

Recreation Committee Meeting

Date: December 5, 2013

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Portage Township Office

Who Present: John Ollila and Bill Bingham (Rec. Comm. Members), Anne Clancy Klemme, Pete Wickley, Dan Dalquest (Public Representatives), Bruce Petersen, Supervisor and Pat Coleman via phone from UPEA

Discussion Points:

- Homeowners association reported that initially the people contacted were in favor of only spending the DNR's earmarked \$50,000.00 for a limited scope of work project. The concerns revolved around if the money was leveraged to a larger project the landowners would have less of a say it what was to be undertaken. Also the homeowners representatives conducting the informal poll could not really tell the respondents just what a \$50,000.00 expenditure would really buy.
- After further discussion and enlightenment about the DNR's maintenance money the group learned that the money would have to be given back if it was to be used for "local match" for a larger grant through the DNR's Trust Fund that is due on April 1, 2014. During the summer of 2015 possible construction of the proposal would occur.
- What was appealing to the group was the ability to pursue signage and other safety improvements along the trail if the larger grant was secured. Also by going through the grant process for the Trust Fund money a management plan, authored by the grant applicants – Chassell/Portage Twp. plus possibly the City of Houghton would identify how the trail will be managed and just what improvements will be done along it's route. The ability to have a say in the trails management after going through the grant process was very appealing to the group.
- Pat Coleman and Bruce Petersen both thought that there would be an excellent chance of securing the larger, leveraged grant to do a larger scope project along this trail.

- Pat will supply Bruce with a copy of the sample management plan given to UPEA and Twp. representatives by the DNR about one year ago plus he will forward to Bruce a copy of last years Trust Fund application parameters; this years Trust Fund grant requirements have not yet been posted. Bruce will forward these two items to the meeting participants.
- Ultimately, after the meeting ran it's course the participants thought it would be more favorable to pursue the leveraged trust fund grant funding using the existing \$50,000.00 DNR maintenance money that is available year.
- The group wanted to meet on a Tues. or Weds. during the first week in January at 4:00PM. The meeting should also include a representative from the MDNR and Chassell Twp.
- Meeting Adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Bruce Petersen
Portage Twp. Supervisor