

Casco Township Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2022

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** meeting called to order at 7:00 pm at Casco Township Hall.
Committee members present: Andy Litts, Paul Macyauski, Debbie Weaver, Don Kuick, Heidi Frasure and Matt Super.
Others Present: Kathy Stanton (assistant clerk) and Kelly Hecker (recording secretary).
2. **Approval of Agenda:** no changes proposed. Agenda approved by all.
3. **Approval of the February 8th, 2022 Minutes:** Paul motioned to approve. 2nd by Debbie. Approved by all
4. **Correspondence:** Don spoke with someone at the Nature Preserve who would like to see the park kept a little neater. Fallen trees are posing a safety hazard. They want the park kept cleaner and more brush for rabbit habitat. Don observed lettuce and carrots are being thrown on the ground for wildlife.
5. **Public Comment:** none
6. **First Street:** Heidi was recently at First Street and said it looked good. Paul said the 3 stair treads have not yet been repaired. Andy will ask Alan to ask Karen to trim shrub overhang. Paul will followup with Davis Landscaping about stair tread repair.
7. **Maple Grove Property:** Approved January meeting minutes were emailed to Pam for recreation plan on February 8th.

Don provided specs for sycamores to the committee Price \$550/tree. Discussion of 7 trees:

Platanus occidentalis 'Exclamation'. @ 2 1/2".

Trees evenly spaced and in a straight line.

Each tree shall have wire cage 2"x4"x4' with a diameter of approximately 8".

Trees shall have a 5' diameter of mulch. Mulch shall not be against the tree. 3" deep.

Natural flare shall be above the ground.

At planting each tree will be watered-nutrient- at planting with approximately 30 gallons each

Three additional watering -nutrients- approximately 45 days apart after planting, 25 gallons per tree per application.

One year guarantee

Nutrients I use in watering:

300 gallon tank with unchlorinated water.

8 oz molasses

4 oz cal-mag

04 oz photoplex

4 oz photosynthesis plus (microb life)

4 oz manganese

4 oz flora duo "A" or equal.

I will take a walk today to measure the area.

From north gate to one tree south of low area if accepted.

APPROVED

Motion: Paul motioned to make recommendation to the board for the tree planting expenditure of \$3,850. Debbie 2nd motion. Vote: Ayes – 5, Nays – 0, Abstained – 1. *Motion Approved.*

Karen wondering about condition of fence along the bluff.

Matt suggested hire someone to keep Nature Preserve clean. Discussion of maintenance and upkeep of Maple Grove and Nature Preserve. Decided wood chip piles will be spread under trees along the road from the Nature Preserve entrance gate to the north.

Cleanup also needed around the restroom.

8. **Nature Preserve:** Discussion of keeping Nature Preserve clean – balancing of natural areas and human walking paths. Brambles/prickles are a safety hazard, and strangling vines are invasive and need to be removed.

Agreement to meet at Nature Preserve for April meeting. Bring color tape/ spray paint to mark trees.

Debbie researched bulb planting and will contact past members of Friends of Casco Nature Preserve. Discussion of community involvement event.

9. **Miami Park:** sloughing continues. There are people in the community who are looking to ‘get rid of’ ground water; more information coming. Unsightly pipe and wire remains. Neighborhood members have been advised to not scale the bluff to remove them. There is also neighborhood interest in planting foliage on the bluff. Neighborhood discussions continue about management options.

Citizens will need to submit a letter to the Parks & Rec Committee for permission to plant vegetation on township property along bluff.

10. **Board Update:** none

11. **Round Table:** Don – money available through state for invasion species removal. Heidi – Soil Erosion Committee: meetings on hold for time being; erosion language will be added to township Master Plan. Andy – none. Paul – none. Kelly – none. Debbie – wondering about updates regarding grant contract; no updates from Pam yet.

12. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 12th, 2022 at 7:00pm at Casco Nature Preserve.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Kelly Hecker