prepare a written communication to the Coopers summarizing this information.

c. Park Directors Report

Fitzpatrick summarized information in his written Directors Report. He noted volunteers are needed to participate on two subcommittees – one on review and update of adopted Park Rules, and the other on review and update of policies regarding fees and charges for use of park

facilities.

Terwilliger, McCormick and Haga volunteered to serve on the Fees and Charges Subcommittee. Jacobs and Roe agreed to sit on the Subcommittee on update of Park Rules.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

It was noted that the annual report to the Township Board has not yet been prepared and submitted.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

The next meeting of the Advisory Board will be held on October 12.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline Smith, Township Clerk