

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

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** meeting called to order at 7:05 pm at Casco Township Hall.
Committee members present: Paul Macyauski, Debbie Weaver, Don Kuick, Heidi Frasure, Matt Super, and Andy Litts.
Others Present: Kathy Stanton (assistant clerk) and Kelly Hecker (recording secretary).
2. **Approval of Agenda:** motion made by Matt to approve agenda; 2nd by Don. All in favor.
3. **Approval of the October 12, 2021 Minutes:** Approved by all.
4. **Correspondence received:** Sarah Smothers requesting to put a geocache at Casco Twp Nature Preserve. All agree it is a good idea.
5. **Public Comment:** Julie Cowie 876 ½ Blue Star Hwy, chair of Soil Erosion Committee.
6. **First Street property:** Paul reported grass is at least 1 foot onto brick walking path and branches overhanging walkway. Suggested to ask Karen to do some pruning to keep pathway clear.
7. **Maple Grove Property:** Andy reported no update from MSU drone project for this month. Also reported that Pam Blough reported no update on the MNRTF grant yet. Discussion of revisions resubmitted.

Survey Update: bundling surveys for post office tonight. QRS code works. Paul commented that the survey looks great.

Julie Cowie, chair of the Erosion Committee, presented Michigan Coastal Management Program. Casco Twp has participated in the past – previously funded the Casco Nature Preserve stairs. Currently the program is funding technical assistance, planning assessment & design – including natural infrastructure and green infrastructure, and working with communities to support resilience (figuring out how to embrace erosion nature of the coast). Consider applying for a planning grant to explore what could be done. Suggest: ramp to facilitate access to the beach. Timeframe 2023. 1:1 match. Planning grants \$10,000-100,000. To hire a nature-based firm to design. Matching funds feasibly could come from 2023 millage.

Construction funding is relatively modest (max 200,000).

Discussion of previous estimates for terracing and similar projects happening in other communities. Features of Preserve: ADA accessible, increases access to natural features, smooth surface, and public access to natural features.

Timeframe: grant app is due 12/29/21. Julie is volunteering to write/coordinate the grant application. She is offering to present this to the board, obtain docs needed for application, and estimates. Docs possibly needed: resolution (may need vote at December meeting.), letters of support, map, ...
15 month grant cycle: October 2022 – December 2023.

Committee supports this proposal.

APPROVED

8. **Nature Preserve:** Debbie has grills, offering to install them but requesting input for locations for installation. Committee decided to store them at the township hall until spring.
9. **Miami Park:** erosion continues
10. **Board Update:** no park related business
11. **Round Table:** Paul – none; Debbie – none; Matt – question on the drawings provided at start of meeting, Andy clarified ADA accessibility max 5% slope; Don – none; Kelly – none;
12. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 7:00pm at Casco Township Hall.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Kelly Hecker