

Leland Township Parks and Rec Committee

Tim Zywicki
Greg Mielczarek

Leslie Maclin
Susan Och, Town Board rep

MINUTES

Parks and Rec Commission Meeting, January 9, 2024
5:30 pm Leland Munnecke Room

Present: Chair Tim Zywicki, Leslie Maclin, Greg Mielczarek, Township Board Rep Susan Och, Maintenance Supervisor Ken Hagstrom

Public: Justin Acker

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Chairman Zywicki called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mielczarek moved to approve the agenda, Maclin supported, agenda approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 13, 2023 Mielczarek moved to approve the minutes as presented, Och supported, minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

UPDATES

State of the Parks: Parks are in winter mode. The ice rink at Hancock Field is set up, filled, but needs some freezing weather. Most of the parks still need leaf clean-up. There was an isolated incident of human excrement and toilet paper left behind the bleachers at Hancock. The fire department disposed of it and cleaned the area using biohazard protocols.

Budget YTD: Total budget is 93% spent with the three slow months left to go. There were overages in trash removal, porta jon rental, and repairs/maintenance. The repairs/maintenance category includes contract labor to cover work due to Ken's injury, as well as a dock repair and the retaining wall at Hancock Field.

ACTION ITEMS

1. 25-29 Rec Plan Leslie Maclin presented a draft outline for the Community Recreation Plan update. She asked for input concerning layout, potential stakeholders, initiatives to make the finished report more user friendly.

Leslie also presented a draft of the required survey that will serve as the initial public input for the plan. She has rearranged the format, putting most of the demographic questions at the end, and eliminating some fill in the blank questions for ease of processing and understanding the results. Questions about support for a millage and about potential donations in kind were added. The survey is in the Google Form format, which is free. Tim will find out how to employ forced ranking in this program.

The survey will be available on the township website. Invitations to participate will go out to the following communities: Leland School, St Marys School, Leland Chamber of Commerce, Lake Leelanau Community Association, Leland Country Club, Leland Yacht Club, Leelanau Childrens Center

The plan is to have one public hearing after a draft report is available. We need to check that this hearing and the regular P&R meetings are enough public input to satisfy the DNR.

2. DNR Grant opportunities: Recreation Passport Grants and Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grants have deadlines on April 1. It might be possible to use information from the two declined SPARK grant applications to streamline grant applications for these two programs. Susan will set up logins for the members on the MiGrant website so that members can look at the grant instructions. The need for a plan for Hancock Field was discussed.
3. Budgeting: Budget worksheets are not yet available. Susan will gather information on the routine expenses including the public restrooms. Other members will need to research costs for one time expenses, updates, and projects. Parks and Rec will meet with the town board to present budget requests; the town board has to weigh P&R requests against the needs of the rest of the General Fund.
4. Meeting schedule/recording secretary: Cindy Kacin will be available to act as recording secretary on the first Tuesdays of the month, which covers the rest of 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Justin Acker had questions about the relationship between Township Parks and the County's Park system. He recounted his experience serving on a Parks board in Hood River, his former community. There may be grants available from a federal agency based on logs of volunteer hours.

ADJOURNMENT: Maclin moved to adjourn, Mielczarek supported. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.