

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP PARK COMMITTEE

May 12, 2008

Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairperson Matthew Beane, Park Committee Members Jeanne Hamm, Rod Hunter and Barbara Riehle, Town Board Liaison Jim Doriott and Otto Berg Park Manager Rick Jacobson.

1. AGENDA – M/S/P Riehle/Hunter moved to adopt the agenda as written. (3 ayes)
2. MINUTES – M/S/P Hunter/Riehle moved to approve the April 14, 2008 Stillwater Township Park Committee Meeting minutes as written. (3 ayes)
3. LITTLE CARNELIAN PARK – John Kipp, who is a neighbor to the park, was present to discuss his concerns about the park. The first issue was trespassing from the beach to private properties. The lake level is up for now so the issue is not urgent, but he expects that later this year, the water levels will be lower. He suggested a change in signage or a physical barrier. Gale Oie, who is a neighbor on the other side of the park has told him she is afraid to use her property because of who might be there.

The second issue is the recent widening of the trail down to the lake. He is concerned that it will invite more traffic. He requested that in the future if any major changes are made to the park that the neighbors would be notified. He had been told by the workers that they were told to make the path wide enough to accommodate emergency vehicles. He is concerned about 4-wheelers and snowmobiles.

There was discussion about putting posts at the top of the trail. If a truck can get down there, now might be a good time to bring some boulders down to the lake.

(Jeanne Hamm arrived.)

Large oak trees had been removed in connection with the widening of the trail. There was a discussion of other complaints on trails that have been cleaned up. We might need to get DNR permits to put in a boulder barrier in the lake.

4. TOWNSHIP PICNIC – The consensus was to have the Township picnic on Sunday, August 24, 2008 from noon to 4:00 p.m.

Several activities were suggested:

- Jumping thing
- Police or fire department
- Story teller from the library
- Safety demonstration from Xcel Energy
- Dunk tank
- Balloons

Members will check on prices and availability of the above and report back at the next meeting.

5. PARK AND TRAIL CONCERNS –

- Signs – Several of the existing park signs are faded and need to be replaced. The consensus was to keep the wording generally as they are now (hours, list of “don’ts”) and include at the bottom wording such as “Respect neighbors, keep noise level down.” At Little Carnelian Park there should be signs both at the entrance and at the beach. A wood sign would be less likely to be defaced and it could be covered with plexiglass. The Township logo could be on the signs. There will be more discussion at the next meeting.
- Curtiss Hills Trail – Buckthorn is a problem. Rod Hunter suggested having Sentence to Serve work on this. Otherwise the trail looks good.
- Otchipwe Prairie Trail – There are sticks coming up on the trail which may be dangerous.

6. WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER – Barbara Riehle reported on the recent Communication Committee meeting. She will attend the next meeting on June 26.

7. NEW BUSINESS –

- Rick Jacobson, the new Otto Berg Park Manager was introduced.
- There was discussion of looking into acquiring land for park as identified in the Comprehensive Plan. There will be more discussion of this next agenda.

8. TOWN BOARD LIAISON REPORT – Jim Doriott reported on recent Town Board activities.

9. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Kathy Schmoeckel
Park Committee Clerk