

Elmwood Township Parks and Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2006

Present: Fred Plamondon, Lori Leugers, Kelly Ignace, Klaus Heinert, Marilyn Schmidt, Derith Smith, Sarah Bourgeois, Matt Heiman (Leelanau Conservancy)

1. Welcome new member, Kelly Ignace

2. Agenda – Added Report from Klaus Heinert

3. Approval of Minutes – No minutes were taken from last meeting

4. Klaus Heinert Update:

- A. **TCL&P Discussions** - Klaus noted that these discussions have primarily revolved around the parking lot property, primarily the service road and access management. He said that some TCLP board members indicated concerns about retaining the parking lot for future use. They have noted environmental concerns but haven't clearly voiced what the ramifications are.
- B. **Greilickville Corridor Workshop** – Klaus had presented four design options with the goal of taking safe crossing options back to MDOT. He noted that option 4, with the longer islands, is the one most likely to be accepted by MDOT.
- C. **Keeping ET Board and Planning Commission apprised** – Klaus stressed how important it is for this committee to keep these issues in front of the ET Planning Commission and Board.
- D. **LUTS (Land Use and Transportation Study)** – Even though the money for this study must be spent in Grand Traverse County, Elmwood Township corridor projects (especially M22/M72 intersection) will impact this region, so it is important to have a voice in this process as well.
- E. **'The Shanty'** – Klaus presented a design concept for a shelter that he submitted for a competition offered by Poligon Design. The winning design will be built, courtesy of Poligon, which will be using it for display for a period of time; after which, Klaus is hoping they would donate it to the township for potential placement at Greilickville Harbour Beach Park. The free-flowing design incorporated elements to express the transition from land to water and explained that the shelter would be inscribed with a shanty that was read at former Parks & Rec Committee member Norman Brokaw's funeral.

5. DeYoung Property Update – (Matt Heiman of the Leelanau Conservancy)

- A. **Natural Resources Trust Fund** - Matt explained that the most favorable approach to applying for this grant—both from Elmwood Township's and the Leelanau Conservancy's perspectives—is for Elmwood Township to apply for the purchase of a public access and conservation easement, rather than applying for fee simple title to the property. Under this scenario the Leelanau Conservancy would be responsible for:
 - 1. All of construction costs for trails and parking (and any other developments).
 - 2. Building, trail, and general property maintenance

3. Maintenance of agricultural interests
4. Lease agreements with partner organizations
5. Conservancy would own fee simple title to the property.

Elmwood Township would be responsible for:

1. Holding and monitoring the conservation easement – Parks and Rec members could review the property one time per year to ensure terms of access are being upheld.
2. Partnership with TART

The alternative to this arrangement would be for Elmwood Township to apply for the funds to acquire the property and Leelanau Conservancy would then work out a management agreement for the agricultural land and farmstead complex.

Matt noted that the township has to make the application for the grant, but that the Leelanau Conservancy would be preparing the application on behalf of the township.

Derith Smith noted that the Board members are going to want to know liability and any potential costs to be incurred by the township under either scenario. Matt stated that he would research other similar situations to report back to the committee.

Matt also suggested that one of the Parks and Rec members attend the meeting the conservancy will be having in September/October in Lansing with the Natural Resources Trust Fund board.

5. Adjournment - The remainder of the agenda was adjourned until the next meeting on Tuesday August 1st at 5:30 p.m., Elmwood Township Hall.