APPROVED Minutes Torch Lake Township Day Park Committee

October 1, 2015

Present: Leon Darga, Mary Schoenherr, Michael Healey, Deborah Graber, Jeff Dawson

Audience: None

Alan Martel as Secretary/Facilitator

1. The minutes of September 24, 2015 were accepted without changes by a motion that passed unanimously.
2. There was no correspondence and there were no announcements.
3. There was no citizen commentary.
4. Martel handed out a work sheet to be used for an analysis of the various aspects of the Day Park. Instead Schoenherr had prepared on her lap top a similar work sheet that was projected onto the screen. The committee was able then to discuss a number of Day Park issues while Schoenherr made additions and changes that were viewable on the projection screen. The following issues were discussed and additional comments or recommendations were added to the work sheet:
5. Day Park Area. When the boat trailer parking area is full, people drive on the park grounds and park wherever there is room. This causes a safety issue with vehicles being driven over park grounds that are being used by park patrons. In addition, this reduces the usable parking spaces for vehicle parking for park patrons and reduces the usable park recreational areas.
6. Safety/Security. To insure a reasonable level of safety, there may be a capacity that needs to be established for the park. As a future use, would the park host events?
7. Public Dock Road. Congestion is caused when a vehicle/boat trailer is too long to turn around to back down to the boat ramp. Limiting boat size, weight and length were discussed as well as limiting boat launches to Torch Lake Township property owners *only* around weekends and holidays.

Further, any boats that attempt to tie down on the pier or who take a longer time at the pier can also result in congestion on the road. Ownership and jurisdiction need to be established. Posted signs on Dock Road in that read No Parking, Fire Lane, Tow Away Zone, etc.

1. Pier/Dock. There are activities and behavior on the pier that could result in serious injury, i.e. diving and jumping into the water, riding bicycles into the water from the dock. There are also activities that can interfere with boat launching or with a fire emergency, i.e. sunbathing, picnicking, and fishing. Determine the allowable activities and enforce those activities that can result in injury or congestion.
2. Swimming Area. Need to know if there is a square footage for the swimming area.
3. Pavilions East and West. Need to determine capacity and uses.

The next meeting the committee is asked to review the resulting Schoenherr work sheet and to add their ideas and recommendations and to bring those to the next meeting.

There will not be a meeting Thursday October 8, 2015. There will be a meeting Thursday October 15, 2015.