

Chassell Township Planning Commission

MINUTES

05 May 2022 / 7:00 PM / Chassell Fire Hall

ATTENDEES

Ericka Malone, Dale Peterson, Steve Spahn, Brian Waters, Keith Meyers

AGENDA

Call to Order 7:07

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the Agenda Brian motions, Steve seconds, all aye

Reading and Approval of April Minutes Dale motions, Brian seconds, all aye

Public Comments

-Dar-DNR ditching along trail at her house. Keith will follow up with Ron Yesney at the DNR about getting this ditch cleared to avoid further damage to her house.

-Dale-recommends somehow notifying tax payers how much grant funding has been acquired and projects that have been completed.

Road Commission Report

-Dale did not attend this month's Road Commission meeting. Checked for start of high priority project at the rink and it has not been started yet.

-Long term- Dale recommends start thinking of plans for 5 year plan changes for 2023. Hope to finalize changes in October. Contact Dale with any pressing issues we see around the Township that we want to include for 2023.

-Several community members have approached Brian about very poor condition of Sturgeon River Rd. Almost impassable between snow melt and grading this spring.

Old Business

1. Chassell Mercantile - Property has been transferred to the Land Bank. Working on transfer of property to the developer.
2. Historical Trail - Michigan Tech students to assist with design work for the signs before sending to IG for printing. Plan to have sign designs to IG by August 1. EGLE Permit-Doug working on submitting. Grant agreement fully signed from the funder (\$50k), Keith has applied for an additional \$5k grant from the Keweenaw National Historical Park to cover signage costs. DNR is supportive of the project and is requiring an operating agreement since it uses the DNR trail...they have provided a draft agreement. MTU is interested in doing an archaeological dig at the site of the Chassell Boarding House in the future.
3. Cemetery Church Dangerous Building - First ticket has been issued to Heath Sundstrom. Township's Attorney is discussing with the LLC Manager transferring the property to the Land Bank. Adjoining property is in foreclosure. Township will pursue proposals to develop the two lots together.
4. Snowmobile Trail - Anticipated the trail between Chassell and Baraga to be completed this year, but the USACE is requiring a wetland delineation which will likely postpone the project another year.
5. Playground Equipment Border - DP Construction will be addressing this in the near future.
6. Sturgeon River Launch Site - Waiting on bids from manufacturers for kayak launch. Considering an option for the roll-in dock.
7. Fitness Trail Signage - Keith to follow up. These should be printed and ready to install. Maybe looking for volunteers to install.
8. Park Boardwalk Project - Did not receive the Portage Health Foundation grant. Keith is in discussion with Merrie Carlock with the DNR on potential upcoming funding.
9. Signage Grant - \$3,000 for signage project at the canoe and kayak launch from the Keweenaw Visitor's Bureau. The signs will be 2-monument quality signs. One will include a map of the river with put-in points and a

history of the Sturgeon River for white pine logging transport. The second sign will have signage about wildlife in the area.

10. Sturgeon River Water Trail Mapping - Mike Morrison with the DNR on the river trail was in contact but is on medical leave. Keith has a new contact...they are working to establish the Sturgeon River as a designated river trail. The DNR is on board with this development. Eventually this would lead to put-in sites and signage along the river.

New Business

1. Recreation Plan -
2. Master Plan Grant - Funding from the MEDC anticipated late May. Township Board has approved moving forward pending the grant from the MEDC. Ericka to contact Pat Coleman
3. CT Planning Commission Membership

Ericka Malone - Stepping down from Secretary position for maternity leave temporarily. The group agreed to a temporary leave...and the board will temporarily fill the position of Secretary.

Daniel Niemela - Expressed interest in filling the open position. Brian moves to recommend to the board, Keith seconds, all aye.

NEXT MEETING

June 2, 2022 7pm

Adjourn Brian moves, Keith seconds, all aye 8pm

