

Elmwood Township Parks and Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2006

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call – Present were Derith Smith, Sarah Bourgeois, Lori Leugers, Fred Plamondon, and Matt Heiman from the Leelanau Conservancy.

3. Approval of Agenda – There was discussion about changing the next meeting date to Wednesday, November 15th, and all future meetings from the first Tuesday to the third Wednesday of every month to accommodate the members' schedules. Motion by Smith, seconded by Bourgeois to approve the Agenda as amended with the final meeting schedule to be confirmed when Kelly Ignace and Marilyn Schmidt have had a chance to comment. Unanimously approved.

4. Approval of Minutes (9/19) – Sarah Bourgeois noted that she was present at the last meeting. The minutes were approved with the addition of Sarah under "Roll Call."

5. Matt Heiman update on DeYoung property; Resolution –

A. Rotary Grant - Matt stated that the Conservancy has made it through the first round. A representative from Rotary will be doing a site visit.

B. DNR Acquisition Grant - He noted that Kelly Ignace is willing to be the Parks & Rec Committee representative to meet with the DNR to discuss and prepare the land acquisition grant.

Motion by Plamondon, seconded by Bourgeois to appoint Kelly Ignace as the Parks & Rec Committee representative. *Passed unanimously.*

Matt said that he plans to meet with Linda Haegstrom from the DNR in early November to gather some input from her to begin the grant-writing process. Derith asked that Matt keep the ET Board up-to-date on the progress. She also noted that it would be a good idea to hold a public hearing for input.

C. Trail Progress - Matt said the Conservancy has held a couple of work bees and will hold additional bees later this fall and again in the spring to clear a trail on the water side of the property. They will be doing a spur that cuts to the shoreline in order to build a small platform, but this will not be completed until next spring. He noted that the platform will be cantilevered, so that no posts have to be driven into the lake. He noted that the platform will be located within reasonable distance from the ski course and the Meeuwenberg's property.

D. Waterfowl assessment - Matt stated that they will be gathering information on the impact of the ski course on waterfowl through this fall. He noted that the DNR permit for the ski course was issued for one year.

6. Klaus Heinert comments on the DEQ & DNR September 28th Meeting – Klaus was not present at the meeting, but there was some discussion about who should represent the committee/township when Klaus goes down to Lansing to answer DNR Trust Fund representatives' questions. Derith thought it would be good to have a board representative and possibly a Parks and Rec committee member as well. Sarah said she is likely to be available. Derith said she would talk with Klaus to get his feedback on how many and who should attend.

There was some discussion about the points made at the September 28th meeting. Fred suggested drafting a letter from the Parks and Recreation Committee, expressing our thanks to the DEQ and DNR representatives who took their time to come up and answer the questions at the public hearing.

7. Discuss 'Mark Randolph' information on managing the Purple Loosestrife that was sent to Lori – Derith discussed the possibility of getting beetles to assist in the eradication. She said we could work with the Watershed Center to do an application along the beach and up Grandview Rd. It was suggested that someone notify MDOT or Leelanau County Road Commission, so they don't spray or mow the areas after the beetles are released. Derith thought that the time to release the beetles would be early summer. She said Anne Brasie, who spearheaded the program for the Watershed Center, would be leaving soon, so we may need to find another contact. There was discussion about including Pathfinder and Norris in the project next year.

8. Old Business – Kelly Ignace – (See discussion under #5 (Matt Heiman update on DeYoung).

9. New Business – M-22 Heritage Route Committee – Lori has asked for another member to represent the Parks and Recreation Committee. There was discussion about a rotating member. Sarah said she could attend the next meeting in October.

10. Next Meeting – Wednesday, Nov. 15th at 5:30 p.m. at Elmwood Township Hall

11. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.