



**CITY OF ALLEGAN
Parks Commission Meeting
Joint Meeting with Allegan Township Planning Board
Allegan, MI 49010**

Wednesday, April 10, 2013 6:00 pm

****Meet at Allegan Township Hall**
3037 118th Ave.
Allegan, MI 49010**

Minutes

- I. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm
- II. Attendance: Allegan Parks Commission: Becky Rininger, Ruth Smith, Bert Brouwer, Paula Mintek Allegan Township Planning Commission: Terry Skoglund, Hollis Hough, Ted Heckman, Martin Ruitter, Mike Buese, Jim Connell, Karl Spreitzer and Stephen Schulz

Also present: Dave Bee and Aaron Haskin
- III. Approval of minutes from March 6, 2013: The minutes were tabled until a quorum from that meeting is present.
- IV. Old Business

A. Parks Master Plan preparations with Dave Bee and Allegan Township Planning Commission:

Dave Bee is helping the Township and City put a recreational plan together and tonight was to get ideas and set up a time to present it at a public meeting. He brought a list of parks in the City and Township.

- Hanson Park - it is part of river front recreational plans. Need to have restrooms available. Interested in having a canoe launch. Discussion followed.

- Jaycee Park - discussion on a boat launch. Fencing has been removed for a dog park but need a place for dogs to get a drink. Skate board ramps are in and well used.
- Dr. James Mahan Park - it has a gazebo which is well used throughout the year. More about this park will be discussed at the April 11th meeting in the City.
- Riverfront Park - Has a Boardwalk with benches to sit and relax. This park will be discussed at April 11th Riverfront design meeting.
- Veterans Memorial Park – A DNR grant has been received to improve the park, the improvements are planned for this September and October
- Rossman Esplanade Park - Spreitzer stated it would be nice to use it for a walk thru garden with benches, tables and statues. Maybe a community garden. Has a lot of historical background in the area. Suggested to move Farmer's Market there. Trail Head for mountain bikers.
- Trestle Trail Park - extend it into the trail route since rail grade is gone. Schulz suggested it would be nice to set up a railroad car there for a restaurant.
- Allegan Wellness and Sports Complex - New paving in May or June. It was suggested to put fitness stations along the way. Schulz thought it needed more lighting out there and on the trail. Also a concession or beverage stand.
- Water Street Riverfront Park - Need to make it more noticeable and usable. Suggested to extend the walk past Ken's Tire and Ace Hardware along the river.
- The Mill District - Potential Bike Trails. Nothing permanent.
- Cook Street Park – Is a drain/flooding area but does have a picnic table and walking path.
- No discussion was done on the County Parks.
- Gaps between City and Township - Jim Connell presented his bike trail routes in Township but they all stop at the City. Need to go thru City to get to other side for bike routes. Connell also stated that he has been asked by Valley Township to present his ideas. It was suggested to close the loop to boardwalk so to have a nice area to walk like at the Sports Complex.
- Schulz said it was discussed at the corridor meeting to make the 4 lane on Marshall to a 3 lane so to have bike lanes. It is currently being looked at by MDOT.
- Schulz stated there is a little property around the Township Hall plus 113 acres on the East End of Miner Lake that has high water table, is wooded and has wildlife. Skoglund thought a nature preserve with picnic areas and camping but keeping it rustic as it has 3000 feet of lake-frontage.

A joint public workshop meeting is set for May 15, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Allegan Township Hall; the Township Planning Commission and City Parks Commission will meet before the public workshop at 6:00 PM.

There needs to be 1 notification in the paper about the public meeting on May 15, 2013; the cost will be split between the City and Township.

V. New Business

- A. Rossman Park tennis court posts and trash receptacles: Aaron reported that new trash receptacles have been ordered for Rossman Park. He also said the tennis net supports need to be replaced and asked if we should replace the posts or remove the tennis net altogether. The Parks Commission would like the posts replaced and keep the tennis net up.

VI. Comments

- VII. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next joint meeting with Allegan Township is scheduled for May 15, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

The minutes of this meeting will be available at City Hall, 112 Locust Street, and Allegan MI 49010 (269)673-5511