

DRAFT
Whitewater Township
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Minutes for Regular Meeting
May 21, 2024

Call to order 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Melton, Hubbell, Voice, Buczkowski

Absent: Butler, Cosgrove

Also present: Recording Secretary MacLean

Set / Approve Agenda: Set

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

Public Comment: None

Approval of minutes:

MOTION by Buczkowski, second by Voice to approve April 16, 2024, meeting minutes.

On voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Reports/Presentations/Announcements/Comments/Correspondence: Email from Kevin Krogulecki of Gosling Czubak as part of unfinished business #3.

Response – The referenced above email does not appear in the packet or the minutes. Melton must provide a copy of the email.

Unfinished Business:

1. Bylaw revisions on hold pending liaison request. The liaison request did not make it on the Board agenda.

Response – The April 16, 2024 minutes indicate PRAC's consensus to send a memo to the board regarding a liaison to the body. Where is it? Who was to provide that to the Board? Chair?

Please provide the PRAC's request to place something on the Whitewater Township board's agenda for ALL of 2024.

Please obtain and review Whitewater Township General Ordinance number 48 creating PRAC. The Ordinance states, the body shall have 5 members, and up to two alternates. No liaison is called out in the instrument. Clerk Goss, without board approval created the post. Why can't the PRAC create, review, modify their own Bylaws? Please provide in writing what is the group looking for from the board?

2. Whitewater Township Park (WTP) toddler equipment engineering layout drawing final review, plus 2% grant and send to Board for approval. Discussion regarding grant.

Discussion of motions to the board for funding and procurement of equipment.

Response – It would appear no motions were made to send anything to the Whitewater Township Board, including a draft of the proposed layout. Why? If you have a plan nearing your final approval (as the agenda indicates) why would you not copy the board?

3. Lossie Road, LRNT motorized vehicle access memo to board, was not included on the Township Board May agenda. Lossie Road was not abandoned it was relinquished to the township. They have two very different meanings and consequences.

Response – Due to no Whitewater Township Board quorum in April, the May agenda was packed with two months of normal business for the board. As an oversight of mine, this request did not get transferred to June. My apologies.

Memo / email from Kevin Krogulecki of Gosling Czubak:

There is language in the ARPA regarding natural trails and ADA compliance. According to the ARPA language it is not required to be ADA. Discussion of ADA compliance of the boardwalk and bridge so compliance would be met if the rest

of the natural trail would be made ADA compliant in the future.

Response – This appears to be a change from Kevin’s earlier opinion and differs from his example of a Manistee County Project. Due to the financial impact to Whitewater Township, all emails and discussion notes on this topics must be provided to the board in writing, including all ARPA language being referenced by Kevin. Gosling Czubak should be prepared to certify this opinion.

Wetland area needs to be delineated. GT Regional Land Conservancy and GT Conservation District indicated that they did not believe there was going to be a lot of wetland issues but that would be determined by the engineer.

Walking trail, no need for ATV access on the bridge and boardwalk if it does not fit within the budget.

Response – I do not see input from the fire department on this topic. Thinking they will be called in case of rescue they will likely use off road/ATV/snowmobiles with rescue cart on the trail. Gates will have to be installed to stop unauthorized access. This topic has been discussed for months why has there been no cost estimate for Gosling Czubak to make and submittal to EGLE? Pending, the financial impact of wetland delineation, the cost of the project could be out of reach for the township to complete by 12.31.2026.

New Business:

1. Final 2024/2025 Budget – review of Park and Rec funds budget

2. Written 12 month goals – timelines

Add a project for discussion making each park and various elements ADA compliant. What? How? Funding?

Feasibility of developing Petobego kayak launch and trail.

Response – PRAC has a significant multi year project in front of it with a deadline of 12.31.2024. The group should focus on getting incremental progress documents, a draft design, specifications, or cost estimates on the current project.

Committee Comment and Discussion: None

Next regular meeting: June 18, 2024

Public Comment: None

Adjournment at 9:15

Respectfully submitted,
Lois MacLean
Recording Secretary