

Casco Township Parks & Recreation Committee

August 12, 2014 Regular Meeting

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by Committee Chairman Bruce Brandon. Those present were: Pam Blough, Louis Howerton, John Johnson, Sandra Warren, Josiah Jessup, and Kathy Brandon.
Those absent were: David Dobreff and Tom Storr.
2. **Approve Agenda:** There were no additions to the agenda. Agenda approved.
3. **Review and approval of the July 8, 2014 meeting.** These minutes were corrected and approved by all.
4. **Correspondence received:** none
5. **Public comments:** No public present
6. **Casco Township Nature Preserve Master Plan update:** Pam presented a two page Master Plan update to the Casco Township Board members. This included the North property tree inventory and analysis. This tree assessment summarizes the proposed removals and trees to be pruned over time as funds allow. A list of the North Property features were also submitted:

Parking
Informal Pathways
Service and Emergency Drive
Picnic Pavilion & tables
Restroom Building
Lawn Play Area
Meadow Plantings
Maple Tree Grove
Blue Star Pathway
Benches

The board can now use the maintenance budget funds to start working on the trees, dead and down. Starting along the road and beach front. The Board thought it was a priority to get started on this. They had no other suggestions or comments.

Pam presented the Parks and Recreation Committee members with a Preliminary Master Plan drawing. This contained all of the features they had talked about and the list they had made. These are suggestions for the design of the Park, not made in stone.

7. **Blue Star Pathway Update:** The Allegan County Board of Commissioners will make a decision on the project at a meeting on August 14, 2014 at 9:30 am.
8. **West Side County Park Project update:** Bids are out and they hope to begin moving dirt in October 2014.

9. **Friends of the Nature Preserve Update:** GiGi was at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony which was held today before Our regular meeting. It was suggested that a good project would be to pick up the small dead fall on the north property, and also help with signage.

10. **Casco Township Nature Preserve:**
 - A. trash pickup is going well. The only time of overflow is after holiday weekends so far.
 - b. The tree report was given to the Board.
 - c. The final reimbursement for the stairway was submitted. All the DNR monies has been received.
The final paperwork for the Coastal Zone Management Grant has been submitted.
 - d. Bruce will talk to the Board concerning the Funding Sources sign to seek their guidance.

11. **Update from Josiah our Township Board Representative:** He informed the group of the passing of the Police Millage. The Policing will start in Jan. of 2015.

12. **Committee Member Comments:** Louis Howerton saw a couple of bicycles riders in the park and informed them that this was not open to bicycles.
Sandy showed an article from the Grand Rapids Press concerning the Lake Michigan 4 State water trails.

13. **John Johnson made a motion to adjourn** seconded by Josiah Jessup. All agreed and the meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted
Kathy Brandon