

MINUTES

Chassell Township Planning Commission Meeting

Dated: March 4, 2021

Chassell Fire Hall

Attendance Ericka, TJ, Brian, Keith, Dan, Doug, Trevor

1. Call to order: 7pm
2. Pledge of allegiance
3. Brian moves to approve the agenda, Keith seconds all aye.
4. Revisions to January: 3a. Keith's name misspelled, Adjourn Brian instead of Brain. Move to approve minutes with corrections. Brian seconds. All aye
5. Public Comments
 - a. Heritage center-applying for grants for updating the building
6. Road Commission Report -none
7. **Old Business**
 - a. Chassell Mercantile Update
 - i. Waiting on ticketing
 - b. Historical Trail Update
 - i. Funding has been secured to move forward with this project as a 5' boardwalk. This will make it ADA accessible.
 - ii. Moving forward with EGLE Permit application, Ericka and Doug to meet next week
 - c. Community Center Update
 - i. Keith met with Mark Koski. Significant progress being made on building renovation. Planning to have occupancy by early Summer.
 - d. Centennial Park Accessibility
 - i. No updates
 - e. Park Board Walk/Marina Study
 - i. No updates
 - f. Sturgeon River Launch
 - i. Design put out to bid.
 - g. Cemetery Church - Dangerous Building
 - i. No update
 - h. Zoning Ordinance Committee
 - i. Group to set up a zoom meeting to make final adjustments

- i. Five Year Road Plan
 - i. Presented to the Township board
 - ii. Brian to confirm with Lynn that it was submitted to the Road Commission
- j. Bark Park Signage
 - i. Approved to place the sign
 - ii. Keith to reach out to Kevin Harju about an MDOT permit to place a sign on 41
- k. Remote Workforce Keweenaw
 - i. Significant activity in the last few weeks
 - ii. Interviewed by Detroit news on the topic
 - iii. Interviewed interesting local residents who work remotely
 - iv. Keith Podcast with Keweenaw Logbook

8. New Business

- a. Portage Health Foundation Grant Opportunity/Playground Equipment
 - i. Letter of inquiry submitted for Portage Health grant opportunity. Approved and moved to application with March 22nd submission deadline.
 - ii. Lion's club is planning to provide match for the project.
 - iii. Keith and Ericka met with Sinclair Recreation/GameTime to discuss playground equipment. Rich with Sinclair to provide renderings and examples to include with the grant application.
 - iv. mParks is another grant opportunity that may be applied.
 - v. Match will also come from the Recreation Millage
- b. Snowmobile Trail Update
 - i. Survey sent to property owners
 - ii. Negative responses from survey respondents thus far
 - iii. Plan to find new route if old route cannot be agreed upon
- c. Baraga Telephone Broadband Update
 - i. AEG. company that bought the large unknown parcels
 - ii. UP Wide Broadband meeting on March 25th. More info to come out of this meeting
- d. Fitness Trail Issues
 - i. A lot of traffic on the trail this year
 - ii. Difficulties-people are not following the rules (dogs, going the wrong way on ski trails, walking/snowshoeing on ski tracks)
 - iii. Working on basic signage with symbols instead to shown directions and where dogs are allowed
 - iv. Colleen who helped with the video for the fitness trail, is finalizing

the videos and directions. She's writing a grant proposal to get signage for instructions that can be posted at each station.

- e. Master Plan - Outside Assistance?
 - i. Potentially reach out to Pat Coleman with North of 45
 - ii. Potential to pursue a grant through the MEDC
- f. Recreation Millage Budget
 - i. Rec Millage brought in \$31,000 in the first year
 - ii. Fitness trail, Canoe Kayak Launch, Dog Park all funded and had grant match money to maximize taxpayer dollars.
 - iii. Plan to compile a summary that can be posted on the website summarizing how much millage money was spent, grant money and projects completed. Brian to ask Lynn to do this.
- g. Zoning Concern - 41868 South Hancock Street
 - i. Zoning administrator is looking into
- h. Disc golf addition
 - i. Working with Chassell schools to research adding a disc golf course behind the school on the Township property behind school property. Approximate costs \$5,500-\$2,300 for 9 baskets, site work not included.
 - ii. Grants available for 50/50 match
 - iii. Has connections with those that designed local courses at Lake Linden and Calumet.
 - iv. Group agrees that it's a good opportunity for the Township. Low cost and low maintenance. Fun, active committee. Trevor to continue discussing with the school.

Next meeting date - April 8, 2021 7pm

Adjourn 8:30pm