

Casco Township Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2021

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** Andy called meeting to order at 7:06 pm at Casco Township Hall.
Committee members present: Paul Macyauski, Debbie Weaver, Matt Super, and Andy Litts.
Others Present: Kelly Hecker, recording secretary, and Kathy Stanton.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** motion made by Paul to approve agenda; 2nd by Super. All in favor.
3. **Approval of the May 11, 2021 Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes made by Super; 2nd by Weaver. Approved by all. *Motion passed.*
4. **Correspondence received:** None
5. **Maple Grove Property & Nature Preserve:** Researcher from Michigan State University, Lucas Rabins, has contacted the township requesting permission to study erosion of the bluff via drone monitoring technology. Casco Township would be one research site in a larger study of coastline erosion around the Great Lakes. Participation in the project would entail installation of 6 temporary control point markers to use as reference points along the western edge of the Maple Grove park. Discussion ensued regarding impact on maintenance routines, walking safety, aesthetics, and possible adaptations to the markers for times when they are not being used. Seeing participation as informative and beneficial for the township, all members voiced favor of permitting this research project. Andy will contact the researcher to discuss details and concerns.

Paul reported that Joe cleaned up Maple grove property. Looks good. Cost - \$4680. GPS measurement shows the Maple grove field to be less than 6 acres. Seeking mowing bids - \$1,200 is best bid. Paul made a ***motion of support to get the Maple Grove property be mowed by June 20th, 2021.*** All voted in favor. ***Motion passed.***

Tree work done in Nature Preserve: Paul received feedback from a community member who said the work on the Nature Preserve looks good. Fleming Tree Service is continuing to work on cleaning up.

Powerwashing has yet to be completed.

Committee reviewed parks maintenance checklist submitted by township employee.
6. **First Street property:** Neighbor to the south is very happy with trimmings along pathway. Landscaping looks good. Another community member also commented that it is looking really good. A couple of community members have expressed concerns about parking along the road. Discussion of possible deterrents included installing boulders or signage. Committee is waiting to see if it becomes more of an issue before making any decisions.
7. **Miami Park:** Debbie reported that the bluff is falling in, potentially dangerous for public on township property. Suggested to use signs but, in the past, signs posted on the dune fall in with the erosion and those posted by the water get washed away and there are concerns about liability. All members were in favor of making a motion to the board to post a sign on the revetment stating: "Unstable and dangerous bluff conditions."

APPROVED

8. **Budget Review:** Review of the committee's budget as of 4/30/2021. Discussion followed of how to best utilize park maintenance and development funds. By 2023, we will need to have \$100,000 to match the grant, if awarded. Ideas brought forth in the discussion: spreading woodchips and setting picnic tables in Maple Grove area, desire for pavilion and water source, need for prioritizing projects, keeping in mind the master plan, a survey of park visitors to gather community input on the park.

For next meeting, committee members will bring proposals for small, "wish list" park improvements including costs of materials & installation.

9. **Board Update:** Board has proposed putting together a committee to study revetments in Casco Township. Concerned community member has requested moratorium put on building revetments in Casco township immediately. Two members nominated from Parks & Rec Committee: Heidi Frasure and Debbie Weaver (as long as there is no nepotism concerns; if there are, she would prefer that her husband Jon, PC member, serve on the committee).
10. **Round Table:** Super – appreciates differing views on committee; Weaver – none; Hecker – none; Litts- will aim to get more specifics on budget for July meeting; Macyauski – committee presentation for Annual Meeting.
11. **Adjournment:** Litts motion to adjourn. 2nd by Weaver. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

Next meeting is Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:00pm at Casco Township Hall.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Kelly Hecker