

Casco Township Parks and Recreation Committee

Regular Meeting, November 11, 2014

- 1. Call to order and Roll Call:** The meeting was called order at 7:02 pm by Chairman Bruce Brandon. The Committee welcomed new member Johanan Jessup. Committee said goodbye to Tom Storr and thanked him for his 4 years of service on the Committee. The Committee has one slot open for a new member.

Those members present were: Bruce Brandon, Louis Howerton, Josiah Jessup, Tom Storr, Pam Bough, Johanna Jessup, Sandra Warren, John Johnson and Kathleen Brandon recording secretary.

- 2. Agenda** for this meeting was approved by all.
- 3.** The new Committee Member sheet was updated.
- 4. Meeting dates for 2015** were approved as presented by Pam Blough.
- 5. The meeting minutes** from the October 14, 2014 meeting were discussed and corrected. John Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes with additions and corrections. This motion was 2nd by Louis Howerton and approved by all.
- 6. Correspondence received:** none
- 7. Public Comments:** no public in attendance
- 8. Blue Star Pathway Project:** No news has been received by any Committee member.
- 10. West Side County Park update:** The project bids are out, the Commissioners will make decisions on December 11, 2014. Work will not start until the spring of 2015.
- 11. Friends of the Nature Preserve:** none
- 12. Park Ordinance Update:** Chairman Brandon took the Closing time Motion and discussion to the Board and they are aware of what we are trying to accomplish. We, as a Parks Committee need to work on the wording of Closing time Ordinance. The Committee will also continue to work with the Board on this Ordinance.
- 13. Casco Township Nature Preserve:**
 - a. Operation & Maintenance:** Bruce Brandon met with Allen, Township Supervisor, about changing the opening and closing of the gate. He will check with him to see the "needs to be done list".
 - b. Maple Grove Tree Maintenance:** Bruce also presented to the board the statement that Sandra Warren brought to the Committee at the last meeting. The Committee took Sandra's statement, and by unananimous vote decided to have it presented to the Board in

the form of a "Tree Policy" for the Nature Preserve. The board was very happy that the Committee was working on the good Stewardship of the Nature Preserve trees and wildlife.

c. North Property Sign Installation has been completed.

d. Parking Lot Grant update: We will know the Grant status in the first 2 weeks of December.

e. Funding Sources Signage at the Preserve: This is still a work in progress.

f. Coastal Zone Management "Coastal Note": Applications for the Coastal Zone Management Grant are due on December 31, 2014. We can apply for that grant but the match money is a lot less and not sure we could come up the match.

We were contacted by Coastal Zone Management that they could submit one of their projects to the National Program as an example of their key, exemplary projects and also included it on their website. They wanted Pam to prepare and provide them with a write up. Chairman Brandon suggested she mail it to Cheri Brenner as an article for the Newsletter.

14. Committee Work items for winter: The possible idea of doing a Park survey was brought up by Pam. The Committee thought this was a good idea. A good way to collect public comment and we could put a link to the survey on the website. We can also work on projects for the Volunteer group to do in the spring. Bruce also suggested making a check list for the beach. We can also go to our five year plan to work on.
15. **Update from the Township Board Representative:** Josiah informed the Committee about the bids for the new township garage. The bids were very high so will re-bid in the spring. The Road Commission will be cutting and trimming trees along Blue Star highway.
16. **Committee Members Comments:** Pam informed the committee that Cheri wanted any items for the next Newsletter by November 18.2014.
17. **Adjourn:** John Johnson made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Tom Storr. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Brandon

