

**LONG LAKE TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
June 19, 2019**

MEETING NOTES

The Parks and Recreation Committee meeting started at 4:06 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Those in attendance were: Jim Saunby, Larry Vanderburg, Rondi Fry, Dave Garvin, Jacob Bournay, Kyler Moran, Eric Brown, Karen Rosa and Trish Mehney.

Rondi reported on Bull Head Lake. She said all is going well with this park. She will be meeting with Steve from the Conservancy to talk about trail updates/additions/expansion as very little of the 29 acres are accessible with the trails that are currently developed. She asked if we could place a sign in the road right-a-way to emphasize the entrance as the sign is up on a hill & very difficult to see. I will check with the County Road Commission to see if this is permissible. Rondi also mentioned that a couple of the benches are broken & the boundary sign has been ripped off its pole. Jim will look into repairing/replacing these. We will reach out to see if there are any boy scouts looking for projects for the two benches as they were previously built by them.

Larry Vanderburg reported on Cedar Run Creak Natural Area (CRCNA). He mentioned that the rail road grade still needs work. They still need to fill the ditch with rocks or build a bridge. Jim S mentioned that he had talked to Karen about having Fleis & Vandenbrink (Twp engineers) give us a plan to fix this issue. Jim will contact them & set up a meeting. Larry also mentioned that they need more logs for fill further South, the rolling pads he built have held up well & he could build more for the railroad grade if needed but a boarder with stone filler would be better. The bridge to the cabin is still in good shape but the cabin has one broken window. Jim covered it with plastic for now. He is planning to cut some trees at the top of the hill to give better access. Eric Brown offered to help him with his tractor, he can bring it over to the NA with his trailer. He & Larry will coordinate this project. He mentioned that Jim really needs a smaller vehicle with a trailer to get into these smaller areas, Jacob mentioned that maybe he could borrow the Rocon to see how that would work. People are still using the corner of the neighboring property but at this point it hasn't caused any visible problems. The Scouts built 3 display boxes that are still empty and in need of repair. Karen felt these should just be removed for now.

Jim Saunby reported on South Long Lake Forest Natural Area (SLLFNA). He mentioned that the fence by the parking lot is broken & he has contacted a fence company to get a quote to replace it. Eric Brown mentioned that SLLFNA needs more trails & Jacob spoke about the possibility of creating bike trails at this NA.

Jacob Bournay gave an update on the Timbers Recreation Area UA (universal accessibility) trail that will be constructed this fall. The Timbers will be closed for September & October during construction for liability purposes. Kyler Moran (with AmeriCorps) is creating a survey that will start within the next few weeks & run through the late fall to document use & feedback both before & after the new UA trail has been completed. He will share these results with the Township once they have been compiled. We will need to do a mailing to neighbors regarding the closure along with signing before hand so people are aware of this temporary closing. Jim S will get signs made for the entrance now and will post them a.s.a.p.

After construction is complete Jacob will co-ordinate volunteers for plantings along the picnic area & new trail. He may be working with Emily Cook from GoBeyondBeauty to create a pollinator example garden. Jacob is still seeing some vandalism on the barns & will need to replace the sliding doors & secure it better. Karen mentioned we should contact someone who does barn restoration to be sure we do not change the character of the barns. We will research this. Jacob will also be working on trails on the South end that currently lead to nowhere. Jim would like to see new trail signs & Jacob said he would like to create all new signs when the UA trails in complete. Jim will help with this.

Larry asked about the Parks & Recreation Plan. When will this be updated? It expired last December. Leslie S. if working on this & hopes to have it done this year.

Please remember:

We are now required to have all volunteers fill out a waiver form, which can be found on our website - longlaketownship.com, or picked up here at our office. If you are currently volunteering or plan to volunteer in our Parks, please fill this form out and drop it off at the Township offices as soon as possible, thank you.

We adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Thank you,
Trish Mehney

NOTE: I neglected to mention that we are working on replacing the playground equipment on the North side of the baseball diamonds here at Haywood Park. The current playground has been there for many years & is in disrepair. Due to its age we are unable to replace the parts of this structure that are broken & becoming dangerous for the children to play on. This playground is for 5 to 12-year old's. We are hoping to complete this project before winter.