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## Elmwood Township Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes December 10, 2008

- 1. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call** – Present were Fred Plamondon, Lori Leugers, Sarah Bourgeois, and Jack Kelly. Klaus Heinert was also present to give an update on the Greilickville Harbour Park Development.
- 3. Approval of Agenda** – Motion by Sarah, supported by Lori to move Item #8 (Sport Fishing Cleaning System) to #7. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 4 Approval of Minutes:** Sarah noted a couple typos that needed to be corrected. Motion by Sarah, seconded by Fred to approve the minutes from the 11/12/08 Regular Meeting with typo corrections to be made. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 5. Park Development Update - Klaus** – Klaus noted that the township board had a meeting the previous night. He gave a brief update of the progress of the development, noting that due to delays in finalizing the approvals and funding, the actual construction will be split between two seasons (Fall '09 and Spring '10). He anticipated finalizing design between the end of January and May, and targeting bid packages to go out mid-summer. The benefit of starting in the fall, he stated, was that the park would not be taken out of use during peak summer season. He noted that the board approved an ad hoc committee comprised of Don Gallagher representing the township board, Mike Richey representing the planning commission, Mike Morris representing the marina committee, Sarah Bourgeois representing the parks and recreation committee, and Tony Ansonge representing the public at large. They anticipate a kick-off meeting in early January. Jack noted that the idea behind the task force was to spread information equally among the key entities, and to encourage consensus among them. Klaus also noted that it minimized how many separate meetings he would be required to attend in order to provide updates.
- 6. Elmwood Beach Park Restroom Facility – Klaus** – Klaus explained that the township's grant request for restroom facilities was denied by Rotary Charities. He noted that they suggested that the township re-submit for a grant in the Spring (this cycle is for requests that are under \$100,000). The denial letter from Rotary gave three key issues of concern: 1. They felt the township should provide more matching funds; 2. They were concerned about the fact that the concept changed from an initial single restroom facility to two buildings, and thought that the township needed to solidify the design; and 3. They had concerns about users crossing M-22 to access the restroom facilities.

Klaus will be working with the Parks and Recreation Committee and township board to determine the next steps.

- 7. Sport Fishing Cleaning System – Wendy Sak, et.al** – Wendy, who is the treasurer and tournament director of Grand Traverse Area Sports Fishing Association (GTASFA), gave a brief introduction and background of their quest to get a fish cleaning station somewhere on Grand Traverse Bay. She introduced several members of the association. She explained that since last month's Parks and Rec meeting, she sought to identify issues regarding specific location of the station, BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand), and costs. She noted that since their last meeting, several community members have offered time and material donations to assist with the project.

Ryan Matuzak, a GTASFA member handed out fishing league schedules and some 2007 statistical information regarding the economic value that fishing added to the community. He noted that their

preferred location would be between the current bath house and bathrooms. Accessibility to parking was a key concern regarding the location. He noted that they would like to have a station which incorporates a grinding system which drains into the sewage system. There was some discussion about how this would impact the township's sewage capacity and the fact that residents would incur the costs to support this. Ryan noted that the peak usage would be between during salmon fishing season (the middle of August through October).

Mike Morris noted that the group should be taking into consideration the 4<sup>th</sup> dock that is a possibility for the marina, so there won't be a need to rebuild and/or move plumbing in the future.

Jack stated that the idea of a fish cleaning station has merit but they must deal with the limitations of the land mass with respect to parking requirements (he noted there would be an increase in demand due to the installation of the third dock). He could not speak on behalf of the full board, but individually felt that he could not support this project as it is currently presented. He felt that it needs to be incorporated into the broader context of the plans that are currently in place for the property, and that consensus from the community is needed. He felt that it would be a good idea to initiate a task force which could provide a broad overview of marina projects in general.

Mike Morris expressed frustration that slip holders tend to be the only stake holders that show up at marina committee meetings, and that he would also like to get input from boat launchers. Jack noted that he would like to see the Marina Committee engage the public for input as well.

Sarah stated that she felt the fish cleaning station concept should be incorporated into the Marina Committee.

Don Gorski, president of United Boaters of Elmwood (UBET) thanked the members of GTASFA for bringing the fish cleaning station concept to Elmwood Township and doing their homework.

Another member of GTASFA explained that the BOD issue is a legitimate one, and that a permit can be tough to get. He discussed the possibility of negotiating with other townships or municipalities that are serviced by the same sewer system. He also noted an alternative which Pentwater has implemented. The fish waste could be put into a grinding tank then hauled off-site as needed. A dual system was discussed, such that off-site hauling would be the method used during peak times; while the standard sewage method could be used during off-peak periods. The concept of implementing a temporary portable facility was also discussed briefly.

GTASFA members were told that if they chose to pursue this further with the Marina Committee, they could bring it up at their next meeting at the end of January.

**8. Management Plan DeYoung Property – Update** – Matt Heiman was not present to give an update. Jack noted that there has been fairly good support from the community. Fred thought that it would be a good idea to have Elmwood Township representatives sit down with the Leelanau Conservancy in the early stages of drafting the management plan. Lori Leugers and Kyle Trevas, a previous Elmwood Township Board member offered to serve on a committee, should one be created for this purpose.

**9. Baseball Diamond & Soccer Field Update** – Fred commented that the project was almost completed. Jack noted that the project had been before the board twice, and he was unhappy that a regional facility was built without a public hearing. It also grew in scope from what was originally

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presented. Kyle Trevas had questioned whether or not a use agreement was in place. Jack felt that such an agreement is necessary, and that there was evidence that such an agreement had been initiated in 2004.

**10. Old Business – Newsletter – Kelly** – Kelly was not present to provide an update.

**11. New Business**

**TC Light & Power Harbour Beach Construction Upgrade** – The township now has a DEQ permit to build a connection between TCLP and Greilickville Harbour Park property. Jack noted that this would be a good agenda item for the task force to address. He also said that he would like “task force input” to be a regular agenda item for the ET Board and the associated commission/committees’ meetings.

**12. Next Meeting: January 14, 2009**– Elmwood Township Hall @ 5:30 p.m.

**13. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

**Submitted by,**

**Lori Leugers**