

# Milton Township

## Parks & Recreation Committee

### AGENDA

7/11/24 @ 10:30 am

1. Call meeting to order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes 9/27/23
4. Discussions/Updates
  - a. Fishing at Maplehurst Update
  - b. Tree planting update
  - c. New trail update
  - d. Basketball Court; Request for pickleball lines. Referred to us from board for opinion.
  - e. Maplehurst Park Benches @ high ground views
  - f. Missing lock on N.West Torch Lake Dr. gate
  - g. GTRLC Update/Report
  - h. Other park related matters
5. New Business
  - a. Discussion: Establish regular meeting schedule; Every 3 or 4 months?
6. Public Comment
7. Adjourn

# Milton Township

## Park & Recreation Committee

7/11/24

Committee members present: Kingon, Shaw, Kopkau, Gray, Meyer, Atkinson

Also present: Field Ratliff, Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (GTRLC)

- Meeting called to order @ 10:30 am
- Approval of agenda: Kingon/Gray
- Approval of minutes: Shaw/Kingon, as amended; remove Weinzapfel as attendee.
- Fields Ratliff of GTRLC discussed Maplehurst Natural Area
  - Trail extension work scheduled for August 1 & August 8<sup>th</sup>. Map provided showing route. Signage will need updating when complete.
  - Vehicles are still driving down to the lake; Boulders are needed to block.
  - Entrance needs work to address erosion. Steuer currently has equipment on site. Atkinson will follow-up with Weinzapfel on scope of work. Ratliff discussed erosion issues with Avery Excavation and received estimate for crowning drive, Afton stone compacted along edges; \$15k. More bids for future improvements of best long-term erosion fix will be requested.
  - Fields received quote for placing Afton stone on trail sections that present slippery clay when wet. Map provided indicating need for 3-4" of Afton stone.
  - Thursdays are when Fields is present at Maplehurst.
  - Down trees addressed: GTRLC stewards walk trails to monitor. 15 trees have been cut & cleared since January 2024. If Fields determines downed trees are too large, he will contact the township to secure tree contractor for removal.
  - Tree planting discussed; 20% survival rate is expected.
  - Group discussion- Kids only fishing sign change: "Suggested kids only fishing". DNR Officer stated we cannot limit usage. Atkinson stated opinions have changed since securing Maplehurst and will follow-up with the DNR Recreation Grants Unit & Program Manager. If change in sign is determined, GTRLC will provide.
  - Installation of park benches on east side, high ground seasonal view areas discussed. Fields will cost out lumber for traditional bench. GTRLC can install. Locations to be determined. Atkinson stated Maplehurst Endowment Fund dividends would be used for this. Up to 3 benches recommended.
  - Easements discussed. Atkinson will obtain map of Maplehurst easements.

- Township board referred request to add pickleball lines to the basketball court for Parks & Rec. recommendation. After discussions; Committee does not recommend due to the lack of fencing and the probable over-shadowing of basketball usage.
- E. Elk Lake Drive Day Park; Elk-Skegmog Lakes Association inquired about porta-johns placed, noting increased usage of park. Kingon will monitor usage of park and report back.
- O'Dell Road Public Access; Kopkau monitors usage and appears to be low. Bench re-appeared; will be removed. Kopkau will continue to conduct periodic checks.
- Waterfront Park landscape discussed. Will secure spring/fall cleanup.
- Road ends/public accesses/township parks to be regularly visited by committee members to monitor usage/conditions. Location assignments at next meeting.
- Quarterly meetings of Park & Recreation Committee to be established. Next meeting; Thursday, October 3, 2024 @ 10:30 am. Atkinson to send out meeting dates for 2025 and reminders.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 3, 2024 @ 10:30 am

Minutes by Atkinson