



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

Parks and Recreation Minutes, May 15, 2023 at Footsite Barn

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

Absent: Fred Strauer

Guests: -Groomers, Jamie, AuSable Trailriders

Approval of the Agenda: Motion, support and carried

Approval of Minutes: Motion, support and carried

Public Matters and Concerns: Introduction of Scott Wesley to board. CPA with cute kids.

Spring clean-up last week, two recliners on trail and more than a half truck load of debris.
There is a dumpster off monument road, will check to see who owns.

Committee Reports:

a. Bike/Hiking Trails:

- a. Where to put parking lot? See how develops, maybe extend parking at barn. Not sure what will need to be used. Plan to put in a pad and a couple benches and a hitching post for horses. Will we need to post signs? Jim will research and report next meeting.
- b. AuSable part of bike trail has been awarded to Katterman to complete job. Will begin in fall. Trees down by school will be burned in fall/winter, defendable space. Forest service project. \$750 fine for spark resistor requirement not being met

b. Snowmobile/ORV Trails:

- a. Oscoda Airport Authority: Change routing of trail: Jamie Downs, trail around outside of base on inside of fence. Move porta potty to other side by park, concern with ice fisherman using and requiring more pumping. Gary will meet with him again and see where the trails can go to by-pass the wells.
- b. Porta-potty request for ORV trails with state: Lil Willies still has one there waiting to see if state will pay for the summer. Asking for 2, still have not heard from state.
- c. Sheriff was out no trails, over 50 inches and you hit or hit someone you are at fault because trail is not set up for vehicles of that size. Federal is 50 inches. U.P. has 65 inch trails.

c. Park Development Committee:

- a. AuSable Pocket Park: request for rod holders, installed 6 rods. New sign stating parking is for Park use only.
- b. Call from Grant Township: Sent off a grant application.
- c. VanEtten Park: no report

Unfinished Business:

-Map of trails: meeting of map committee to finalize May 22, 3pm.

New Business

- a. Touch a Truck: Oscoda June 10th. Bring tractors and Diamond groomer. Gary will make a sign/poster Print and Go. 7:30am to 4:30pm.

Public Comments and Concerns:

- a. Road commission: request for side by sides along water, road commission said no. Bad idea, request for 3 blocks, get atv to get to new hotel. Can go to mill St. to go over bridge. No farther
- b. Golf carts in Tawas City, difficulty to enforce where they can go
- c. Two deer TB positive, additional AG testing now. Deer moving into urban areas more. DNR has programs to assist communities to monitor. Watch for health of wildlife, schools can utilize food.
- d. Finish off room between buildings to store signs and work on equipment in the winter, Groomers ask to drywall and heat.
- e. ORV grant: brushing for snow but not ORV. Trail restoration not to be used for brushing. Paige Perry, not forth coming with information. Snow starts in sept, but withoak wilt can start in July. \$800 - \$900 a day to run equipment, South Branch to Sand Lake 22 hours. Could be able to move funds between allocation, or ask for another grant to cover. Diamond mower can be used for ¼ mile a day. Next Feb/March we need to have a meeting to determine what we need to ask for when writing the grant. Will work on numbers to see what can be done.
- f. Alcona county is asking for losco to do work on their trails. There will need to be an agreement between counties for use of the equipment. Alcona county is only snowmobile no longer ORV. Liability and costs work out between counties.

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

Adjourn: 4:09 pm

Next Meeting June 12, 2023 at 3 p.m. At Footsite Barn

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl McDonell