

**Casco Township Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting
September 8, 2015**

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Bruce Brandon at 7:05pm. Present committee members were: Bruce Brandon, Pam Blough, John Johnson, Josiah Jessup, Johanon Jessup, Ron Seiler, Sandra Warren and Kathy Brandon recording secretary. Louis Howerton was absent.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** The agenda was approved by all with no additions.
3. **The Minutes from the August 11, 2015** regular meeting were approved with a motion made by John Johnson, seconded by Johanan, approved by all.
4. **Correspondence received:** None
5. **Public comments:** None present
6. **Blue Star Pathway Update:** Nothing new that Bruce was aware of formally.
7. **Friends of the Nature Preserve Update:** Gigi Sizemore, group chairperson, is working on membership numbers. She has posts up in businesses in the area and will also include an article in the next Township Newsletter. This Committee also requested an article for the Township Website. Bruce also mentioned that the grounds around the Township building could be included in the Groups' efforts of clean up and trimming as well.
8. **Township Hall Property-Parking Lot:** Bruce proposed to the Board a future plan to make the paved parking lot a multiple use site. The Board was open to this idea. Pam initiated a topographic survey to be done and design drawings for striping, etc. approved by Allan Overhiser, Supervisor. The design should be done by the October meeting.
9. **First Street:** Power washing was put out to bids.
10. **Nature Preserve Parking Lot-CZM Grant:** Our Grant application was approved!! We have 15 months from Oct. 1, 2015 to complete the project. We have the topographic survey and design already done, so once the contract is signed we can get this project out to bid and hopefully done this fall.
11. **Casco Township Nature Preserve Operation & Maintenance:**
 - a. Funding Source Signage: Bruce is working to get a sample to look at.
 - b. Handrail repair: not done
 - c. New Dog Rules/Signs/Equipment for fall: The signs and equipment are in. Bruce will install the signs and Doggie Bag Dispenser. The "No Dogs" signs will also come down for the winter.

- d. New Plantings: All but 2 plants were eaten by critters of some kind. Lesson learned, new plants will need to be protected in the future. The tree looks great.
- e. Water testing: Testing done for this 2015 season completed.
- f. Property Line Signage: The signs in question were moved to their proper locations.
- g. Life buoys, ropes, and hooks: This equipment is in and will be stored until spring 2016.

- 12. **Invasive Species:** The Allegan-Ottawa County Conservation Group is sponsoring seminars in our area, so Bruce will contact Nealy Molhoek to get more information.
- 13. **Park Maintenance Checklist:** Pam presented the Committee with a checklist draft. Final will be ready next meeting.
- 14. **Township Board Representative Update:** Josiah Jessup updated the Committee that the Board had approved \$600.00 toward the power washing of the First Street stairs. No private signs will be allowed in the Parks, volunteers can take them down.
- 15. **Committee Member Comments:** Sandra Warren had a nice handout for everyone on the Monarchs, along with other interesting information from Pilgrim Haven Natural Area. No other comments.
- 16. **Johan made a motion to adjourn** seconded by Josiah, approved by all. Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.

Next Park Meeting will be held on Oct. 13, 2015 at 7pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted:
Kathy Brandon