

## **Ross Township Parks Committee Meeting Minutes for January 5, 2017**

**Jon Scott, Committee Chairperson  
Rusty Fry, Vice Chairperson  
Melissa McKay, Treasurer  
Jay Garside, Recreation Director  
Lynne Chipman, Secretary**

**Committee Members:  
Otie Ingrahm  
Alan Poling**

### **I. Call to Order-Introductions**

- A. Meeting called to order at 6:06 pm.**
- B. Recited Pledge of Allegiance.**
- C. All members in attendance except Alan Poling. Guests: Lee Adams with South-central Michigan Planning Council & Sandra Bliesener from O'Boyle, Cowell, Black & Associates, Inc. (OCBA)**

### **II. Approve Agenda**

**Rusty motioned to approve agenda and Otie 2nd, unanimously approved.**

### **III. Approve Minutes**

**Edits were made to the minutes and then approved unanimously.  
Updated minutes sent to the committee on January 9.**

### **IV. Reports**

- A. GLAT - Rusty reported: Hurley & Stewart, civil engineers, working on preliminary engineering. Phase I will be from 35th street in Galesburg to Galesburg Augusta High School. Phase II engineering will be completed 30 days after Phase I is finished. Need to apply for grants by April 2017 to be able to commence building in 2018.**
- B. Kalamazoo Parks Department: Jon and Melody will be meeting in a couple of weeks to get on the same page regarding trail head funding.**
- C. Kalamazoo Parks Foundation: Otie says that the Foundation does not want individual fundraising. They have a list of people and organizations from which they will solicit donations.**

**V. Public Comments: None**

**VI. Old Business**

- A. Lee handed out pages 1 & 2 of the RFP to the board, and reported that he had distributed the RFP to L/A firms in the Kalamazoo and Calhoun county areas before Christmas. (Refresher, the deadline to submit a quote is January 26th.) He will present quotes at our next meeting, February 2nd.**
- B. Sandra, from OCBA in Kalamazoo was present to ask a few questions about the RFP. Such as, will we pursue MI Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant? There are certain requirements that need to be met for us to qualify, i.e. including certain physical elements of the park, to holding and documenting public meetings to allow for the input on design and expenses, which have to be held within a certain time period of application (6 months). After much discussion we decided our original start date of this spring/summer on the project is too aggressive. Rusty suggested we work on the master plan in 2017, apply for a grant in 2018, with the intention of work starting in 2019. The rest of the committee agreed.**

**VII. New Business**

- A. Park at Corner of 38th and M-89: Jon reported the door seemed to be open with the property owners to look further into the possibility of a KRVT Trailhead at this location. The next step is to talk to engineers at the Parks Department. There are still many questions to be answered, such as the size and placement, facilities, buildings, water, right of way, etc. Rusty will get started with engineers about location.**
- B. Food Trucks: The committee discussed whether to continue the plan to have food trucks this year, with delaying updates to the park. It was decided to proceed as planned as it could help build interest and energy about the use of the park by township residents. We discussed the possibility of Mondays as a regular event including and also that most trucks are already scheduling for the season. Jay suggested we have music/entertainment as well. There is a need to find out what is permissible as far as having a truck in/around the park. Jon (?) asking at next Township meeting.**

**VIII. Member's Time: None**

**IX. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm**