

**Elmwood Township Parks and Recreation Committee**  
**Minutes of an Informal Meeting on June 29, 2005**  
**Elmwood Township Hall**

Sarah Bourgeois, Norm Brokaw, Fred Plamondon, Bill Swanson, Chuck Raney, Derith Smith

**1. Greilickville Beach**

- a. All agreed beach needs grooming, but the Bay overflow and willows may make it an “emerging wetland”. Derith has been working on this for months. Invasive species can be removed, and beach can be mowed, but the willows cannot be removed.
- b. Derith has application and will contact John Nelson, and Bill will contact DEQ staff Nancy \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Need a “base map” and an updated plan. Various consultants were considered. Decided to contact Klaus Heinert, Russ Clark and Anita Silverman and ask if they would be willing to make informal presentations to the Committee on Tuesday, July 12.
- d. Bill met with DOT, and they are not enthusiastic about a traffic light unless there is enough side traffic to warrant it. Derith suggested two coordinated lights, such that vehicular and pedestrian traffic could cross M-22 without making more curb cuts.

**2. Hagerty Center Presentation**

- a. Fred reported on the meeting which basically involves the Traverse City beachfront up to the Elmwood Township line. The meeting and comments were very positive. We should coordinate with their activities while retaining our own identity.
- b. There were three questions, and the responses are quite similar to the Greilickville Waterfront Area Study of August 2004.
- c. What do you want to see?
  - Open spaces, no boats on beach
  - Uniform treatment of entire bayfront and common ground with the marina.
  - Clear water, clean beaches.
- d. What are you sorry about?
  - Not year around
  - Lack of public toilets.
  - Traffic, especially Division & Parkway
  - Empty gas stations, Chamber of Commerce building
  - Weeds
- e. What do you want to see in 15 years?
  - Fish cleaning facility (in conjunctions with Maritime Academy)
  - Lots of boats on the Bay, lots of fish in the Bay
  - People walking, biking, enjoying the bayfront
- f. There will be another meeting in September.

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**3. Other Opportunities to Explore**

- a. There is an artesian well near Timberlee which is the start of Mann Creek. The Township has been working with the Leelanau Land Conservancy on the properties involved.
- b. It would be good to have a safe way for kids to ride their bikes from the popular Elmwood Park to the Leelanau Trail.

**4. Committee Priorities**

- a. Get two new members to fill vacancies
- b. Criteria for consultants
- c. Work on items for the Grant, keeping in mind the timetable.
- d. Update Parks and Recreation Plan (The plan we have is 1998. Bill will look for a more recent version.)

**5. Next Meeting:**

- a. TUESDAY, July 5, 11:30 at the Elmwood Township Hall (Connie will post notice of this meeting).
- b. Agenda:
  1. Responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Committee (for possible presentation to the Elmwood Board of Trustees on Monday, July 11).
  2. Criteria for selecting consultants. (Review the Grass River Natural Area RFP)
  3. Suggested questions for consultants.
  4. Scheduling of consultant presentations. Perhaps July 19<sup>th</sup> at 20-minute intervals?

**6. Other Dates to Keep in Mind:**

- a. Tuesday, July 12: Probably the next meeting.
- b. Tuesday, July 19: Potentially consultant presentations.