

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PARK BOARD

Minutes of the March 28, 2011 Board Meeting

PROPOSED

Chairperson Sims called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Board Members present: Bernie Abendshein, Dan Buckenmeyer, Joanne Sims, Rich Sullivan and George Swanson, Brad Williamson.

Board Members absent: Ruth Magdzinski

Election of Officers:

- Williamson was nominated for Chairperson by Swanson, supported by Buckenmeyer and the motion carried unanimously
- Buckenmeyer was nominated for Treasurer, and Sullivan for Secretary, in a motion from Abendshein supported by Swanson and the motion carried unanimously.
- For the term and fiscal year April 2011 – March 2012, Chikaming Township Park Board Officers Are:
 - Brad Williamson, Chairperson
 - Dan Buckenmeyer, Treasurer
 - Rich Sullivan, Secretary

Approval of Agenda:

- Abendshein moved for approval, supported by Williamson. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes: (February 28, 2011 Meeting)

- With minor corrections to dates in the February Minutes, Abendshein moved to approve, supported by Swanson. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

- Township Budget was shared with the Park Board, with \$75K slated for the 2011 – 2012 budget period.
- Outgoing – Sims wrote a letter of support for a Chikaming Open Lands grant for Robinson Woods
- Sims noted an invoice received for the Survey of Harbert Community Park (\$800)

Treasurer's Report:

- Williamson provided a treasurer's report:
 - Summary Report through February was provided (11 months into fiscal year)
 - \$72,277 expended thus far in the current fiscal year, still within budget (including escrow)

Old Business:

BEACHES:

- Beach boundary signs:
 - New signs must be purchased as there are none remaining in inventory and no remains of those which were removed and/or vandalized by people on the beaches
 - Discussed installation of new signage – noting that it would be installed only at the vegetation line in the dune, and not closer to the water.
- Beach Signs:
 - From February meeting minutes: "New signage will need to be installed at thaw – Buckenmeyer to execute and/or project manage"
 - Sims noted that she'd initiated a discussion and requested a quote for sign installation which came in at \$150 per sign. Another discussion of signage installation ensued.
 - Results:
 - Williamson to procure a quote from Oldenburg to pull the existing signs out of the ground, including any cement anchors currently holding the existing signs in place.
 - Buckenmeyer to have new signs installed by the April meeting.
- Cherry Beach Accessibility Update –
 - Buckenmeyer reviewed project steps outlined in Feb. and provided updates of work in process.

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Old Business continued:

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PARK & PRESERVE

- Discussed gate open/close
- Discussed a patch of asphalt that is deteriorating, Williamson will manage patching of same

HARBERT COMMUNITY PARK

- Briefly discussed Master Plan created by Pam Blough
- Sims noted that research into the railroad property continues, survey completed, CSX being contacted.
- Farmer's Market/Shore of Plenty –
 - Want to put a sign here – suggest they put it behind or in the garage
 - Wondered if we have safety cones – Joanne will check with safety
 - Plan is to allow parking between the South and Middle entrances, and block the North entrance to the north end of the Middle entrance, specifically for the
 - Williamson – brought up trash removal – noted that they must remove all trash
- Ice Rink: Taken down two months ago, liner still needs to be moved into the garage by Mick, and the sand/fill needs to be removed – or moved and piled up behind batting cages. Ball Park is in demand from teams looking to practice there
 - Williamson moved to spend not more than \$700 to remove the fill from the Ball Park and return it to service in order to meet recent requests for use as a little league practice facility. Motion supported by Abendshein, with supporting Ayes from Buckenmeyer, Sims and Sullivan with Swanson Abstaining.
- Williamson discussed the need to potentially make some improvements to the guardrail and the landforming across the park side of the parking lot, to improve drainage, ease access, etc.

HARBERT ROAD PRESERVE:

- Williamson provided information on the intrusions at Harbert Road Preserve. In the Southwest “back” corner of the park, a number of 4x4 posts, planted three feet into the ground, were pulled out by trespassers who then entered the park with motorcycles and 4x4 vehicles, causing significant damage to the park grounds. Repair of the ruts and damage estimated at approximately \$10,000. Due to budget constraints, the ground cannot be repaired and will remain in its damaged state for nature to correct.
 - Williamson to source boulders to block area where trespass occurred.
- Williamson noted that signage/trail markers is in progress and will be installed in Spring. Some of the options and opportunities researched were shared.

OTHER:

- Trail Brochures – Swanson continues to explore options and will report back to the Board.
- Three Oaks Road Property: Buckenmeyer continues action & progress on this project
- Five-Year Plan: Buckenmeyer noted that the plan is done and remitted to the DNR
- Glavin Property: No new business

New Business:

- Cross-Community Park Board Collaboration: Buckenmeyer noted that work is progressing slowly.
- It was noted that New Buffalo is moving forward with summer parks programs, and that their programs are funded by the Pokagon Fund. It is not apparent that their programs are inclusive of any neighboring communities or parks, and our Board was not invited to *work across community boundaries*.

Announcements/Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Buckenmeyer moved to adjourn, supported by Swanson with unanimous consent.

Next Scheduled Meeting: April 25, 2011 @ 7p.m.

Recorded by:

Dan Buckenmeyer, Park Board Secretary