

# NORTHWEST OTTAWA RECREATION AUTHORITY

## Grand Haven Area Public Schools

1415 Beechtree Street, Grand Haven, MI 49417

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### SPECIAL NORA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** June 25, 2015      **Time:** 5:30 P.M.      **Location:** 1415 S. Beechtree St., Grand Haven

1. Call to order: Chairperson Craig Bessinger - 5:31pm
2. Present:      Mike Hutchins, Grand Haven Twp.      Mary Jane Belter, Grand Haven Twp.  
                 Tracy Mulligan, Robinson Twp.      Kathy Kuck, Robinson Twp.  
                 Mike Fritz, Grand Haven      Bill Hunter, Grand Haven  
                 Craig Bessinger, Ferrysburg  
  
Absent:      Carl Truetler, GHAPS  
                 Pat Twa, Ferrysburg  
  
Also Present: Jill Vander Stel, NORA Coordinator  
                 Liza Dora, NORA Assistant  
                 Pam Blough, PM Blough
3. Approval of Meeting Agenda Motion by Belter, second by Mulligan. Approved unanimously.
4. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2015 as printed. Motion by Fritz, second by Hutchins. Approval unanimously.
5. NORA Millage Planning- Pam Blough – Blough distributed an updated timeline as well as conceptual drawings in different formats for the board's use as needed.
  - A. Rec Plan- Blough stated youth sports organizations (Parent boards) will be polled again to make sure their list of needs hasn't changed through use of "Survey Monkey". Mulligan asked if there should be a subcommittee to meet with these groups. Vander Stel reminded the board that she meets with these groups regularly for field usage meetings and can keep the groups up to date then. In August, Blough will be redefining the goals that are currently in the NORA Rec Plan in earnest.
  - B. Property Update – No updates at this time. Fritz suggested that there are land acquisition grants available right now that we may be able to use if a piece of property were to become available.
  - C. YMCA Collaboration - Fritz announced that after the recent meeting held on June 15, 2015 we are back at the first stages of collaboration. Meeting was attended by Vander Stel, Blough, Fritz, Bessinger, Y Board President Ron Bultje, Y board member Shellee Yaklin, Y Director Michelle Bailey-Mesler. Very frustrated in that they haven't moved to finalize the partnership by signing the agreement. They asked NORA to share everything again and they were invited to come to the table again as to how we could program together. They stated their focus till the end of this calendar year was to work out the details with Grand Rapids YMCA collaboration. Blough mentioned that when NORA meets with the Community Foundation, could we say that we are working together and they stated, yes. Bessinger said that we can tell the Foundation that we are still working diligently to include the Y. Fritz and Mulligan offered to go with Vander Stel to the next Foundation meeting to reinforce our stand with trying to include the YMCA.

6. New Business

A. Field Improvement Requests.

1. Sluka Baseball Field. – Grand Haven City Manager, Pat McGinnis informed Vander Stel that Sluka ball field will be receiving \$55,000 in improvements which includes \$30,000 playing field improvements and \$25,000 irrigation renovations. GH City is asking for funds from NORA in the amount of \$5,000. Vander Stel stated to the board that there is approximately \$1,883 in the baseball continuous field usage account. TCKL has been invoiced for this season and will add approximately \$2,000. Vander Stel voiced her concern with these improvements. Although it is greatly needed, if not maintained properly it will be back in poor condition. She reminded the board that it's not like White Cap Stadium where you have a grounds crew designated to take care of the field and turf daily. Fritz suggests a maintenance plan for this field for all users but it has to be taken care of year round. Fritz asked for more details in this renovation before any NORA funds will be approved. Board agreed and Vander Stel will bring more information to the July meeting.

2. White Pines Soccer Field - \$600 for repairs to the soccer goal mouths. It was approved by Vander Stel for timing. Coast Guard Park had the same needs so we're waiting to see the invoice.

7. Old Business- none

8. Public Comments- none

Mulligan mentioned Robinson Township received a grant for \$9,000 to improve their baseball field in their park with a match of \$9,000 from the Township.

Fritz mentioned that the funds in the continuous user soccer field account could be used for a matching grant for a new facility. Vander Stel agreed.

Hutchins encourage everyone to have a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> and enjoy the fireworks.

9. Next Scheduled Meeting: July 23, 2015, 5:30 P.M. at the ESC

10. Adjournment 6:20pm

Prepared by: Liza Dora, NORA Assistant  
Jill Vander Stel, NORA Coordinator

Approved minutes date: \_\_\_\_\_

NORA Board of Trustee Secretary Signature: \_\_\_\_\_