

Ross Township Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes – July 7, 2016

(Draft)

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by Jon Scott.

Members present:

Jon Scott
Rusty Fry
Jay Garside
Melissa McKay
Otie Ingraham

Members not present:

Al Poling (pre-arranged)

Reading of Agenda

- Jon Scott

Approval of Minutes

- J. Scott distributed meeting Minutes from April 14, 2016.

Reports

- KRVT – Members Chris Tracy and Melody Daacon from KRVT and Kalamazoo Parks Foundation attended to discuss activities, coordination and fundraising for the completion Galesburg to Augusta and extension to Gull Lake area trails.
 - KVRT / GLAT merged together successfully and aligned
 - Fundraising goal \$2mm, \$300k raised from private donations
 - Suzanne Sippel donations over \$20k
- Ross Township Parks and Recreation – Jon Scott updated the committee that Ross Township Board has approved \$10k for a part time Parks and Recreation Planner to be hired to assist the Township / Committee in organizing future plans, grant writing and fundraising to support Township Parks moving forward. This is a significant support from the board for 1 year at approximately 10 hours per week. Supervisor Dykstra and Trustee Scott will meet with Lee Adams (Planner) 7/11 to discuss future needs and services opportunities.
- Richland Township has hired Dave Jones local resident to backfill Kristie Maiers as Recreation Director for Richland Township. Suggest joint meeting between Richland and Ross Township Recreation Committee members and to include Dave in future KVRT meetings.
- J. Scott – Discussion on joint fundraising at the same time between Township Parks needs and KRVT trail development. Committee feels that this would be ok as many

priorities / needs need to be met at same time, similar to Richland Township and Kalamazoo Parks Foundation.

- J. Scott – Discussion on Suzanne’s remembrance, many suggestions from interested parties on how to continue to keep Suzanne’s vision and support for the trail. Time may develop the right vision, suggest that member A. Poling might be able to provide ideas / guidance from Suzanne’s family in due time.

Old Business

- J. Scott – Filling of Suzanne Sippel vacancy as Secretary and Committee member of the Ross Township Parks and Recreation Committee will begin. Suggested and interested persons to contact Jon Scott for consideration.

Next meeting will be August 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Ross Township Offices

Meeting adjourned 7:22 pm.

Minutes prepared by Rusty Fry July 8, 2016