



**Charter Township of Orion
Parks and Path Advisory Committee
September 15 2022 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes
Alberici Lodge, Camp Agawam
Clarkston Rd. Lake Orion, MI**

LEADERSHIP:

CHAIRPERSON: Tom Fisher
VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Jenn Miller
SECRETARY: Kevin Gorman

1. CALL TO ORDER **START TIME** **6:05 PM**
DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (minimum 4 members) Members Present: 6
MOTION BY Aaron Whatley (Acting Chairman) **SECOND BY** Julia Dalrymple

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS				
Fisher, Tom	Present	Berwick, Jay	Present	
Miller, Jenn	Present	Richards, Jerry	Absent	
Cotter, BC	Absent	Pike, Elizabeth	Present	
Gorman, Kevin	Present	Dalrymple, Julia (Board Rep)	Present	
Steele, Donni (Board Rep)	Present	Birney, Brian (Altn. Board Rep)	Absent	
Landis, Mark (OHM – Twp. Engr.)	Present	Whatley, Aaron (P&R Director)	Present	
Patrick Ross	Present			

GUESTS:

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES **MOTION BY:** Elizabeth Pike **SECOND BY:** Julia Dalrymple
4. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA **MOTION BY:** Jay Berwick **SECOND BY:** Julia Dalrymple
5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS (3 minute limit per person)

DISCUSSION: (none)

6. New Business

- a. **Criterion Proposal:** Member Kevin Gorman was approached by a member of the LOHS Mountain bike team about the possibility of running a Criterion (a short course road bicycle race) in downtown Lake Orion. Tom proposed using the grounds around the area of the Lake Orion High School (and showed a map) and doing so would potentially involve our committee. If the group would still prefer to do it in Downtown Lake Orion, then they would have to apply to the Village directly. Tom will supply the names of the contacts for the town to investigate this further if they wish.
- b. **Skate Park:** Julia Dalrymple had discussions with some residents looking for more activities for the area's youth. After some discussion, Aaron mentioned that there had been an interest in this topic in prior years and in fact plans had been drawn up for a park in the area where the Wildwood theater is now located. His suggestion is to review this again when the discussions begin for a renewal of the Township's Recreational Plan.

7. Pending Business

- a. **Ultimate Soccer Complex:** Ultimate Sports has put forth a proposal for a multi-million dollar indoor sports and soccer facility located by where the old township offices used to be. This facility would be quite large, and up to 80 feet high. But discussions are centered around the community's interests with a high attention to detail and safety by the Ultimate Sports people.
- b. **Mountain Bike Course Update at Friendship Park:** This appears to be on-track to be constructed this October.
- c. **Safety Path Updates**
 - i. **Path Maintenance:** Patrick showed some of the amazing work done by Forrest on keeping the safety paths clean and the work Forrest has done in trimming back plant growth on the edges of the trails. A lot of deck work done at Foley Pond on Paint Creek trail, along with over 5,000 screws on the boardwalks on Waldon Road. In addition, the staff was proud to show of additional equipment in the form of a small 4 wheeler work vehicle which assists the staff in getting into paths not easily accessible from major roads.
 - ii. **Path Rebuilds/New Construction:** Safety improvements were made recently to the Dragon pocket park
 - iii. **Pending design, bids and Construction of parks & paths:** Discussions centered on the fact that on-going maintenance will be done in the off season which will make a big difference once growing season starts up next year.
- d. **Safe Routes to Schools Update:** A presentation has been created that will presented to each of the elementary schools in the district. It highlights a safety presentation to be made at the schools for the children. And in addition to the safety presentation there is a budget of about \$2,000 per school that should allow funding small projects and improvements such as bicycle racks.

8. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. **Wayfinding:** Wayfinding is the establishment of a consistent set of directional signage that will direct park and paths users around the system. The first step is to pick the actual design (such as fonts, sizes, and background graphics). The company the township is working with has been doing research and should present an initial set of options within the next couple of weeks. Then committee members will be able to select the set of elements they think will work best.

As part of this process, it turns out that signs have already been budgeted for all of the entrances to the Township Parks.

9. Directors' Reports

Start Time: 6:57pm

- a. Budget Review will begin in the next month
- b. Pickleball Courts are awaiting some fencing and some paint for them to be completed (the surface is ready)
- c. There have been some safety improvements made to Dragon Park (Baldwin Rd).
- d. Adult Fitness course equipment has been delivered to the Township and will be installed by where the old Township offices used to be. And in addition, new fitness equipment has been installed at the Township Resource Center.

10. Organization Reports

- a. **Planning Commission – OHM:** Several developments discussed including a large complex to be built at at the corners of Baldwin and Judah. That will include a Chick-fel-A! It was also noted that API Consulting was originally going to install a safety path in front of their business as was discussed in previous meetings. However, they are going to make a donation to the Township's parks and Paths funds instead of putting in their own segment.

- b. **Paint Creek Trail:** A couple of projects on Paint creek were discussed including some improvements near Bloomer Unit, and there has been some discussion by the group helping to maintain the trail regarding some new durable trash cans in locations.
- c. **Polly Anne Trail:** There was a Birthday celebration in early September (and 3 sheet cakes were supplied). The good news is that over \$3,000 dollars were raised for the trail association.
- d. **Upcoming Community Events:** Several events including Orion Palooza, End-of-Summer Luau for Seniors were discussed. October 14th will be Boo Bash, and October 16th will be Car Bingo
- e. **Park Liasson (Bald Mt & Oakland Co):** A first draft of the effort to re-engineer the Bald Mt. South trail system has been shared with some of the principles involved in the project. Not enough details yet to be discussed however, most of the design and documentation is targeted to be done at the end of the regular outdoor construction season (especially after the new trails are constructed at Friendship Park, since they are the same builder). Donni mentioned that the bridge over Paint Creek is scheduled for 2023.
- f. **Friends of Camp Agawam & Tommy's Lake:** Real Men group has raised \$4,200 for cancer this past summer. They are also trying to figure out how to get a good recyclable cans for the Camp Agawam park so the returns can be used to help give back proceeds the camp.

11. **Committee Comments** (none)

12. **Next Meeting: November 17, 2022 – Location TDB**

13. **Adjournment: 8:05 pm Motion:** Tom Fisher **SECOND:** Jay Berwick