

Vassar Township Parks and Rec Minutes (draft)

December 7, 2016

Call to order 7:00 pm

Prayer led by Chairman Don Clinesmith

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Don Clinesmith

Moment of Silence for December 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor victims

Roll Call:

Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sam Tester	x		
Bob Reil	x		
Janice Zawol(vice-chair)	x		
Tom Borcharding	x	Arrived at 7:50pm	
Fred Welsh (secretary)	x		
Don Clinesmith(chair)	x		
Russ Fall	x		

Minutes from Vassar Parks and Rec

Janice Zawol did not receive a copy the minutes from the recent meeting even though we had copies for this meeting.

October 19, 2016 Meeting Minutes Reviewed:

Fred Welsh said his name should be changed from Welch to Welsh. Russ Fall moved to accept the minutes with corrections. Janice Zawol seconded the motion. Carried.

New Members Welcomed

New Secretary

Russ Fall moved that a new secretary be appointed. Motion seconded. Carried.

Don Clinesmith asked for volunteers. Fred Welsh volunteered. Russ Fall moved Fred Welsh be appointed secretary for Recreation Committee. Janice Zawol seconded the motion. Carried.

## Old Business

Russ Fall reported on the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.

1. 149 apps received. 70 successful. Land acquisition grant.
2. Project Development 38%
3. 11 of these have been awarded in Tuscola County since 1979.

Russ Fall reported on the Land and Water Conservation Grant. Has 50% matching funds.

1. Success rate of 48%

Russ Fall reported on the DNR Passport Grant. Smallest of the three. It goes to \$45,000 only

1. Success rate 73%
2. Conversions from green space cost a fifty-point penalty.
3. First application gets 40 points
- 4.

Fred Welsh asked if a space can or should be set up for a hall on this parcel. Russ Fall said now would be a good time to take this parcel. Russ Fall said that the DNR has been told the park is 26 acres. Fred Welsh said that land can be purchases to replace land converted from green spaces. Bob Reil questioned whether this would need to be an adjoining property.

Russ Fall said that we must have approval from the Board for matching funds. Bruce Foether said he would have to have documentation to say what was being done. Bruce said that a copy of the proposal before it is sent out would work. The grant writers need to present the numbers to the Board by February at the latest. The grant proposal must go in by April 1. Our goal is to submit before March 1. Russ asked if a proposal for a pavilion funded by the township at 25% would be sufficient. Michael Clinesmith asked if a specific resolution stating what the grant is for and the amount must be approved by the Board. Bruce said that we should say that The Parks and Rec Board wants a pavilion which will required \$11,250. Fred asked if the total number would be \$45,000 + \$11250 or \$45,000 - \$11250.

Don Clinesmith mentioned the cost for drives, water and related expenses. Michael Clinesmith asked when bids should be submitted. Bob Reil said contractors would not be interested in costing projects that are two years out.

The size of the proposed pavilion is 30' x 54' x 10' cost is \$6387 for the kit. Bob Reil discussed elevations, stump removal and grading. Donations can be considered as part of the matching funds per Russ Fall.

Don Clinesmith said Jerry Colosky cannot bring in the fill because of health problems. Russ asked Bob Reil if the topsoil had to be stripped. Bob said it did in a school he is working on. We might have to follow these requirements for a grant proposal. Russ said that the grant will have plenty of strings attached. Fred Welsh said that we must write the grant intending to meet state expectations. Russ Fall discussed a booklet that outlines potential problems. Russ mentioned the additional seminars and what he has learned from them.

The Trust Fund Grant covers much higher amounts but are much more difficult to win.

There was agreement to go for the Passport Grant for \$45000. Russ Fall said Vicky Sherry will write the grant for \$600-\$1000. Vicky Sherry said that the design must be done by an engineer. Bob Reil explained that permits will deal with building requirements. (we need to ask Vicky Sherry if she needs a professional drawing or if she truly needs an engineering design).

Fred Welsh moved that we seek the aid of Vicky Sherry from the EDC to write a grant for a fee of up to \$1000 in writing a DNR Passport grant for an amount up to \$45,000 for improvements to the park. Bob Reil seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

#### New Business

Russ Fall also asked if Bob Reil could make us a site plan.

Russ Fall asked if the resolution seeking grants was approved by the township board. Several members said it has.

Bruce Foether said that when a bill was turned in to the township clerk we will have a specific expense identified.

Russ also discussed who would be getting bids for this project. Fred Welsh said that an estimate rather than a bid should be sufficient. Bob Reil agreed that no one will give bids two years in advance.

Russ wants to know who will get these bids. Bob Reil said he could give one set of estimates (not bids). Bob said if two people would help him get the information for the site. Fred Welsh and Russ Fall agreed to meet with Bob at the park at 8:30 am Thursday (tomorrow morning). The site will be 70' x 94' which is the building size plus 20 feet per side. The proposed building is 30 feet by 54 feet.

Don Clinesmith asked Bruce Foether if the Recreation Board can set regulations for the park.

Russ wants the following items added to the agenda in the future:

1. Landscaping
2. Plexiglass cover for the sign
3. Maintenance to the park
4. Permission for working in the park

- a. Don Clinesmith said anyone on the committee can work on the park. Janice Zawol asked if she could pick up down wood. Russ said there should be a permitting process. Bruce said that if we open wood cutting up to the public we should have a permit. Fred Welsh said that we don't have to solve this permit problem right now. We can stack wood by the road that anyone can take.

Bruce Foether said that all Parks and Rec Committee members will be paid like the Planning Commission starting from the November 15, 2016 meeting.

#### Public Comment

Bob Reil asked where the meeting notice was posted. The meeting notice is on the Township website.

Fred Welsh moved to adjourn. Janice Zawol supported. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm

Next Meeting January 18, 2017 at 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Fred Welsh

Secretary Parks and Rec