

Casco Township Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2021

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** Andy called meeting to order at 7:06 pm.
Committee members present in person: Matt Super, Andy Litts, Don Kuick, Heidi Frasure, Paul Macyauski.
Those present via Zoom: Debbie Weaver
Others Present: Pam Blough, Kelly Hecker (serving as recording secretary), and Kathy Stanton.
2. **Pam Blough presentation:** update from Pam Blough on status of MNRTF grant application. Debbie reported letters of support from area schools, real estate, disability, nature lovers, seniors, Blue Star Trail. Pending letters from Allegan County Parks & Rec and Allegan Conservation District. Suggestion to contact SW Michigan Land Conservancy (Heidi will contact).

Pam stressed that a motion of support from a public hearing is needed. ***Public Hearing to be held at next township board meeting on Monday, March 15, 2021 @ 7pm. Resolution of Support will be proposed.***

Maintenance plan for the parks will also be needed for the grant application.

3. **Approval of the February 9, 2020 Minutes:** Kelly noted typo on Item #3; will revise & resubmit. Motion to approve the minutes made by Matt. Vote roll call: Litts – yes, Kuick – yes, Frasure – yes, Macyauski – yes, Super – yes. *Motion passed.*
4. **Correspondence received:** Letters of support received for MNRTF grant application.
5. **Public Comments:** none
6. **Maple Grove Property:** Matt proposed regular mowing/growing of Maple Grove section of the Nature Preserve and that board should set measurable standard for landscape maintenance.

Discussion of preserve/ park safety and management/removal of dead and dying trees on Maple Grove property. Prioritize area around parking lot. Additional discussion included the advantages/ disadvantages of grinding stumps, root removal. Consider public perception of tree removal in a public nature preserve.

Proposed fieldtrip for April 13th, 2021 meeting to Maple Grove property to assess trees.

7. **First Street property:** Paul reported a quote to replace decking on stair landing from Davis Landscaping in the amount of \$1,900 (up to an additional 20% - contingency). Quote included removal of benches, sistering all joists, removal and replacement of decking, and re-placement of benches.

Discussion followed. Timeline of project - Estimated to be done in May. Debbie would like to get another bid, supported by Don. Disadvantage of getting another bid is concern about timeliness. Paul made a motion to recommend to the board approval of a budget of \$2300.00 to repair landing on stairs

on First Street property. 2nd by Heidi. Vote roll call: Weaver – yes, Macyauski – yes, Kuick – yes, Super – yes, Frasure – yes, Litts – yes. *Motion passed.*

8. **Nature Preserve:** Paul made a motion that the Parks committee propose a resolution of support for the Maple Grove project at the public hearing on March 15th, 2021. 2nd by Heidi. Weaver – yes. Kuick – yes. Super – yes. Macyauski – yes. Frasure – yes. Litts – yes. Motion passed unanimously. *Motion passed.*
9. **Miami Park:** erosion continues.
10. **Board Update:** working with Pam Blough to complete MNTRF grant app before April 1st, 2021.
11. **Round Table:** Andy – reminded group of public hearing for Maple Grove project on Monday March 15th, 2021.
12. **Adjournment:** Matt motioned for adjournment; 2nd by Litts. Approved by all. *Motion passed.* Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:00pm at Nature Preserve parking lot.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Kelly Hecker