

Meeting Minutes
Cascade Charter Township
Pathways Committee
Thursday, November 4, 2022
10:00 am
5920 Tahoe Dr

ARTICLE 1. Manager Swayze called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

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

ARTICLE 2. Approve the current Agenda

Motion was made by Member Brown to approve the current Agenda. Supported by Member Reese. Motion carried 6 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. Approval for the Minutes of the 10.6.22 Meeting

Motion was made by Member Brown to approve the 10.6.22 meeting minutes as written. Supported by Member Rissi. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 5. Pathway Committee Officers

Member Coffey arrived at the meeting.

Motion was made by Member Brown to appoint Member Rissi as the Pathways Committee Chair. Supported by Member Driscoll. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Motion was made by Supervisor Lesperance to appoint Member Driscoll as the Pathways Committee Vice Chair. Supported by Member Brown. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Motion was made by Supervisor Lesperance to appoint Member Brown as the Pathways Committee Secretary. Supported by Member Reese. Motion carried 7 to 0.

ARTICLE 6. Term Assignment

In order to manufacture staggered terms, the four committee member's whose term isn't tied to their term on the board they are representing drew slips of paper to determine if their term would end in 2024 or 2025. The terms for Members Coffey and Brown will expire in 2024 and Members Driscoll and Taylor's terms will expire in 2025.

ARTICLE 7. 2023 Reconstruction Program Update

Engineer Thorne completed a plan to repair the pathways in the two areas the committee chose at the previous meeting. Member Reese will meet with Engineer Thorne to discuss a few design elements that he had questions on such as the crowned path in one area that may need a cross slope for drainage. Member Rissi mentioned

that this may also cause trouble for snow removal. Engineer Thorne explained that the crowning would only be approximately 2% so that wouldn't likely be a problem.

Engineer Thorne said that most the path's target areas will be reconstructed but a few will be mill and fill. He wouldn't know which areas for sure until he took cores to see the path's composition.

After meeting with Member Reese, Engineer Thorne will request bids and have approval of the chosen bid added to the December 14, 2022 Township Board meeting.

The committee discussed whether they should include a set timeframe for the project in the RFP or if they should let the applicants propose a time frame they are available, in hopes of getting a lower price. They determined that there will be two alternatives to bid on: one where the project must be completed by the end of June and the other where the project must be completed by the end of the 2023 construction season.

ARTICLE 8. Projects Review

The committee discussed the Cascade Road pedestrian bridge and that the DDA was not interested in funding the pedestrian walkways on the sides of the Cascade Road bridge. The DDA was more interested in a path under the bridge or a separate pedestrian bridge. A completely separate pedestrian bridge would cost close to \$2 million, eliminating it as an option. They will share this information at the next DDA meeting and see if they would be willing to fund at least one of the pedestrian walkways.

The Pathways Committee currently is most interested in only building the pathway on the east side of the bridge. TM Swayze said it would cost around \$250,000 per side and that when they reached out to the Road Commission about building a path under the bridge, they were unable to get an estimate because it would require much more engineering and planning that adding the sections on the already existing bridge.

Member Taylor suggested the path be completed from Spaulding and Hall St to the Watermark entrance. Manager Swayze said that, in 2020, the township spent eight months working with the owners of Watermark but they were never able to procure an easement to complete that section of path. The township originally worked with an HOA in the neighborhood to procure the easement but it turned out there was an overarching HOA for that community that didn't want to allow the path and that stopped the process. Some members of the committee will check out that section of the Pathway before the next meeting. TM Swayze suggested they may be willing to allow an easement if the pathway went past Watermark and through to Forest Shores or Burton St so that the pathway doesn't just stop in front of their community. He will send the plans the township previously proposed to the members before the next meeting.

Member Reese and Supervisor Lesperance talked about the Laraway Lake section of path that they find to be very dangerous. Member McDonald brought this area up at a recent Township Board meeting. Manager Swayze said that they had previously tried to modify this section and the resident living on the hill there was very helpful but didn't want a path ruining their landscaping. TM Swayze will also send out the previous plans for the Laraway Lake section of path for the members to examine before the next meeting.

Member Coffey requested the section of Buttrick and Cascade Road with the hill for enhancing. He said there is a person on that section of the road who routinely tries to

run people off the road. This section doesn't currently have a path along the edge or even a shoulder.

Member Rissi suggested that the Cascade Road and Whitneyville sections of path will need to be repaired in the short term as well.

The committee will talk more about pathway expansions and maintenance in the next meeting while they are establishing the budget.

ARTICLE 9. Budget & CIP Discussion

At the next budget meeting, the committee will go over Engineer Thorne's plan to repair current sections of the pathway from 2023 until the end of the pathway's millage. The next CIP plan will be setup at the end of 2022, so the committee will need to decide what they would like to recommend the Township Board include by the end of their December meeting.

ARTICLE 10. Acknowledge visitors and those wishing to speak to non-agenda items.

There weren't any visitors who wished to speak.

ARTICLE 11. Any Other Business

Member Taylor asked for an update on the dead trees hanging over the path. TM Swayze said that he and Building and Grounds Supervisor MacDonald have been working with Manchester Group to get the branches removed, since they are on their property. They will likely propose a resolution where the cost of trimming the trees is split between Manchester Group and the Township.

Member Coffey was also very concerned about an area at the bottom of Old 28th St that ends in a blind curb at the bottom of a hill and a light post is installed in the middle of the pathway. Building and Grounds Supervisor MacDonald and Engineer Thone are working with Kent Home Services to investigate sidewalk repair in some of the more damaged areas and will look into having the inconveniently placed light post removed. TM Swayze also shared that the Road Commission will be resurfacing the Burton Street bridge in 2023 and the Township may be able to request they resurface the approaches as part of that project.

The next meeting will begin at 9:30 am so that there is more time to plan and work out a budget for the next year.

Admin Assistant Stine will create a committee roster to be provided to members at or before the next meeting.

ARTICLE 12. Adjournment

Motion was made by Member Reese to adjourn. Supported by Member Taylor. Motion carried 7 to 0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:26am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rik Brown, Secretary