

**FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
7:00 P.M.
MARCH 15, 2017**

Members present: Carrie Hebden, Paul Trumble, Dean Crandall, Sheryl Guy
Absent: Stephanie Reid

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chair was contacted by Peg Comfort on behalf of Darrell Lawson – Sunset Coast Birding Trail
Addressed under New Business

MINUTES:

It was moved by Trumble, seconded by Guy that the meeting minutes dated January 18, 2017 be approved as written. Motion carried – All present voting yes.

AGENDA:

It was moved by Trumble, seconded by Guy that the agenda be approved as written. Motion carried – All present voting yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dean Crandall and Carrie Hebden reported that they have both corresponded with Rich Hill and Tom Copenhaver from the office of the Department of Natural Resources regarding the Township lease agreement for FHT Cottage Drive Park formerly known as Miley's. The communications reflects that the Department of Natural Resource would be in favor to grant an amendment/addendum to the original lease to address the placing of a power line at the park that will provide electricity to an irrigation system. A letter addressing our request and a copy of the site survey of property be mailed to Rich Hill and Tom Copenhaver and also a copy to the Supervisor Terry Smith.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED LETTER AND SITE SURVEY dated July 2, 2007 TO BE SUBMITTED TO DNR FOR COMMISSIONS REQUEST AN ADDENDUM/AMENDMENT BE APPROVED AND GRANTED TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DNR AND THE FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP: Part of Gov't Lot 1, Sec 2, T. 29 N.,R 8 W.

FHT COTTAGE DRIVE FAMILY PARK FORMERLY KNOWN AS MILEY'S

It was moved by Guy, seconded by Trumble that the draft letter offered by Crandall be approved as drafted and be submitted to the DNR (Rich Hill and Tom Copenhaver and copied to the FHT Supervisor Terry Smith), along with the survey completed by Ferguson & Chamberlain Associates, Inc. (professional surveyors) dated July 2, 2007. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

SUNSET COAST BIRDING TRAIL – INTRODUCTION

Hebden spoke of the call that she had received from Peg Comfort regarding the Sunset Coast Birding Trail and that Darrell Lawson has contacted Comfort as she was affiliated with the FHT Loon

Nursery Preserve. The introduction describes the study conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) provides a demographic and economic study regarding birding in the United States. The findings are that the FHT Loon Nursery Preserve was assessed as a Primary location compared to other sites in the surrounding area.

Discussion followed:

Concerns discussed regarding pamphlets, signage size, location and plantings that will attract birds.

It was agreed that a (1) sign may be placed on the Townships' large sign and that the commission designate the actual placement location of sign. Pamphlets if desired may be placed at site although maintaining supply not a township duty. That the Township not be responsible for any cost accrued to designate the Loon Preserve as a Primary Sunset Coast Birding Trail that highlights important habitats and birds along the Michigan's Sunset Coast in Antrim, Charlevoix and Emmet Counties. That the commission agrees that the Loon Nursery Preserve will be included on the website as a Primary Site. www.sunsetcoastbirdingtrail.org

OTHER:

Next meeting April 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Chairman, Carrie Hebden

Secretary, Sheryl Guy