

Meeting Minutes
Cascade Charter Township
Pathways Committee
Thursday, April 20, 2023
10:00 am
5920 Tahoe Dr

ARTICLE 1. Chair Rissi called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

Members Present: John Driscoll, Mike Reese, Scott Rissi, Building and Grounds Supervisor Jim MacDonald, Planning Director Brian Hilbrands, Township Engineer Aric Thorne, and Management Office Admin Assistant Jessica Stine, Township Supervisor Grace Lesperance
Absent: Rik Brown, Jeff Coffey, Kris Taylor

ARTICLE 2. Approve the current Agenda

Motion was made by Supervisor Lesperance to approve the current Agenda. Supported by Member Rissi. Motion carried 4 to 0.

ARTICLE 3. Acknowledge visitors and those wishing to speak to non-agenda items.

There weren't any visitors who wished to speak at this time.

ARTICLE 4. Approve the minutes of the 2.6.23 Meeting.

Motion was made by Supervisor Lesperance to approve the 2.6.23 meeting minutes as written. Supported by Member Driscoll.

ARTICLE 5. Update on the 2023 Pathways Maintenance Project

Engineer Thorne stated that pathway maintenance will begin in early to mid-May and be completed in two or three chunks. This year's section should be done in mid-July. There will be a single lane closure throughout construction, which will be posted on the website.

ARTICLE 6. Pathway Crack Sealing and Preventative Maintenance

Engineer Thorne explained that the areas highlighted, on the map included in the packet, are most in need of crack sealing. The highlighted areas that weren't circled are already planned to be redone in the next few years.

The Parks Committee is looking to complete a new Master Plan for Rec Park that would likely include reconstruction of paths in the park.

The township can piggyback on crack sealing when the county does theirs to receive the county's price. Engineer Thorne will reach out to Manager Swayze to determine when the county will be crack sealing.

ARTICLE 7. Discussion of Future Pathway Expansion Plans

The committee discussed potential pathway expansions, using the maps included in the packet. The committee will plan to hold a joint meeting with Caledonia to work on connectivity between the two municipalities.

Members discussed 'shovel ready' projects and the cost/work that would be needed to make a project shovel ready. Member Driscoll recommended making the 28th St

pathway and Grand River Greenway project shovel ready so that the committee can jump on funding opportunities that may arise. Kent County Parks will hold a meeting on June 22nd to discuss the Grand River Greenway project and committee members are encouraged to attend.

The Laraway Lake pathway was another project the committee would like to see become shovel ready. Engineer Thorne said he would reach out to the Kent County Road Commission to get more information. He will also look into a path on Thornapple River Dr that leads to the park. Supervisor Lesperance requested Engineer Thorne also investigate the section of Thornapple River Dr between Cascade and Thornhills. Planning Director Hilbrands shared that a neighborhood off Grand River Dr, just east of Buttrick, is interested in expanding the path from a new neighborhood nearby to their neighborhood. Chair Rissi suggested it be a SAD or put it into the millage. Planning Director Hilbrands suggested seeing if the neighborhood would be willing to put money towards the project and asked Engineer Thorne to come up with an estimate he could take to the HOA.

ARTICLE 8. Curb Cuts

Member Taylor was not in attendance to talk about curb cuts and he was the one who had requested the topic be added to the agenda. There was no discussion on this item.

ARTICLE 9. Acknowledge visitors and those wishing to speak

There weren't any visitors who wished to speak at that time.

ARTICLE 10. Any Other Business

Member Driscoll talked about the Kent County bike patrol.

The next meeting will take place Thursday, May 4th, 2023.

ARTICLE 11. Adjournment

Motion was made by Member Reese to adjourn. Supported by Supervisor Lesperance. Motion carried 4 to 0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:06am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rik Brown, Secretary