

# 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:** September 25, 2014      **Time:** 5:30 P.M.      **Location:** 1415 Beechtree, Grand Haven

1. Call to order: Chairperson Craig Bessinger- 5:30pm
2. Present:      Mary Jane Belter, Grand Haven Twp.  
                 Tracy Mulligan, Robinson Twp.  
                 Mike Fritz, Grand Haven                      Bill Hunter, Grand Haven  
                 Scott Blease, Ferrysburg                      Craig Bessinger, Ferrysburg  
                 Joanne Query, GHAPS
  
- Absent:      Karl French, Grand Haven Twp.  
                 Kathy Kuck, Robinson Twp.  
                 Pam Blough, PM Blough Inc.  
                 Liza Dora, Recreation Assistant

Also in attendance: Jill Vander Stel, NORA Recreation Coordinator

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda: Motion by Belter, Second by Mulligan. Approved unanimously.
4. Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion by Mulligan, Second by Fritz. Approved unanimously.
  - A. Approval of Board Meeting minutes of August 28, 2014 as printed.
  - B. Financial Reports
    1. June 30, 2014 NORA Financial Report
    2. June 30, 2014 Activity Fund Balance Report
    3. August 31, 2014 NORA Financial Reports
    4. August 31, 2014 Activity Fund Balance Reports
    5. June 30, 2014 Chris Christiansen Financial Report
5. Old Business
  - A. Millage Planning- Pam Blough absent
    1. Building Authority- Vander Stel presented a draft Building Authority Resolution prepared by Blough and Vander Stel. Bessinger commented that NORA can only take on so much debt. The Building Authority can take on much higher debt to make it possible to build a recreation complex. NORA would only be able to pay back debt to the Building Authority through a recreation millage. Bessinger asked what community is willing to take on the debt. That still needs to be identified.
    2. Planning Time Line- No changes. Could possibly move things back a month.
    3. YMCA Collaboration- Vander Stel reported that Ron Bultje, YMCA Board member was contacted prior to NORA meeting and a letter of understanding has not been completed at this time. Blough prepared a draft for Bultje to review and make changes if needed.

6. New Business
  - A. 14-15 Ski Club Proposed Budget: Motion by Fritz, second by Blease to approve proposed budget as presented. Approved unanimously.
  - B. 14-15 Coordinator Goals:

NORA board set the same 3 goals as the previous year for 2014-2015.

    1. Collaboration (Spring Lake, Spring Lake Twp., YMCA, Parent Organizations, etc.)
    2. Recreation Millage (Stay focused)
    3. Maintenance of NORA Fund Balance
7. Coordinators Report- Vander Stel gave a brief update of programs and reviewed the expenses to date for Pam Blough's consulting services.
8. Advisory Board Comments or Suggestions:

**Fritz-** Comfortable that we have a community that is able to take on the debt. We've done our homework and ready to present building resolution to municipalities.

**Mulligan-** Questioned if Spring Lake and Spring Lake Twp. are all supportive. Stated she felt that we needed to meet with all municipal groups at one time to present resolution. Feels we are putting the cart before the horse. Maybe we need to focus on fields first and building later.

**Belter-** Resolution looks good, but would need to get township to review first.

**Query-** Likes the visual of what a recreation millage can do for a community. Like the building of the Livonia Recreation complex.

**Bessinger-** Recommended that NORA board members take the building resolution to boards to get feedback before it's approved.

**Blease-** no comment.

**Hunter-**City has desire to move forward.
9. Public Comments- Laird Schaffer asked if there was any operating cost for proposed Recreation complex? Taylor Schriber introduced himself as new resident in the area. He noted that he moved from Midland where they did a similar recreation complex project.
10. Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday, October 30, 2014, 5:30 P.M. at the ESC.
11. Adjournment: 6:39pm