

Cascade Township Parks Committee
April 21, 2015
Minutes

Article 1. Community Development Director Peterson called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.
Members Present: Ron Goodyke, Alan Rowland, Dawn McDonald, Sara Homeyer.
Others present: Rob Beahan, Sandra Korhorn, Ben Swayze

Article 2. Updates to improvements at Cascade Rec Park.

Peterson explained that the Cascade Community Foundation would not be able to provide the \$150,000 for the basketball courts. Due to this the bid documents that are being prepared will allow the township board to decide if they want to do the basketball courts or not.

Rowland suggested that the parks committee send a recommendation on what the priorities should be if the Township Board does not want to fund the basketball courts.

Peterson reminded the group that although the basketball courts have been on the parks wish list for a long time the last two public input sessions the parks committee had the dog park was number one. The committee decided that the Township will be able to decide if they want to do the courts or not given the lack of funding from the foundation.

Homeyer asked the reason why the funding did not come through. Peterson indicated that they were not as successful in fundraising as they thought they would be. The foundation is still hopeful that they may be able to provide some funding similar to the \$10,000 they gave for the soccer and baseball fields

Request from Gerald R Ford Airport to prohibit drones at the Rec Park

Peterson showed the Committee a map of the park in relation to the airports planned future east west runway. The airport is asking that we prohibit drones in the park as a preemptive measure. Some concern was expressed on whether or not this would impact Kites, remote controlled airplanes and rockets, since some of these have been used in the park in the past without incident.

The committee discussed the issue and felt that any inconvenience would be overcome by the desire to be safe. It was also noted that you could still do some of these other things at other locations. The committee is recommending the Township Board make the amendment to the park rules but that we also seek clarification from the airport how this will impact other similar uses at the park.

Update on Trail signage from Rob Beahan

Beahan indicated that he is continuing to work with the boy scouts on trail signage for Peace, Burton and McGraw Parks. Some signage has already been developed and he will continue to expand the signage as permitted by the different Eagle scouts become available.

Homeyer asked about if the Foundation will continue to raise money for the trail signage. Beahan indicated that they will and that depending on how much money they raise may dictate what we do for more signage.

Beahan indicated that he will update the Foundation on his effort so that they will be on the same page.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am.

Minutes recorded by –
Steve Peterson
Planning Director