

Milton Township

Parks & Recreation Committee

5/16/22

Committee members present: Gray, Kingon, Weinzapfel, Shaw, Atkinson

Absent: Kopkau

- Meeting called to order @ 11:00 am
- Approval of Agenda by Weinzapfel/Kingon
- Approval of Minutes dated 1/11/22 by Kingon/Weinzapfel
- Deana Jardee, Paddle Antrim updated the committee on the water trail.
 - A total of 84 access sites with signs have been installed, 14 in Milton Township
 - First kayak lesson of 2022 is scheduled for 6/2/22 @ Rotary Park.
 - Promotional brochures for public distribution are available at the front desk.
 - Because Milton Township does not allow sponsorship on signage, the cost of maintaining/replacing the signs are the responsibility of Milton Township per the signed agreement. Paddle Antrim is offering an Annual Maintenance Agreement for \$2750.00 that will cover all maintenance/replacement of the signs. Paddle Antrim volunteers monitor all 84 access sites. Forest Home and Milton Township has the most accesses to maintain. Forest Home Township has entered into a sign maintenance agreement with all funds allocated to a Water Trail Reserve Fund. A draft agreement will be sent and Atkinson will submit to the board for consideration. Motion to recommend board approving the annual sign maintenance agreement by Kingon/Weinzapfel.
- Keith Rideout representing Revitalize Milton Township's Skate Park discussed their fundraising efforts.
 - \$10,000 as part of their 5-year plan has been raised to date. Their initial plan for the skate park is composed of 15 parts made by American Ramp.
 - A homeowner in the Village of Elk Rapids has a homemade half pipe that they would contribute if allowed by the township. The township has previously stated that only licensed, insured contractors and/or manufacturers will be considered for liability reasons.
 - Request to fix a light pole at the skate park. Discussions regarding the dawn to dusk park hours, therefore, providing lighting is discouraged. It was noted that past requests to provide lighting at the pickle ball courts were also discouraged due to not complying with the dusk to dawn park policy.
 - Alternative security suggestions to clean up the over growth between the road and skate park was agreeable in order to provide more visibility. Milton's Park Manager has been notified of this request.
 - Question was asked if there is a height limit on skate park structures for liability purposes. Atkinson will follow-up with the Clerk to check with Insurance carrier.
 - Donor of a security camera stepped forward. Discussions regarding who would monitor the footage, the absence of lighting due to the dawn to dusk park policy hinders the ability to identify who is committing destructive behavior; cleaning up the over growth to make the skate park more visible should be the first step of preventing this behavior.

- Fields Ratliff, GTRLC was unable to attend. Atkinson discussed the following Maplehurst activities:
 - Biological inventories and assessing the area around the lake. Committee agreed that that an assessment would be beneficial.
 - Tree Planting schedule by GTRLC
 - Installation of a Citizen Science Chronolog that allows hikers to document change over time by submitting photos via their smartphones. This program is funded through the same grant as the trees. Chronology stations allow participants to take a photo and email it to Chronolog so it can be added to a long-term time lapse of the changing ecosystem. It will be installed along the trail facing the tree plantings.

- Milton Township Park & Recreation Plan draft was handed out. All committee members are requested to proof read and submit any changes/recommendations at the next meeting.

- New Business – None

- Public Comment - None

- Next Meeting: June 16, 2022 @ 11:00 am

Minutes by Atkinson