

MINUTES
Newwaygo Community Recreational Authority
Newwaygo County, Michigan
February 14, 2008

SWEARING IN

Jane Parsley was welcomed to the board as a new member replacing Chuck Shick and then sworn in.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM at Winter Sports Complex located at 4684 Evergreen, Newwaygo MI 49337.

Present: Rich Blachford (City of Newwaygo), Jane Parsley (City of Newwaygo), Chris Haynor (Brooks Twp), Rich Kooistra (Newwaygo County), Erik Larsen (Garfield Twp), Les Salacina (Brooks Twp)

Absent: Nancy Kinniburgh (Garfield Twp)

Guest: Ron Weldon (Newwaygo County Parks Director)

MINUTES

Motion by Kooistra, support by Salacina to approve meeting minutes from 10/11/07 and 12/12/07. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NEW BUSINESS

Burkholder handed out updated pages and an electronic copy to the board of the amended recreation plan. The amendment has been approved by the DNR and is on file at the State.

Blachford reviewed the cash, budget and grant revenues. He also reviewed the expenditures of Henning Park and the County Sports Park improvements. Blachford updated the board on the progress of the meetings regarding the skateboard park and that Ridgeview Industries of Grand Rapids would like to contribute more funding towards this park.

There was some discussion on the trail from Newwaygo to the County Sports Park. Blachford, Bill Frazier of Sidock Inc. (engineering firm) and Burkholder have met with MDOT and done research on the trail way from Newwaygo to the Sports Park. MDOT was favorable to do this project but some wetland research would need to be done for certain areas along the potential trail. Cost estimates for engineering and construction were presented and discussed by Frazier. Grant opportunities will need to be pursued (i.e. DNR, MDOT, etc.) as well as in-kind work for clearing the trail. A way to maintain the trail still needs to be established as granting authorities will want this information.

LIAA presented the board with a purchase order for consulting services. Motion by Salacina, support by Larsen to approve a consulting purchase order with LIAA (Land Information Access Association) of not-to-exceed \$10,000. AIF/MC

Ron Weldon, Newwaygo County Parks Director, presented an idea of converting the stage at the County Sports Park to a back packer shelter. Weldon felt the NCT (North County Trail) association would be interested in supporting this idea.

Regarding the trail way it was mentioned that there would be a need to spend \$33,000 now for engineering to investigate and prepare the trail way project. Motion by Haynor, support by Salacina to authorize the spending of \$33,000 for engineering costs to prepare and design the trail way project from Newwaygo to the County Sports Park. AIF/MC Blachford will sign the engineering agreement with Sidock, Inc.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Weldon has some lodge costs he asked for reimbursement of electrical use, LP tank filling and furnace repairs.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2008 at 8:00 am at the Winter Sports Park building.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

Jon Schneider, NCRA Secretary