

Meeting of the Edenville Township Parks and Recreation Committee
December 16, 2011

In attendance: Catherine Sias, Bob Johnson, Mary Beth Seasholtz

Guests: Don Hamilton, Alice Sias

Absent: Bill Page, Lee Leffingwell

Meeting called to order, 6:02pm, adjourned 7:10pm.

Minutes approved 1/12/12

Minutes:

Minutes from the September 18, 2011 meeting were approved as written. Motion to approve: Bob, Second: Catherine. 12/19: MB sent it to Del for posting on the web and to Tammie for filing in the office.

Public Comment:

- There was a short discussion on how great it is that we got the MNRTF grant!
- Item from Bob: Midland Area Community Foundation: They want confirmation that we are awarded the MNRTF grant before sending us their grant. Bob is working with them on getting them the information they want. Don said that there should be some public record of the minutes of the meeting where the grant was approved, and that should be sufficient for their purposes.
- We will ask Del to prominently post a link to our press release in the Midland Daily News. This is for the Midland Area Community Foundation award, but ask Del to make it so we can have other postings there too, as we will have more to announce!

Review of the Big Picture of how things will go with this first funded project:

We all were so focused on getting the money this fall, we didn't talk much about how to use the money! So, we took this time to review what the main steps are going forward (with lots of details in-between).

- Receive money from matching grants
- Receive confirmation from MNRTF on our grant
- Township has to sign an agreement with MNRTF (MNRTF drafts it).
- Press Release about the MNRTF grant
- Secure the Land
- Detailed Engineering by Lapham – after Township signs contract agreement.
- Bid process to decide who does the work.
- Have a ribbon cutting before starting
- Do work
- Pay workers
- Have a ribbon cutting when done

What are our next steps?

- On the day of the awarding of our MNRTF grant, John Cherry said to Catherine that information would be mailed to us in the next week about what comes next with the grants and how we proceed. According to John on 12/19, this letter was sent 12/16.
- John also said to Catherine our next priority is to secure the land to the south of Catherine's garage (what Alice signed an "intent to sell" letter for). On 12/19 John said that our project to MNRTF did not include land acquisition, and so we must acquire it with our other funding and there was no constraint on timing.
- Determine when to start Engineering the project. Notes from Catherine's discussion with John Cherry on 12/19: "We cannot incur any construction costs until after the legislature approves funding for all of the NRTF grants. John doesn't have any feel for when this will be done, he says it's just up to the whims of the legislature. However, the NRTF can make a decision independent of the legislature regarding when engineering costs for the project can begin being incurred. They have not made this decision yet, but there is a *chance* they will allow engineering to begin on Jan. 1. John said he will call us to notify us of that."

- What we would like to see for the Feb. 7 board meeting is to have the township board agree to sign the following (but this will depend on some things out of our control):
 - MNRTF agreement
 - Contract with Lapham to do the detailed engineering
 - Land purchase agreement

To Do & Status as of 1/12/12:

- MB – draft up article for press release about the Gerstacker Grant. It was published early Jan, http://www.ourmidland.com/news/article_ec3f6c86-362c-11e1-937d-0019bb2963f4.html
- Catherine – Call John Cherry. Done, December 19.
- Catherine – connect up with Lee Mueller; he will be in Michigan sometime in January. Catherine did, and Lee said he would email her when he is here.