

**Long Lake Township
Parks & Recreation Committee**

November 9, 2011

Meeting Notes

Parks and Recreation Committee meeting started at 4:00 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Attendance: Shirley Mesch, Karen Rosa, Pug Rundio, Dick Gray, Bob Flannery, Larry Vanderburg, John Cartwright, Linda Rider, Keith Johnson, Maureen & Al Terbeek, Jim Saunby & Trish Mehney.

1. Girl Scout Property Discussion;

Matt McDonough was present to give an overview and answer questions in regards to the Townships possible purchase of the Girl Scout Property. He handed out maps with a potential parking area and future trails on it. They are planning to divide the property into two sections; 65 acres consisting of the actual building site area and vacant land of approx 200 acres. They are asking the Township to pursue a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to purchase the 200 acre area. The purchase of the property would be completely covered by the grant and the conservancy and the maintenance of the property would be the responsibility of the Township. Many questions still remain including; where the access to the property would be located? What the cost of maintaining the property would be, including both winter and summer maintenance? Whether or not we need another large Natural Area in this Township? Would there be access to this land from the water? Would we need bathrooms? What would the purposed use be for this property? etc.

The committee will be meeting again in early December to see if some of these questions can be answered before they decide whether they support this idea or not.

2. Skating rink at Haywood Park discussion;

Kelly Stockfish is interested in using the materials we have for a skating rink at Westwood School. We did have a rink here a few years ago and the interest was not evident. It was difficult to maintain and to find people interested in helping out. The group decided to wait to see how this works out at the school before discussing this subject further.

3. Expansion of a ball field at Haywood park discussion;

Kelly Stockfish, representing the summer ball leagues of Long Lake Township, came to our October meeting requesting that we expand one of our ball fields here at Haywood Park to accommodate a 13 to 15 year old Pony League. After much discussion and research of this idea it was unanimously decided that we would not be interested in expanding the ball field at this time. This decision is based on the expense for the loss of grass and existing underground sprinklers along with the potential safety issues this could create for others using the park. Other possible options included contacting the schools to see if they could possibly use their fields during the summer and/or having this age group play after the younger players and using the field closest to the Township hall (which is the largest of the three existing) without expanding it.

4. Signs for Fisher's Run and Bull Head Lake;

Mark & Rondi were not able to be present at this meeting. We will have to follow-up on this at a later time.

5. Comments & concerns regarding the new Parks & Recreation Plan;

Many corrections were noted and passed on to Leslie Sickterman. The Plan will be available to the public for review and any further corrections needed, for 30 days prior to the December 13th Township Board meeting. There will be a Public Hearing at this meeting, corrections will be made and the Parks & Recreation Plan will be adopted.

Our next meeting is set for Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 4:00 pm here at the Township Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Trish Mehney