

BOWERS HARBOR PARK EXPANSION COMMITTEE

Public Input Session

August 18, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Shipman, Chair; Reardon, Rosi, Swift, Snow and Foote.

Absent: Havenga

Approve Agenda

Motion: Foote/Reardon to approve the agenda. MOTION PASSED.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Swift/Reardon to approve the consent agenda. MOTION PASSED.

BUSINESS

A. Public Input Meeting

Shipman introduced Christy Summer and Caitlin Jackson of Beckett & Raeder.

Christy Summers reviewed the process for public input and the agenda for the presentation.

The expansion property site characteristics and agricultural history were reviewed. The results of Environmental Assessments, including agrochemical levels in the soil and mitigation activities outlined in the Due Care Analysis were reviewed. Required Due Care response activities were discussed, including the vegetative hedgerow along the north and west boundaries. The need for additional soil characterization with more intensive recreational development options was reviewed. Summers stated that an Environmental Construction Plan would be prepared as part of development of the property.

Summers explained the development of the concept landscape plan that was used in the Natural Resources Trust Fund grant application in 2013.

The process for voting on park infrastructure elements was explained.

The list of park infrastructure elements to vote on was reviewed and questions from the audience about additional suggestions to on the list were answered. The consultant had comment cards available for comments and suggestions, which would then be included in the analysis of the meeting results.

Attendees voted on park elements using the Plicker system, which allowed people to choose whether they strongly favored, generally supported, were neutral or did not support the listed park elements.

10 MINUTE BREAK.

The preliminary results of the voting were reviewed. Park elements receiving 50% or greater of the strongly favored vote included playground, trails, picnic pavilions, open green lawns, meadows, natural tree cover, outdoor ice rink and sled hill. Elements that received high percentage votes as not favored included paved/curbed parking, historic agricultural plantings, water features including splash pad, disc golf and bean bag toss.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Curt Peterson, 1356 Buchan Drive

We need kids in our community, so let's seek park elements and support recreational activities that attract young families. A few camping spaces and facilities in parks would help draw users, including cyclists. Old Mission Peninsula is the top cycling tour in Michigan. We should support economic activity and businesses that provide jobs so that young families are able to live here on Old Mission Peninsula.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Shipman thanked the school/library staff for support, the expansion committee for support getting to this point, and reminded attendees to turn in comment cards and that all upcoming committee meetings are public and public input is welcomed anytime. Shipman thanked residents for attending and participating in the meeting. Shipman noted that roads are open during Sunday triathlon based at Bowers Harbor Park.

MOTION: Swift/Rosi to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. MOTION PASSED

Respectfully Submitted,

Susie Shipman,
Peninsula Township Park Commission

These minutes stand to be approved at the next meeting of the BHP Expansion Committee.