

**Long Lake Township
Parks & Recreation Committee**

October 9, 2008

Meeting Notes

Attendance: Dave Garvin, Mike Pifer, Tina Allen. Staff: Jim Saunby, Bea Houghton

Public: Joel Wright, Charlie Conville, Darlene Conville, Pug Rundio, Michael Wildman, John Galbraith

South Long Lake Forest Natural Area: Rules, Trailhead, Forest Management and trail projects:

Tina reported that the Township Board will review a proposal to address the Plan's recommendation to remove red pine included in bark beetle infestation at next Tuesday's meeting.

The trailhead is in, along with a water well/tank for fire suppression. There was more clearing on that site than expected so the Township wants to quickly remediate the area. A sketch plan prepared by Ben Purdy of the Conservation District was presented. Consensus was reached on the appropriateness of the drawn plan.

There has been some work done marking the trails by Eric Brefka, and Eagle Scout from Troop 105. Much more needs to be done. We will discuss this in 2009 while setting the Capital Improvement Schedule for the next P & R Plan.

At the last P & R meeting, there was consensus to recommend approval of both the South Long Lake Forest and Bullhead Lake Plans. Included in the SLL Plan were some recommendations for rules. Two of those rules were not adopted by the Township Board pending a survey card sent with the summer newsletter. The results of that survey are included in this packet. At issue: does this group want to change their prior recommendation based on the results of the survey. Great discussion ensued with the final consensus of the committee to continue with the previous recommendation.

Discussion of Gilbert Park Issues:

B. Access to dock for the disabled.

There is money in the 2008-09 budget to create better access to the dock for people using wheelchairs or walkers. Need to address these concerns prior to doing project: Is the dock wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs? Make sure we also address the drainage/erosion problems in the launch area at the same time. It was also mentioned that a hand pump will be ready for use next week.

A. *15 Minute Parking Situation:*

The township has received several e-mail complaints from the Convilles about the use of the space between the dock and the swim areas. They are concerned about the number of boats, people staying all day, boats parked there without people for hours, jet skis, rental companies doing business there and the possibility of having the same problems as Torch Lake with boat mooring.

Discussion ensued. Most of the concerns centered around boat rentals, rule enforcement, and the number of boats that fit in the area. The following will be researched and reported on at the next P & R meeting:

- Look into issues concerning the possible hiring of someone to work the busiest weekends for more enforcement.
- Call rental companies to find out how they're using the site. Is any money changing hands?
- Ideas to suggest using the islands instead of the beach.
- Recheck the distance of the area of concern.

We will use this information at our next meeting to decide the next steps. We need to have a clear plan before next summer.

5. *Ice Rink:*

If we are to continue providing an ice rink at the Township Hall, we need to purchase a new liner. We had purchased the one we have used from West Jr. High School and it has lasted 2 years. A new one would cost \$1,500 to \$2,000. The Township Board had asked the Supervisor to talk to GT County about having the rink at Twin Lakes. She has not been able to reach Jason Jones, the Interim Director, to discuss the possibilities. In the past the concern was for the size of well that is available on their site.

After discussion, the consensus was to discontinue the rink for this winter. We'll see if we receive comment to know if it's missed. The Supervisor should continue to explore a relationship with GT County at the Twin Lakes site.

6. *Miscellaneous Reports:*

There has been some interest in reopening the discussion of charging for some park uses, particularly when another party is receiving a payment and using our facilities. A spreadsheet of the park users who receive payment was handed out. Discussion continued with a recommendation for staff (Tina) to find out what other communities do; particularly in the areas of profit/non-profit fees.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Allen