

# 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

### NORA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** October 5, 2017    **Time:** 5:30 P.M.    **Location:** 1415 Beechtree, Grand Haven

1. Call to order: Chairperson Craig Bessinger 5:35pm
2. Present:        Ron Redick, Grand Haven Twp.                      Mary Jane Belter, Grand Haven Twp.  
                     Eric Hayward, Robinson Twp.                     Kathy Kuck, Robinson Twp.  
                     Taylor Schriber, Grand Haven                        Carl Truetler, GHAPS  
                     Pat Twa, Ferrysburg                                      Craig Bessinger, Ferrysburg
- Absent:         Geri McCaleb, Grand Haven, Ron Redick, Grand Haven Twp.
- Also Present: Jill Vander Stel, NORA Coordinator, Liza Dora, NORA Assistant
3. Approval of Meeting Agenda - Motion by Belter, second by Kuck. Approved unanimously.
4. Approval of Consent Agenda- Motion by Belter, second by Treutler. Approved unanimously.
  - A. Approval of Board Meeting minutes of June 1, 2017 as printed.
  - B. Financial Reports
    1. June 30, 2017 NORA Financial Report
    2. June 30, 2017 Activity Fund Balance Report
    3. August 31, 2017 NORA Financial Reports
    4. August 31, 2017 Activity Fund Balance Reports
    5. June 30, 2017 Chris Christiansen Financial Report
5. Old Business
  - A. Millage Planning- Tabled
    1. Rec Plan- Vander Stel recommended to the board that a decision be made to approve a current Rec Plan. Bessinger suggested Vander Stel check with Pam Blough to see what it would take to update the plan before the NORA board adopts.
    2. Property Update- Tabled
    3. YMCA Collaboration- Recreation & Healthy Living, no new updates – Bessinger asked Vander Stel to email Joy Gaasch at The Chamber regarding the status of the focus groups and if the RFP has been sent. Bessinger also mentioned that he was invited by the YMCA as a key community leader to participate in a community leaders forum to seek input for their strategic planning and program development plans.
6. New Business
  - A. 17-18 Ski Club Proposed Budget - Vander Stel noted that there weren't any increases in Cannonsburg's lift ticket fees this year. Recommending registration fees increase by only \$5 to help cover increased transportation costs and administration fees. Motion by Treutler, second by Schriber. Approved unanimously.
  - B. 17-18 Coordinator Goals – Vander Stel met with supervisor Ted Rescorla, Operations Director and developed ongoing goals, organizations "Why" goals and Recreation Coordinators "Why" goals. This format follows the inservice focus of GHAPS for 17/18 school year. What is your "Why"?

C. Rec Summer School Update – Vander Stel reported that Recreation Summer School was a huge success with 209 enrollments at 2 locations (Ferry Elementary and River Haven Village). River Haven Village had an average of 30 students attend per day and Ferry averaged 65. The United Way Impact area that our program falls under is Health. The program initiative is to provide tools to educate and advocate children on healthy active lifestyles. Participants used pedometers to track their activities and accumulated over 15,000,000 steps over the summer.

7. Coordinators Report – Vander Stel presented a power point presentation of her recent experiences attending the National Parks & Recreation Association (NPRA) Conference in New Orleans. The opening session by Matt Iseman host of Ninja Warrior, Focused on How to build a nation of Ninja Warriors. He said recreation is all about the story, make it fun, make it so anyone can do it, create opportunities and failing isn't failing. Vander Stel also reported she attended many educational workshops ranging from "Use data provided by your organization to justify the need to expand and enhance your organization", "Trends, the future of recreation centers", "Vote!, How to plan a successful recreation center bond program". Vander Stel mentioned that the new pickleball classes are taught volunteers from the Lakeshore Pickleball Club who are retired teachers, principals, etc. The new 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade program at White Pines Intermediate school had 21 participants. Vander Stel noted that it is great to see the intergenerational collaboration in this program.

8. Advisory Board Comments or Suggestions – Treutler stated that he is encouraged by the variety of programs that are being offered noting that the word seems to be getting out. He suggested more programs be offered for seniors. Grand Haven is attracting older adults especially with the new retirement apartments/center being built. He said the school board was looking at the need to build another elementary school due to all the growth in our communities but the trend is more toward older adults than young families. So we need to continue to have more program offerings to encourage young families to move here. Vander Stel reminded the board that NORA is very careful not to duplicate services already offered in the area by Four Pointes and others. Kuck mentioned that it is sometimes difficult for older adults to get to Four Pointes located in the City of Grand Haven and if programming was offered out in the townships it might be easier for seniors to attend. Treutler then asked if there were any updates on the Bolger property. Vander Stel stated that no information was available, but she would check again with McGinnis.

Belter gave an update on the Witteveen property and said that the township will be focusing on this project. The natural area will be done in phases to rehab the old Christmas tree farm, add parking, develop paths, and construct bathrooms, etc. They are working with GHAPS classrooms to encourage geocaching and working with S.T.E.M. programs. The township is connecting with Grand Haven City pathways to make Greenway Paths. She stated she was having surgery on November 6 and wasn't sure if she would be available for the next NORA Board meeting.

9. Public Comments- none

10. Next Scheduled Meeting: November 16, 2017, 5:30 P.M. at the ESC.

11. Adjournment – 6:45PM

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

Approved Minutes Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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