

**Casco Township Parks and Recreation Committee**  
**October 8, 2013**

1. **Call to order and roll call:** Chair Bruce Brandon called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. Those committee Members present were: Louis Howerton, David Dobreff, Sandra Warren, Pamela Blough, and Kathy Brandon. Members absent were: John Johnson and Tom Storr
2. **The agenda** for this meeting was approved.
3. **The Meeting minutes from September 10, 2013** were approved and accepted by all.
4. **Correspondence:** None
5. **Public Comment:** None
6. **Township Hall tree plantings:** This project will proceed as planned toward the end of October, 2013.
7. **Friends of the Nature Preserve:** Bruce Brandon has corresponded with GiGi Sizemore, who has volunteered to lead the group. They will get together to plan some spring projects. The Park looks very good, things are filling in nicely and the north area has been mowed.
8. **Blue Star Pathway Update:** The city of Douglas has started their portion of the trail. Significant changes in State and M-DOT funding are giving the project a more favorable outlook. The group members have also been doing Community outreach by holding informational sessions throughout the Communities.
9. **Casco Township Nature Preserve Progress:**
  - a. Pam and township Clerk Cherri Brenner have gotten together to get all of the financial information needed for Pam to close out the MDNR south property grant.
  - b. Coastal Management Grant Project update: Two bids for the stairway were received, these bids were rejected by the township Board. A bid was received from "Oselka Builders Inc." for a wooden stairway which was accepted by the Board. Now we can apply for the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control permits.
  - d. Beach Rules and Operations were deferred until the November meeting.
  - e. Operation and Maintenance: There have not been any complaints or sighting of dogs in the Park. repair of the Pathway will take place with the Stair installation project.
  - f. Pam also resubmitted the MNRTF Grant with additional information in hopes of increasing our score. This grant is for additional parking in the north side of the park .
  - g. Future signage at the Preserve for Winter Bidding: We will work on a signage package, which will include, no bikes, tick signage, north property signage, Beach access, information board, and two interpretive signs.
10. **Invasive Species Policy & Vegetative Management:** The County will be hiring a new Park Administrator Within the next few months, setting policy will be part of his/her job.
11. **Update from Township Board Representative,** absent this month of October.
12. **Committee member comments:** Sandy Warren presented an article from the Grand Rapids Press about A Caledonia Nature Preserve. She also stated that she would stay on as a committee member.
13. **A motion** was made by David Dobreff and seconded by Louis Howerton to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried, meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted:

Kathy Brandon 10-20-13