



P.O. Box 778  
Tawas City, Michigan 48764-0778

**Parks and Recreation Minutes**, February 21, 2023 at County Building, Tawas City

Present: Gary Blaser, Jim McArdle, Bob Leslie, Jane Hayward, Brian Loeffler, Cheryl McDonell, Ben Brewer, Fred Strauer, Jerry Smith

Absent:

Guests: -Groomers

**Approval of the Agenda:** Motion, support and carried

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion, support and carried

**Public Matters and Concerns:** Diamond mower system was delivered yesterday

**Committee Reports:**

a. **Bike/Hiking Trails:**

- a. Bike path: will be at barn this year. Ausable south with begin on April 7, waiting for MDOT. Staging area to be expanded for construction. Do we need a plan ahead of time? Katerman will have ready for clearing and grubbing,

b. **Snowmobile/ORV Trails:**

- a. Diamond mower has been delivered.
- b. Groomer workshop: always send 3 people Joel and Ken can attend Gary is not sure yet. Suggested that we plan on 4 attending, Gary will finalize
- c. Porta potty was tipped over on trail by Kiwana monument. Asked to move off road a little more. Little willies fixed and groomers will clear a spot next spring that is more hidden off road.

c. **Park Development Committee:**

d. AuSable Pocket Park: no report

e. VanEtten Park: Discussion on erosion. Recommendation from conservation expert: Banks are good, consider putting vegetation near the waterline. Anything we do to bring more people in will be damaging to the ecosystem. Would need to check with building department to see if we need soil erosion permit. No agreement with township to maintain. Planting can be allowed to help hold soil. Straw matting can be rolled out to hold sand bank is another option.

**Unfinished Business:**

-Master plan: no report

-Map of trails: Meeting two weeks ago. Corrected version sent forward

**New Business**

- a. Touch a Truck: Oscoda June 10<sup>th</sup>. Bring tractors and Diamond groomer. Gary will make a sign/poster Print and Go
- b. Sue Flora- Sent in her letter of resignation- Told the board will appoint a replacement from Planning commission

**Public Comments and Concerns:**

- a. Jane asked who cut the pine trees by the whirlpool. Federal land/ Consumers? There is also a staging area planned for the bike path.
- b. DNR and forestry have been out enforcing traffic rules.
- c. ORV grant is due May 1.

**Payment of Bills and Per Diems:** Motion made, seconded and approved—all ayes

**Adjourn: 3:45 pm**

**Next Meeting March 13, 2023 at 3 p.m. At County Building Tawas City**

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl McDonell