

**MINUTES OF THE CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, June 24, 2009
7:00 P.M.

- Article 1.** Supervisor Beahan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Present: Supervisor Beahan, Trustee Lewis, Fox, Goldberg, Koessel, Treasurer Dood and Clerk Goodyke.
Absent: None
Also Present: Township Manager Cousins, Planning Director Peterson, Assistant to the Manager Otey, Craig Hondorp from A&E Engineering, and those listed on Supplement #1.
- Article 2.** Supervisor Beahan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- Article 3.** Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Trustee Lewis to approve the agenda with the following change:
- **Article 8. Unfinished Business** – Add the tabled item at the last Regular Board Meeting on June 10th regarding the Foundation Board and the method of selection.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- Article 4.** **Approval of Consent Agenda**
- a. Receive and File Various Meeting Minutes
 1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes of 06/10/2009.
 2. Regular Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of 06/01/2009.
 - b. Receive and File Communications
 1. Letter from Charter Communications – re: Restructuring
 - c. Receive and File Various Reports
 1. Fire Department Month-end Report for May, 2009.
 - d. Education Requests
 1. Roger McCarty – MAA Conference – August 2-5, 2009 at Boyne Mountain, MI
- Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Trustee Fox to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Article 5.** **Financial Actions**
- a. Consider Approval of General/Special Funds for May, 2009.
Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Clerk Goodyke to approve the General/Special Funds for May, 2009. Trustee Koessel noted in his comments he has sent correspondence to the Board on both of these funds regarding some concerns that will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting on July 15th. Motion carried unanimously.
 - b. Consider Approval of Public Utility Funds for May, 2009.
Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Treasurer Dood to approve the Public Utility Funds for May, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.
- Article 6.** **Public Actions (None)**
- Article 7.** **Public Comments**
- Brian Currier, former Trustee of the Cascade Township Board, resides at 7691 Cascade Rd. expressed his concerns about staffing levels in the Fire Department. He want the minimum number to remain at 5 and not be reduced to 4. He wondered why additional firefighters were not hired following the 2004 millage passage. Where is the money going? We are not getting what we pay for. Cuts in revenue have no impact on millage money.
- Jane Currier, 7691 Cascade Rd., thinks funds are being misappropriated in the Fire Department. She also thinks they are being micro-managed, and that FDAC is not the right way to handle the funds.

Article 8.

Unfinished Business

- a. Consider Approval of Road Repairs on Hillsboro from Bridgewater to Shadyview.

Manager Cousins stated the Infrastructure Committee met after the last Board meeting to discuss the possible repair options on Hillsboro Ave. They discussed four possible ways to make repairs to that street.

- Cape Seal
- Patch the worst spots by digging out the top layer of asphalt and replacing it. (no charge to the township)
- To repair the road by patching the worst spots and then covering the entire roadway with a Slurry-mix.
- Overlay the entire roadway with 1 1/2 " of asphalt.

The committee determined that the best course of action would be to patch the bad spots this year (at county expense) and then consider the capseal method if the road needs more work next year or in 2011.

Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Treasurer Dood to accept the recommendation of the committee at a cost of no charge.

Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Consider Approval of Request to Change the Appointment Procedure of the Cascade Community Foundation.

Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Trustee Fox to remove the item from the table. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Goldberg offered a recommendation from the sub-committee of some language that the Board might be comfortable with. Motion was made by Trustee Koessel and supported by Trustee Fox that the Board of Directors of the Cascade Community Foundation approve an amendment to paragraph 7(a)(iv) of Restoremment of Agency Endowment Agreement Establishing the Cascade Community Foundation dated October 21, 2003 that would establish staggered 3 year terms for Cascade Community Foundation board members and establish a revised procedure for their appointment and approval. The amended paragraph 7(a)(iv) would read as follows:

“Board of Directors of Cascade Community Foundation” means a seven to fifteen member board comprised of individuals who are residents of Cascade Charter Township or who own or are employed by one or more businesses located in Cascade Charter Township, each of whom shall be appointed by a majority vote of the ten serving Board of Directors of Cascade Community Foundation that is approved by a majority vote of the then serving Cascade Charter Township Board. Each board member shall serve for a term of three years, except that a portion of the board member appointments made for terms commencing July 1, 2009 may be for one or two year terms, such that approximately one-third of the board members’ terms will expire each year beginning in 2010. Any vacancy on the Board of Directors of Cascade Community Foundation resulting from death, resignation or removal shall be filled in the same manner for the remainder of the term vacated. Except in the case of death, resignation or removal of a board member, each board member shall continue to serve until his or her successor has been duly appointed and approved.

The motion would also authorize the Chair of the Board of Directors of Cascade Community Foundation to prepare and execute a written amendment on behalf of the Cascade Community Foundation accomplishing this change, and to request that the Grand Rapids Community Foundation join with the Cascade Community Foundation in executing such amendment.

Discussion followed. Motion carried unanimously.

035-2009

Consider Approval Type II Special Use Permit for Temporary Concrete Plant located at 4949 South Complex Dr.

Planning Director Peterson reviewed the request with the Board. The site itself would only be operating for approximately two months. The plant itself would be for only seven days during that two month period. This is a really good spot that wouldn't have detrimental impact on the surrounding community. Motion was made by Trustee Fox and supported by Clerk Goodyke to approve the Type II Special Use Permit for Temporary Concrete Plant location at 4949 South Complex Dr. Motion carried unanimously.

036-2009

A Presentation by Progressive A&E regarding the proposed plan for Burton St. Park.

Supervisor Beahan supplied some background on the project. Craig Hondorp from Progressive A&E made a presentation to the Board regarding the proposed plan for Burton St. Park.

Comments from the Board included the following:

Trustee Koessel asked if it had been brought up in committee about cross country skiing, people riding bicycles..is there going to be a place to leave a bike while you are walking in the park, and will there be some signs posted that there will be no motorized vehicles allowed.

Treasurer Dood inquired if it had been discussed regarding schools using the property and if there was enough room on the cul-de-sac at Windcrest.

Trustee Fox expressed importance that school children to have access to the Park, I do not want to see it dissuaded at all. I think it needs to be encouraged.

Comments from the audience included the following:

Richard Gottlieb, 7100 Hidden Ridge

- Didn't feel there was enough public input.
- Suggested setting up a series of meetings with community members.
- Asked to delay the process, no hurry

Ryan Bruneau, 7109 Hidden Ridge

- Public more actively involved.
- Overlooking a lot of things in a hasteful rush to open the park.
- Groups to follow the 5 "N's" Naturalist, Neighbors, Newby/9's, Navigators, Knower's.

Mike McMann, 6674 Farms End

- Point of clarification on fencing.
- Pedestrian entrance other than the two entrances talked about. Easement usage as access?

Barb Kalinka, 1900 Murdock Woods Ct.

- Easements for utilities only, not for public access.

Abby Dilley, 6840 Sunrise Ct.

- Having a public process to comment and discuss.
- Have more dialog

Pete Kramer, 6827 Burton

- One piece of property outside of the Tassell mansion property that sticks into the actual Township Park.
- Is property going to be fenced or signage regarding private property.

Mary Beth McMann, 6674 Farms End

- Can't busses go to Forest Hills Church?
- Hate to see the kids on Burton St. Forest Hills Church allow to have access to that walkway.
- Don't think a completion date is necessary.

Steve Channer, 7440 Leyton Dr.

- Member of Steering Committee and Parks and Recreation Committee.
- Looking out for the residents behalf.
- No sense of urgency that doesn't agree with the community.
- Let's have ideas.

Mary Ann Olson, 7100 Hidden Ridge

- What research has been done to design our first ever preservation park.

Joann King, 6820 Burton

- Would like to be on committee. Asked about the process.
- Soft path entrance

Julie Johnson, 6718 Burton

- Path that goes up Burton St.
- Make tweaks to standards.
- Should be a soft path.
- Think about trees.
- How to bring people from Cascade Road to driveway
- Speed limit on Burton St. brought down to 15-20 MPH
- Burton St. should stay gravel...would be a beautiful entrance
- Path needs to be narrower
- Should have more meetings

Johnny Ladonicki, 6700 Burton

- Would love to have citizens meeting.
- Deer making an impact on neighborhood...concerned about fences really impacting the deer.

Jim Aidala, 6840 Sunrise

- More process...intended target.
- Think plan is pretty good "all in all".
- "Blog" concept

Bill Goodspeed, 7101 Riverwood Lane

- Hear a lot of input, felt that the plan is fantastic plan
- Would like to be riding on it as soon as he could
- About 15,000 residents in Cascade Twp and sure they all have different opinion
- Taking it to a third party...people that actually know was a fantastic idea.

Mike Julien, 1650 Tammaron

- Process tried and true one but perhaps not appropriate for this particular parcel.
- The plan is a good one
- Don't think community government should get involved in providing private access to public property.
- Urge to fix fences
- Put a few regular parking spaces that don't require barrier free so that we have two public accesses for those that live too far away to walk or bicycle to the park.
- Supported using the large barn for Buildings & Grounds.

Tom McDonald, 7287 Denison

- Plan is a starting point
- Nobody is going to 100 percent that is the art of compromise.
- Willing to facilitate along with the Township any meetings.
- We can't please all the people all the time, this is really good input.

Lynn Brozic, 7007 Windcrest

- House is 25 feet from the fence with big sunroom in the back. Nothing has been addressed about buffer zones or plantings etc...
- Security and enforcement of security.

Jim Johnson, 6718 Burton

- Get more process, more of a careful look.
- Building & Grounds idea...contrary to the purpose of a preserve.
- To have a 10 foot asphalt path in totally unnecessary.

Sara Homeyer, 3539 Quiggle

- Do not live anywhere near this property...it is not only the people that live next to this park that are interested in this park.
- Plan is not written in stone.

- As much development as she would ever want to see on this property thirty years from now.
- Appreciated to hearing there was a plan for doing this in stages.

Ronald Kamp, 7068 Wincrest

- Why do we need two entrances to the park?
- Wants Windcrest to remain cul-de-sac

Brian Bruno, 7109 Hidden Ridge Drive

- Why can't we get in there...now.

Julie Johnson, 6718 Burton St.

- Why can't we be back there...now.

Joanne King, 6820 Burton

- Appreciate everyone's comment...This is another beginning

Trustee Goldberg stated that he would like to hear what the committee would think would be a viable process for moving forward. Taking into account the comments he had made earlier in terms of wanting additional opportunities for public involvement.

Trustee Koessel suggested that the next time the steering committee meets you have a core of people here that you can invite and have them invite people to come whether they are a member of the committee or not I don't think it is as important as listening to their input. You might want to see if there is someone from the audience who would want to be a spokesperson/contact to get everyone else there. Clerk Goodyke asked to make another point that was made also tonight, is that that these folks have a vested interest because they are neighbors, there are 14,000 other people who are interested in this park who may not be here tonight and we should find some way to have input in this park. I don't want it to be made up of just neighbors who have perhaps just their own interests in mind...I would like to see it broader than that.

Supervisor Beahan reviewed the process going forward as getting together with the Parks/Steering Committee determining the next step, waiting for someone to get a hold of Steve Peterson to see if they want to be a person to help disseminate the information that we have. Coming back at the July 8th meeting with a recommendation of future meetings.

037-2009

Consider Approval of Contract between Kent County and Interurban Transit Partnership

Assistant to the Manager Otey was present to review the contract having to do with the CDBG Funds. Request of \$12,041 to be allocated to the GO Bus Service. We were approved for \$8,614.00. Motion was made by Trustee Goldberg and supported by Trustee Koessel to approve the Contract between Kent County and Interurban Transit Partnership. Motion carried unanimously.

Article 10.

Manager's Comments

No comments.

Article 11.

Board Member Comments

Trustee Fox offered the following comments:

- Community Foundation event tomorrow evening

Article 12.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Trustee Lewis and supported by Trustee Fox to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Biegalle
Deputy Clerk

Approved by:

Ron Goodyke, Clerk

Robert Beahan, Supervisor
Regular Township Board Minutes
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