1. CALL TO ORDER

START TIME

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (minimum 4 members)  Members Present:  7

MOTION  Jenn Miller  SECOND BY  Aaron Whatley

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS  Arquette-Palermo, Michelle  Present  Berwick, Jay  Present

Miller, Jenn  Present  Richards, Jerry  Not Present

Cotter, BC  Present  Williams, Tim  Not Present

Gorman, Kevin  Present  Dalrymple, Julia (Board Rep)  Not Present

Steele, Donni (Board Rep)  Present  Birney, Brian (Altn. Board Rep)  Not Present

Landis, Mark (OHM – Twp. Engr.)  Not Present  Whatley, Aaron (P&R Director)  Present

GUESTS:  (n/a)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  MOTION-BY  Donni Stele  SECOND-BY:  Jay Berwick

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA  START TIME

MOTION BY  Donni Stele  SECOND BY  Jenn Miller

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS (3 minute limit per person)  DISCUSSION:  (none)

MOTION BY  SECOND BY

6. NEW BUSINESS  a. Friendship Park Biking Trail Discussion

A trail developer who has developed several trails and is currently finishing up a trail system for the city of Lapeer had performed a walk through with Aaron in the northern section of Friendship park. The developer (Josh McCreedy) is working on a proposal for 2 trail loops that include specialized trail features such as jumps and other obstacles to increase interest. All features will only be optional and have easier paths.
Aaron likes the idea as it will expand the types of use for the park, as well as utilize additional acreage that is not currently utilized. Long term maintenance would be handled by local Mt. Bike communities such as “Clinton River Area Mt. Bike Association” and “Metro Detroit Mountain Bikers.”

The current plan is to see what the options are according to the proposal and consider possibly submitting them for next year’s budget process.

b. Cricket Facility Discussion
The Parks and Rec group has been approached by the “Michigan Cricket Association” about developing a viable Cricket facility within the township boundaries. The Cricket Association has been looking at expending some additional fields in SE Michigan area.

Several options were discussed from sharing soccer fields at Friendship Park, to developing fields near the Orion Center or on the Northern part of the Friendship park where other discussions are underway for possible tennis courts.

The more variable area might be at Jessie Decker Park where there are some still undeveloped areas. Currently the plan may include just leveling out a field and installing a Cricket Batty cage which as being discussed would have a fence. But more importantly, it is adjunct to the subdivision which apparently has a high population of residents which have an interest.

This area would essentially be dedicated to the Cricket except for 8 weeks in the fall when it would share it’s space with youth football.

The Cricket Association would accept all costs for construction of the batting cage and on-going maintenance.

Donni Steele made a motion to continue to pursue, BC seconded the motion.

7. Pending Business
   a. Green Up / Arbor Day Event  Will be April 24, 9Am – 12 PM
      Tree planning for “Tree City”: Orion Township will be one of the few communities recognized during the Tree City USA Virtual Awards and Education. In honor of this, they would like a video to be made showing our outdoors lifestyle. Joe from “On-TV” will be putting together a 30 second clip for the April 1st deadline.

      Donni Steele motioned to accept Aaron’s report. Committee agreed
   b. Capital Project Updates  By Aaron Whately
      i. Wildwood Pavilion: A pavilion design for the top of the hill at the amphitheater has gone out for bids. May 24th is the due date. The township is looking for a 20’x40’ foot structure
      ii. Pickle Ball Courts A plan is being developed for some Pickle Ball courts possibly in Friendship park These would probably be located at the north end of the park north of the existing play structures.
      iii. Sheardy Pavilion Upgrade proposal is being developed.
      iv. Camp Agwam Main Structure: There is still a proposal for a new main structure.
   c. Path Projects
i. Staff routes to School
ii. Tree removal starts soon. Winning bid was 19% under original estimates. There are no timeframes, but commitments to make sure tree removal will be completed by next fall. There are at least 38 trees to be removed
iii. Gregory Meadows Pathway: This is new pathway will be constructed by the Pulte Corporation for the new subdivision off Gregory Road, west of Baldwin. Final easements are being worked out.

d. Polly Ann Invasive Removal: Volunteers worked behind the township offices on the Polly Ann trail. However, vines are so prevalent, that future events will probably be scheduled.

8. Director’s Report (Aaron)
a. Reservations are being made for all seasonal sports. The department is now starting to hire staff for all the anticipated activities

9. Organization Reports

a. Planning Commission:
   i. Lavender Ridge: signs and paving stared on lots in Jesse Decker Park as a community contribution

b. Polly Ann /Paint Creek Update:
   i. Bald Mt. Bridge The state has started the engineering work on the Paint Creek to Bald Mt. South unit bridge.
   ii. Trails Day: April 24 for general clean up of the Polly Ann trail in Green up day. and surrounding area

c. Waterways: Schedules for slow rows have been distributed

d. Bald Mt:
   i. Addison Oaks Connector: Proposal is in Lansing pending Federal approval as protection for the area’s Massasauga rattlesnake.
   ii. Additional Planning: The state may be offering a public feed back for park improvements. There may be some updates by next committee meeting.

   iii. Water Fountain at Paint Creek Connector: In the current environment, the State is not interested in adding a water pump at the intersection of Paint Creek and the Clarkston Connector bridge. And the township is not interesting in maintenance of a possible pump from quarterly testing and other maintenance issues.

10. Committee Comments: (None)

11. Next Steps: Kevin will produce minutes and submit previously approved minutes for records

   Next Meeting: May 20th, 6pm (Most Likely Virtual)

12. Adjournment appx 7pm