

NORTHWEST OTTAWA RECREATION AUTHORITY

Grand Haven Area Public Schools

1415 Beechtree Street, Grand Haven, MI 49417
Phone: 616.850.5125 Fax: 616.850.5127 nora.ghaps.org

SPECIAL NORA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 24, 2014 **Time:** 5:30pm **Location:** 1415 Beechtree St., Grand Haven

1. Call to order: Chairperson Craig Bessinger- 5:30pm. Bessinger Welcomed Bill Hunter as the appointed representative for the City of Grand Haven.
2. Present: Karl French, Grand Haven Twp. Mary Jane Belter, Grand Haven Twp.
Kathy Kuck, Robinson Twp.
Mike Fritz, Grand Haven Bill Hunter, Grand Haven
Craig Bessinger, Ferrysburg Scott Blease, Ferrysburg
Joanne Query, GHAPS

Absent: Tracy Mulligan, Robinson Twp.

Also Present: Jill Vander Stel, NORA Coordinator
3. Approval of Meeting Agenda: Motion by Belter, second by Fritz. Approved unanimously.
4. Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion by French, second by Fritz, with changes to the minutes #5 to include percentages of performance awards to NORA staff. Approved unanimously.
5. Recreation Millage: Pam Blough handed out a memo she prepared that summarized where we are currently at and where we are going. She reported that she met with the YMCA but that there were different expectations of why she was attending. We thought that she would be getting their input on what they would like to see in a collaboration with NORA. They actually wanted a formal presentation laying out the whole plan that NORA has for building a recreation complex.

Fritz stated that we haven't defined the property. A recreation millage would produce only \$3.2 million, which is not enough for doing the project right. We would need \$10-\$15 million to get everything needed. In order to get that much money to fund the project a Building Authority would need to be created. Collaboration efforts continue with the YMCA, Spring Lake and Spring Lake Twp. Fritz strongly recommended we move in the direction of a Building Authority to fund the project.

Blough noted that it depended on how we wanted to do it. Millage could fund part of the operations component of the Rec. Complex. Looking and exploring a Building Authority could get Recreation Complex built before 2016.

Bessinger congratulated the NORA board on the great job and all the accomplishments we have achieved this far towards getting a Rec Complex for our community. Blough noted the great momentum we've created. Bessinger stated that we aren't shutting the door on this project, but need to make a decision on placing a Rec Millage on the November ballot. Query said "Wouldn't it be interesting if we put it to the voters and it passed."

Bessinger then had the board vote individually whether or not to put the Recreation Millage on the November Ballot.

- Query- no
- Hunter- no
- French- no
- Fritz- no
- Bleuse- no
- Kuck- no
- Belter- no
- Bessinger-no

Board voted to unanimously not move forward on placing a Recreation Millage on the November Ballot. Query said that it was hard to see NORA defer on it again, but that there has been a lot of discussion and we have people talking.

6. New Business: none
7. Old Business: none
8. Public Comments: none
9. Next Scheduled Meeting: Special meeting August 28, 2014, 5:30 P.M. at the ESC
10. Adjournment time: 6:25pm

Submitted by: Jill Vander Stel, NORA Coordinator

Approval Minutes Date: _____

NORA Board of Trustee Secretary Signature: _____