

**Casco Township Parks & Recreation Committee Regular Meeting
May 12, 2015**

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm. Those present were: Bruce Brandon, Pam Blough, John Johnson, Josiah Jessup, Johanan Jessup, Sandra Warren, and Kathy Brandon.
Absent: Louie Howerton
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** Agenda approved.
3. **Review of the April 14, 2015 minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes with corrections/ notations was made by John Johnson 2nd by Johanan Jessup. Motion carried to approve the April 14, 2015 minutes.
4. **Correspondence:** none
5. **Public Comment:** One public present: Don Kuick, who lives at 827 Blue Star Hwy. No comment.
6. **Blue Star Pathway Update:** None
7. **West Side County Park Project Update:** The project is ongoing with good progress.
8. **Friends of the Nature Preserve:** Spring cleanup date is Saturday May 16th. Bruce has contacted the group leader, GiGi. He made a list of things to do that he will share with her.
9. **Anonymous donation to the Nature Preserve:** The Township Board approved the purchase of the White Pine and also some plantings. Allan will make the arrangements with DeBest for the planting. Sandy talked about purchasing plant material from the Allegan County Native Plant sale. John made a motion, seconded by Josiah to spend \$85 toward the purchase of native plants for the Nature Preserve. This motion was approved by all.
10. **New revisions to the Parks Ordinance:** The Township Board approved the wording and advertised the changes to the Parks Ordinance Policy. New rules take effect 30 days after public notice. This needs to be laminated and placed into the placards in the park.
11. **Sea Grant Equipment Grants:** Presented at the Board meeting and was supported by all. Allan was going to request more information from the Sea Grant Representative.
12. **Casco Township Nature Preserve:**
 - a. **Operation and Maintenance:** Porta Potty is out there and regular service has started. Mowing as started by is behind schedule because of all the rain. The gate hours right now are 8am to 8pm. Allan will be changing the hours to match the Park Ordinance of 8 am to 10 pm. The Company who built the stairway will be making the repair.

- b. CZM Parking lot grant application: Allan got a call and Pam had been notified about taking more measurements and supplying other documents and information, which she is working on. Pam considers this good news as we seem to be working deeper into the process.
- c. Funding sign: Bruce is still working on that.

13. **1st Street Beach Hand rail and stairs:** Nothing is of immediate concern, Bruce talked with Allan and will be taken care of in early summer.
14. **Update from Township Board Representative:** Josiah stated that the Board had accepted a quote for the Fire Proof Room, not sure of cost but around \$19 to \$20,000. A 3% cost of living raise was approved for Township Officials. The Murdock Drain Special Assessment was explained. Bill Gilbert will be taking on the Accessors Contract since the death of Douglas Brousseau, a correction from last month. The Township will be having a training from SHAES on the new defibrillator that is in the offices. Paving of 71st street will take place.
15. **Committee Member Comments:** Sandy mentioned that Doug Murdock was talking to her about improving the property around the Township Hall. She thought he would be at this meeting. Pam mentioned this was also on the five year plan. She will add it to the next meeting agenda. Bruce has been working on a check list for the Nature Preserve. This would be a good tool to look at several times a year. He provided a list for the committee members to look at for discussion at the next meeting. Don Kirk wondered about invasive species on the Nature Preserve Site. Pam mentioned to him that we had worked on that topic and is a work in progress. Pam also mentioned that we still have a vacancy on this Committee.
16. **A motion to adjourn** was made by John and 2nd by Johanan. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted:
Kathy Brandon