



Charter Township of Orion
Parks and Path Advisory Committee
January 19 2023- 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes
Orion Center
1335 Joslyn Rd. Lake Orion, MI 48360

LEADERSHIP:

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

1. CALL TO ORDER **START TIME** 6:02 pm
 DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (minimum 4 members) Members Present: 6
MOTION BY Tom Fisher **SECOND BY** Jenn Miller

2. ROLL CALL

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

GUESTS: Chelsie Petrusha (in for Aaron)

3. Election of Officers

- a. **Chair Person: Tom Fisher,** MOTION BY: Kevin Gorman SECOND by Julia Dalrymple
- b. **Vice Chair: Jenn Miller:** MOTION BY: Tom Fisher SECOND: Joanne Purdon
- c. **Secretary: Position is open and will need to be filled in the next meeting.** Kevin Gorman will document this meeting, but will need to be replaced at the next meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES **MOTION BY:** Julia Dalrymple **SECOND BY:** Jenn Miller
 (This includes September’s minutes and November’s Minutes)

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA **START TIME** 6:04 PM

6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS (3 minute limit per person)

DISCUSSION: (None)

7. New Business

- a. **Master Plan:** Chelsie discussed the Request for Proposal Process. Proposals should be in by the next Parks and Path’s meeting in March.
- b. **Pocket Park:** Julia discussed a proposal for a “sensory garden” at the corner of Pasadena Drive and Baldwin Road. OHM submitted copies of the plan which has been discussed at township meetings.

8. Pending Business

- a. **Grant Status:** Chelsie discussed the status of a couple of grants in progress. This includes a grant to complete a deck that will finish out the back of the Orion Center. In addition a SPARK grant is under submission as well.
- b. **Mountain Bike Course Update:** This was discussed. The trail has officially been completed, and several groups have ridden the trail in November prior to Thanksgiving. An official Trail Coordinator has been recognized and will work with CRAMBA (Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Association, a chapter of the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA)). They will help with events and trail maintenance. There is interest in some further development of additional Mountain bike features such as “skinnies,” “drop offs” and other features to be discussed later this spring. The township (according at a conversation that Tom Fisher had with Aaron and Patrick) will target to have an official ribbon cutting ceremony in April. It is hoped that a date can be selected at the next Committee meeting. CRAMBA and Mainstreet Bicycles have been invited to be part of the event and will be notified when dates are selected and MI Mountain Bike Instructors will most likely include some mini Mountain Bike Skill clinics to be held through out the day.
- c. **Safety Path Updates:** Mark Landis discussed a couple of Maintenance items. Apparently, a minor accident has struck the structure near Camp Agawam on Clarkston Rd. Permits have also been completed to perform some maintenance on some of the failing retaining walls along Clarkston Road.

A special discussion revolved around the proposal for a Criterium Race near the High School. Julie supports the idea, however questions the location around the High School as it would cut off access to parents trying to drop off students for practice events as well as it would impact local residents who share Scripts Road entrance to the High School. The thinking is that perhaps we can figure out an alternate location.

- d. **Safe Routes to Schools Update:** As part of the update, Tom discussed the installation of bike racks at various schools in the township. Scripts has no place to install any, Paint Creek Elementary will get 2 racks as will Orion Oaks. Other schools will get a single rack. Helmet program is still supplying helmets as well
- e. (No parks updates without Patrick)

9. Sub Committee Reports

- a. **Wayfinding:** A Signage master plan was shared with the group. Most of the major park entrances will be upgraded soon, some of the older signs have already started to come down.

10. Director’s Report

- a. **Planning Commission:** Mark shared a rendering of some of the planning for the new circle by Conklin and Orion Road. South Conklin Drive will change where it intersects Orion Road by moving west. A safety path was discussed that will run along the northern edge of the road. One issue is that there is about a 1,000 foot gap where the construction is supposed to stop and where Oakland Township is supposed to pick up path work. This is still under discussion.

Another big change that was discussed is that funding is almost completed to redo Silverbell to Brown Road by the GM plant. Estimates are somewhere around a \$22 million dollar project. Progress on the GM plan can be viewed via a camera installed on the nearby water tower.

- b. **Paint Creek Trail:** Patric has reported that funding is still ongoing to replace a bridge near Rochester on the trail.

- c. **Poly Ann Trail:** It was reported that a vault toilet has been approved near Clarkston road crossing on the trail.
- d. **(not discussed in Partrick's absence: see township events)**
- e. **Bald Mt. Update:** There should be a proposal for the redevelopment of Bald Mt. South trail system by the same trails developer that recently did the new trail at Friendship park. Part of the delay is that the Bald Mt. Manager asked to review the land where the new bridge over Paint Creek trail will enter the park. Hope this will delivered in time to help go after funds that were should be available soon.

11. Next Steps: Next meeting scheduled for March 16th, location to be announced prior to the meeting.

12. Adjournment 7:39 pm: Motion: Tom Fisher **Second:** Jenn Miller

DRAFT