

GLEN ARBOR TOWNSHIP

P.O. Box 276 Glen Arbor, MI 49636

231-334-3539 FAX 231-334-6370

Peter Van Nort, Supervisor

Pam Laureto, Clerk

Lee Houtteman, Treasurer

John Pepler, Trustee

Don Lewis, Trustee

Public Hearing Minutes

12/17/2019

Draft 5-year Park, Recreation, Greenways and Open Space Plan (Rec Plan)

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Van Nort at 6:30 PM in the Glen Arbor Town Hall meeting room. Roll Call – all Board members were present. Park Commissioners Ron Calsbeek, Paul Walters, and Rick Schanhals were present. One member of the public was present as was Klaus Heinert, the Senior Project Manager from GoslingCzubak Engineering Sciences who worked with the Park Commissioners to develop the Rec Plan. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supervisor Van Nort indicated that members of the Town Board will be taking public comment on the 5-year Park Recreation, Greenways and Open Space Plan which will be referred to as the Rec Plan.

Public Comments: None

Klaus Heinert made a brief presentation summarizing the Rec Plan and indicated he would help the board field questions from the public. He further indicated that he would also field questions from the Board at this meeting or during the Town Board meeting scheduled to follow the Public Hearing.

Van Nort asked if anyone from the Park Commission wished to make comments. Calsbeek asked for clarification on the importance of this meeting regarding deadlines for grant applications.

Heinert explained that the Rec Plan is to help the Park Commissioners establish goals and objectives on which they can act, and that once an updated Plan is in place it would allow the Township to apply for DNR grants.

Laureto asked how long the Rec Plan will be viable and Heinert explained the 5-year period begins once the plan is formally approved by the DNR.

Lewis asked when the current Recreation Plan expires, and Heinert indicated that it had already expired.

Van Nort asked for clarification on the requirement for the Township to have a Recreation Plan. Heinert stated that the State does not require a municipality to have a Recreation Plan, but it may be a component of a Township's Master Plan which is required.

Laureto asked Heinert to elaborate on the timeline the State would impose if we were to receive a grant and the timeline was explained.

Lewis asked about property the Township already owns on Little Glen Lake and the Crystal River. Heinert said that he and the Park Commissioners only briefly talked about those parcels and did not consider them with regards to the Plan.

Lewis asked for clarification of how and when the Goals and Objectives, and Action Items, sections of the Rec Plan were put in place. Heinert outlined the Park Commission's work on those items.

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Van Nort stated that there are a few typos and discrepancies in the document which will need to be addressed before approving the document. Calsbeek said that the Park Commission would work with the Township and GoslingCzubak to make the needed corrections.

Calsbeek recommended that the Town Board adopt the Recreation Plan with the understanding that some technical aspects need to be corrected or an explanation in the form of an overall statement about updates with the 2020 census be added.

The Board will consider the recommendation to adopt the Plan at the Board Meeting to follow. Van Nort adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela J. Laureto
Township Clerk

APPROVED