AGENDA NOTICE

City of Traverse City Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
6:30 p.m.
May 7, 2015

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 2nd Floor, 400 Boardman Ave.
Traverse City, Michigan 49684

Posted: 5 - 5 - 2015

Information and minutes are available from the Parks & Recreation Superintendent, D.P.S. Building, 625 Woodmere Avenue, Traverse City, MI, 49686, (231) 922-4910.

The Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are recorded. If you would like an audio copy of a particular meeting's proceedings, please contact the Parks and Recreation Superintendent Lauren Vaughn at (231) 922-4910.

If you are planning to attend and are handicapped requiring any special assistance, please notify the Parks and Recreation Superintendent as soon as possible.

AGENDA

Chairperson Brian Haas Presiding

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

The purpose of the consent calendar is to expedite business by grouping non-controversial items together to be dealt with by one Commission motion without discussion. Any member of the Commission, staff or the public may ask that any item on the consent calendar be removed therefrom and placed elsewhere on the agenda for full discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected.

a. Consideration of minutes of the March 5, 2015 Regular Meeting, the March 18, 2015 Special Meeting, and the April 2, 2015 cancelled meeting (due to lack of quorum).

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Presentation by Hickory Hills Task Force members regarding Brown Bridge Trust Fund Proposal and possible recommendation to the City Commission

b. Consideration of making a formal recommendation on Division Street to send to MDOT

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on Wags West improvements and Community Garden program

b. Update on revision of Recreation Plan

c. Discussion of Parks and Recreation Commission goal setting special meeting results

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. COMMISSION REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

a. Superintendent's Report

b. Schedule of Upcoming Events

The City of Traverse City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Penny, Hill, Assistant City Manager, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, 49684, 922-4440, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the ADA Coordinator.

If you are planning to attend and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting and/or if you have any concerns, please immediately notify the ADA Coordinator.

MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 2ND FLOOR, 400 BOARDMAN AVENUE TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN 49684

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Brook DiGiacomo, Gary Howe, John Gessner, Margaret Szajner, Danielle Rearick, Seamus Shinners, (left the meeting at 7:07 p.m.) Brian Haas (arrived at 6:39 p.m.)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Lauren Vaughn, Sheila Dodge

Vice-Chairperson Margaret Szajner Presiding

1. ITEM ON THE AGENDA BEING CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Consideration of minutes of the February 5, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Motion by Shinners, seconded by Gessner, that the following action as recommended on the Consent Calendar portion of the Agenda be approved.

CARRIED 6 – 0

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consideration of nomination of a representative to the new Arts Commission.

Motion by Howe, seconded by DiGiacomo to nominate Commissioner John Gessner to serve as the Parks and Recreation Commission Representative to the Arts Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CARRIED 6 – 0

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Superintendent Vaughn spoke regarding the consideration of name recommendation for the City park at Rose and Boyd Streets. Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christine Maxbauer, 503 West Eighth St., T.C.
Larry Gerschbacher, 925 Kelley St., T.C.
Tom Evon, 609 West Eleventh St., T.C.
John DiGiacomo, 440 North Spruce St., T.C.

Motion by Shinners to name the park at Rose and Boyd after Robert M. Smith.

Second – No Support – Motion Fails

Motion by DiGiacomo, seconded by Haas to name the park at Rose and Boyd Streets Jupiter Gardens.

ROLL CALL

Shinners – No
Gessner – Yes
Howe – Yes
Rearick – Yes
Szajner – No
DiGiacomo – Yes
Haas – Yes

CARRIED 5 – 2

b. Update on Sunset Park – removed – no discussion.

c. Superintendent Vaughn spoke regarding the first phase of revision of the Parks and Recreation Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

d. Superintendent Vaughn discussed the Parks and Recreation Commission goal setting special meeting.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Superintendent Vaughn spoke regarding the City applying for two additional grant applications for Clancy Park.

Superintendent Vaughn introduced Acting City Manager Penny Hill who was in attendance in the audience.

Superintendent Vaughn spoke regarding the Grand Traverse County Parks & Recreation Networking Night, to be held Thursday, March 12, 2015.

Chairperson Haas spoke regarding the Hickory Hills public input meeting that will occur on Wednesday, March 25, 2015.

Vice-Chairperson Szajner spoke regarding the possible Strider Bike Park.

5. COMMISSION REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

a. Superintendent's Report

b. Schedule of Upcoming Events

There being no objection, Vice-Chairperson Szajner declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission approved: _____-_____ on April 2, 2015

_____

Lauren A. Vaughn
Parks and Recreation Superintendent

MINUTES

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2015 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, 400 BOARDMAN AVENUE TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN 49684

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Brook DiGiacomo, Gary Howe, John Gessner, Margaret Szajner, Danielle Rearick, Brian Haas

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Lauren Vaughn

Vice-Chairperson Brian Haas Presiding

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Superintendent Vaughn began the introductions followed by the Parks and Recreation Commissioners. Get to know the Commissioners ensued.

b. Parks and Recreation Commissioners goals for 2015 were discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

There being no objection, Chairperson Haas declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission approved: _____-_____ on April 2, 2015

_____

Lauren A. Vaughn
Parks and Recreation Superintendent

MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M.
IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 2ND FLOOR, 400 BOARDMAN AVENUE
TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN 49684

Meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Parks and Recreation Commission approved: _____-_____ on May 7, 2015

_____
Lauren A. Vaughn
Parks and Recreation Superintendent

HICKORY HILLS RECREATION AREA
BROWN BRIDGE TRUST FUND REQUEST

HICKORY HILLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MAY 2015

Executive Summary

The Hickory Hills Advisory Committee was appointed by the City Manager to make recommendations to implement the Hickory Hills Multi Season Recreation Master Plan. The Master Plan was a collaborative effort between the City of Traverse City, the Charter Township of Garfield, the Grand Traverse Ski Club, and Preserve Hickory to fund and develop a long range master plan to ensure sustainability for the Hickory Hills Recreation Area.

The Hickory Hills Multi-Season Recreation Master Plan was adopted through a joint resolution approved by the City of Traverse City Commission on August 8, 2014 and approved by the Charter Township of Garfield Board of Trustees on July 22, 2014, as a roadmap for the future growth of Hickory Hills.

The Master Plan includes recommendation to expand the use and accessibility of Hickory Hills in all seasons, and to close the gap between revenues and expenditures. Recommendations include significantly expanding the trail network for walkers, bikers, and skiers, expanding the popular disk golf course, providing additional recreational amenities such as a ropes course, climbing wall, sledding hill, and bicycle challenge course, expanding and improving skiing and riding terrain, and constructing a new lodge and parking.

The Master Plan included two concepts for lodge and parking location. Concept A proposed constructing a new lodge in the location of the current lodge and improving drop off and parking in the current site configuration. Concept B proposed moving the lodge and parking to the east end of the property, opening up the center of the property for recreation, and leaving the existing lodge intact. After significant analysis and discussion, the Hickory Hills Advisory Committee recommended Concept B, moving the lodge and parking to the east end of the property.

The most significant improvement, and the improvement for which specialized recreation and other grant funding is least available, is the lodge, parking, and terrain improvements for beginners and freestyle riding.

On November 4, 2014, City voters overwhelmingly approved an allocation of surplus funds from the Brown Bridge Trust for capital improvements to City parks, matched by outside sources of funding. The HHAC recommended a request to the Brown Bridge Trust Fund in an amount of $1.5 million, matched by $1.5 million in outside funding. The following is the summary budget for the project:

Improvement	Budget
Lodge	$1,691,767
Infrastructure	$433,092
Utilities/Storage	$273,000
Terrain Improvements	$602,141
TOTAL	$3,000,000

A key element to securing outside sources of funding is the upfront commitment of the City Commission to support the request for Brown Bridge Trust Fund allocation.

This proposal is intended to provide the approach and detail to discuss with the City Commission a request to for an upfront set aside or allocation from the Brown Bridge Trust Fund, contingent upon securing the required match within 24 months.

HICKORY HILLS RECREATION AREA
BROWN BRIDGE TRUST FUND REQUEST

HICKORY HILLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MAY 2015

The following is a request to the City Commission for an allocation of $1.5 million from the Brown Bridge Trust Fund for improvements to Hickory Hills Recreation Area, including development of a new lodge, site infrastructure, and recreation improvements.

Background

Hickory Hills is an important community asset that provides affordable recreation opportunities for area youth and residents. Hickory has been owned and operated as a municipal park by the City of Traverse City since 1952. The park is widely used by area residents with over 14,000 skier days and number Nordic skiers in the winter, as well as disc golfers, hikers, and bikers in the summer.

Depending upon various circumstances and cost allocation models, the City spends between $50,000 and $80,000 per year over and above revenues to operate Hickory. Along with interested community organizations, the City, the Grand Traverse Ski Club, and Preserve Hickory have been working over the past few years to reduce costs and increase revenues for ski area operations. Additionally, significant opportunities exist for enhanced recreational and multi-seasonal uses of the 125-acre parkland.

Beginning in March 2013, representatives of the City of Traverse City (City), the Charter Township of Garfield (Township), the City of Traverse City – Charter Township of Garfield Recreational Authority (Rec Authority), the Grand Traverse Ski Club (GTSC), and Preserve Hickory convened to discuss potential partnerships and opportunities for Hickory Hills. The group came to a consensus that a long range plan was necessary to guide the parties and the community. To that end, the development of a long range Master Plan is a necessary prerequisite to consideration of new partnerships for funding, operations, enhanced programming and capital improvements.

In order to finance the professional preparation of the Master Plan, the City of Traverse City contributed $16,000, the Charter Township of Garfield $8,000, Preserve Hickory $4,000 and the Grand Traverse Ski Club $4,000.

Master Plan

The Hickory Hills Recreation Area Master Plan was prepared in 2014, as part of a cooperative effort between the City of Traverse City, the Charter Township of Garfield, the Grand Traverse Ski Club, and Preserve Hickory. SE Group, a consulting firm specializing in winter/summer recreation facility planning and development, was hired through a competitive selection process and worked with the community to prepare the Master Plan. Over a thousand community members responded to surveys and over a hundred people attended a community meeting to provide input on the importance of and opportunities for Hickory Hills.

Community Survey

An important component of the Hickory Hills Master Plan was to seek input from the community on their hopes, desires, concerns, and interests. Two surveys were conducted.

The first survey sought input on community opinions regarding Hickory Hills and the interests in the types of activities and opportunities the community would like to see. Over 1,000 community members responded, with over 90% supporting additional winter and summer activities, continuing the purpose of providing affordable recreation for area youth, and continuing public financial support, and securing outside sources of funding.

The second survey focused on the types of recreational opportunities the community prefers. The highest rated winter facility improvements, in order, included expanded recreation ski/riding terrain, expanded guest services, and expanded terrain park and features, and the highest rated winter activities included youth learning programs, school programs, adult learning programs, and collaboration with YMCA. The highest rated summer facilities, in order, included trail connections, public restrooms and drinking fountain, picnic facilities, nature trails with education stations, fitness trail with exercise stations, and community center. The highest rated summer activities included walking, running, and hiking, mountain biking, expanded disk golf course, bike skills course, outdoor climbing wall, and challenge/ropes course.

In addition to the two community surveys, two public meetings were held to seek input from the community. The first meeting was held on February 20, 2014 and attended by over 100 community member to seek input on potential opportunities and the second meeting was held on March 24, 2015 and attended by over 40 community residents to discuss the HHAC recommendation for Option B.

With these efforts, the HHAC is confident that there has been significant community input into the approach, opportunities, and recommendations for the Hickory Hills Master Plan.

Analysis

The first component of the Master Plan was to analyze the existing facility and operations and identify potential areas of improvement to better serve the community. The analysis identified the following opportunities;

Guest Services: The existing lodge does not provide adequate space for guest services. The existing lodge is 2,310 square feet. Even without rentals, ski school, retail, and employee space, the amount of space is low by industry standards. Recommended guest services space range from 5,700 to 7,190 square feet. The existing lodge is a cherished building, but is in need of significant codes upgrades and repairs to meet guest service demands, notwithstanding space. There is a significant shortage of seating, food service is limited and represents a significant opportunity for increased amenitites and revenues, there are no rentals which limits attracting new/beginning riders, and there is limited retails space to sell products and logowear, another revenue opportunity.

Infrastructure: The existing parking area and drop off create challenges for both winter and summer users. In winter, the dead end drop off creates circulation problems and logistic issues for equipment and children being dropped off. In summer, the closed gate limits access resulting in on-street parking along Randolph Street.

Terrain: The rope tows do provide adequate capacity to service the terrain capacity and represent the best and lowest cost option to continue. There is a need for expanded terrain, especially recreational terrain which can attract additional users. There is a significant need for expanded terrain parks. The learning terrain is far from the parking and lodge area, and requires parents and instructors to help beginning riders all the way across the facility. There also is a need for more intermediate terrain to help the progression for beginner to advanced riding.

Nordic Skiing: There is a 0.75 km groomed and lighted Nordic trail; other Nordic trails exist, but are not maintained or lit. There is a significant opportunity to expand Nordic trails (which can also serve as hiking/biking trails in summer) and to work with the Recreational Authority to expand and link trails with the adjacent Hickory Meadows recreation area. There are no Nordic rentals available. With trail improvements and available rentals, there is an opportunity to increase revenues with season/trail passes, food and beverage sales at the Lodge, and Nordic race events.

Marketing/Brand: The analysis identified significant room for improvement for the Hickory Hills marketing and brand.

Summer: The disc golf course at Hickory Hills is noted as one of the finest in Michigan and the Midwest and is a primary park use during the non-winter months. There are opportunities to expand the disc golf course. Importantly, there are vast areas within the park that can provide for significant hiking/biking trails, especially with the opportunity to coordinate trail development with Hickory Meadows.

Master Plan Focus

Based on the input from the Community Surveys and Community Meeting, and research conducted as part of the Master Plan process, the following focus was developed to guide future planning:

- ***Active and passive recreation***, including winter recreation, disc golf, and trail based recreation;
- Connection to legacy of Hickory Hills as ***community asset***;
- Recognize and maintain ***natural setting/beauty*** in recreation expansion;
- Support ***municipal funding*** to maintain affordability;
- Seek ***additional funding*** sources;
- ***Broader diversity*** in winter and summer offerings.
- Fit with other community recreation facilities and services with ***unique opportunities***.

Master Plan Concepts

To address these issues and opportunities, two concepts were developed and detailed in the Master Plan.

The Master Plan included two concepts for consideration. Both concepts included significant expansion of trails for winter and summer use, additional disk golf, and other recreation features, such as a climbing wall and ropes course. The plan for a tubing run is not recommended for three reasons: the financial analysis indicated that there are not significant revenues to be gained, the installation of the tubing run would remove a significant natural feature, and there are already two tubing facilities in the area.

Concept A proposed to utilize the existing layout, improve parking, and construct a new lodge in the location of the existing lodge. Concept B proposed to construct a new lodge and develop parking at the east end of the property.

Hickory Hills Advisory Committee

The Hickory Hills Advisory Committee was appointed by the City Manager to make recommendations to implement the Hickory Hills Multi Season Recreation Master Plan. The

HHAC is comprised of community members representing Alpine and Nordic skiing, disk golf, trail, cycling, natural resources, and City and Township interests. A list of member is included in the Appendix.

Over the past six months, the HHAC has been meeting to determine the most effective approach to meet its charge to implement the Hickory Hills Multi-Season Recreation Plan. Discussions have included trail development and integration, disk golf/trail design coordination, and determining which of the two concepts presents in the Master Plan best meet the overall objectives, community interests, and recreation opportunities.

Based on that review, the Committee has made a recommendation to proceed with Concept B, with some modifications.

The following is a summary of the advantages of Concept B, from the Committee's perspective:

- **Improved Beginner Access**: Currently, the beginner ski hill is at the far end of ski area and limits access. Option B moves the beginner ski hill close to the lodge.
- **Consolidated Infrastructure**: The lodge and parking will be consolidated at the east end of the property and open up significant property for recreation.
- **Expanded Terrain**: Option B provides additional ski/snowboard terrain, increasing capacity for more users.
- **Phasing**: Hickory Hills can continue to operate while the new lodge is under construction.
- **Existing Lodge Preserved**: The existing lodge is preserved and available as a warming hut or other uses.
- **Hickory Meadows Collaboration**: Facilities at the east end of Hickory Hills can also be accessed by users of Hickory Meadows. There is an opportunity to collaborate on trail development and integration between the two parks.

Because of the potential impact on Hickory Meadows with Concept B, HHAC representatives met with the Hickory Meadows Advisory Committee and the City of Traverse City – Charter Township of Garfield Recreational Authority to discuss the recommendation. Both groups express support for the recommendation and a strong interest in collaborative planning, specifically for trail development. There is an opportunity to create a coordinated approach for trail development and operation between the two properties, with a combined 250 acres.

The Hickory Hills Advisory Committee is recommending the following are proposed changes to Concept B, based on input from user groups and the community:

- **Shift Lodge and Parking:** Final location of the lodge and parking will depend upon detail civil engineering and architectural design, but the lodge and parking are recommended to be shifted to the west to match the slope and terrain to the lodge.
- **Beginner Terrain:** Move the beginner terrain either to the north or to the south to take better advantage of the natural terrain.
- **Rope Tow:** The original plan included a platter lift from the new lodge to the top of Swede. While this lift may be installed in the future, the Committee is proposing a small rope tow to access the back hills.
- **Remove Tubing:** Both Option A and Option B included a tubing area in the southwest corner, and is not recommended, because there are already tubing hills in the area, the construction would affect a significant natural area, and would not generate revenues to support other recreation activities.

The final location, layout and design will be based on detailed engineering and design analysis, including geotechnical engineering, topographic features, stormwater management, and activity flow.

Proposal

The Hickory Hills Advisory Committee is requesting approval of a $1.5 million allocation from the Brown Bridge Trust Fund, contingent upon an equivalent amount of match funds being raised from other sources with eighteen (18) months.

In summary, the request is focused on the primary infrastructure components of the Master Plan, including the Lodge, utilities, parking, maintenance/storage building, and terrain infrastructure, which are the most difficult to find outside grant and other funding sources. Other components of the Master Plan, including trail development, picnic areas, climbing wall, ropes course, and disc golf expansion, are activities for which outside sources of funding are much more available.

The following is the narrative description of each of the project components proposed for funding through the BBTF:

Lodge: The new Lodge of approximately 6,000 square feet would house all guest services in one building, including rentals, food and beverage services and seating, and tickets. The Lodge will be two-story and views up the valley toward learning terrain, terrain parks, and race terrain, with ample banquet space and a large outdoor deck.

Infrastructure: The drop off and parking would be consolidated at the east end of the park. The entry road leads directly to the drop off and parking area with walkways, seating, lighting and landscaping in a convenient, compact, and intuitive design.

Utilities/Storage: The location of the Lodge at the east end of the park would require utility upgrades, including a new septic drain field and stormwater management. A key element is a storage/maintenance building for the groomer and other operational equipment. There has been a budget line item in the City's Capital Improvement Program fund for $80,000 for a number of years; the proposed is to include the balance for a BBTF/Match allocation.

Terrain Improvements: Terrain improvements include additional terrain park and features, learning terrain, recreational terrain, and glades. The proposal develops learning terrain near the new lodge, additional runs along the north ridge between Swede and the current roadway, adds terrain along the east side of Pete, and significantly expands the terrain park on the south side of Swede. Also included under Terrain Improvements are lift expansion, lighting and snowmaking.

The following is a summary budget;

Improvement	Budget
Lodge	$1,691,767
Infrastructure	$433,092
Utilities/Storage	$273,000
Terrain Improvements	$602,141
TOTAL	$3,000,000

A more detailed budget, with allocation for other sources of funding for improvements identified in the Master Plan is including in the Appendix.

Funding Plan

The request to the Brown Bridge Trust Fund is for $1.5 million, to be matched by funding from outside sources. Preserve Hickory, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the past, present, and future of Hickory Hills, has received a $5,000 grant from Rotary Charities to prepare a fundraising feasibility study, which is currently underway. Preserve Hickory will serve as the primary fundraising entity to match the Brown Bridge Trust Fund grant.

There has been a long cooperative history of private fundraising to support Hickory Hills. Over the past 12 years, over $150,000 in outside private funding has been raised to support improvements to Hickory Hills. This fundraising has been limited by the specter of past City Commission proposals to close Hickory Hills. The City's long term support for Hickory is critical to the success of private fundraising.

In order to meet grant funding and year-end donation cycles, Preserve Hickory is requesting that the timeframe to secure the match extend to twenty-four (24) months.

The City Commission is requested to approve a set aside up to $1.5 million from the Brown Bridge Trust Fund, contingent upon the match being secured within 24 month.

There are two important considerations for private fundraising for this important community project: In-Kind Donations and Sponsorships/Naming.

In-Kind Donations: Because of the strong commitment by many talented individuals and business in the community, there is a significant level of in-kind services and donations that are anticipated. The value of these in-kind services and donations is being requested to be considered as part of the BBTF match.

Sponsorships/Naming: There is anticipated to be significant interest in sponsorships or naming rights as a fundraising tools. All naming rights will comply with the City Naming Policy for Parks and Other City Owned and Operated Facilities.

APPENDICES

CONCEPT B – SUMMER/WINTER

PROPOSED HICKORY HILLS BUDGET ALLOCATION

HICKORY HILLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Hickory Hills Master Plan - Capital and Funding Analysis

Concept B Plus

New Facilities & Infrastructure		Funding Sources			
Category	**Total Cost**	**BTFF**	**MNRTF**	**Partnerships**	**TOTALS**
Infrastructure					
New Lodge	$1,857,500	$1,691,767		$165,733	$1,857,500
Lodge Utilities	$145,000	$145,000			$145,000
Parking Drop-Off Improvements	$433,092	$433,092			$433,092
Maintenance/Storage Building	$208,000	$128,000			$128,000
Snowmaking	$327,500	$327,500			$327,500
Grooming	$120,000				$0
Ski Terrain Expansion	$111,607	$111,607			$111,607
Ski Terrain Lighting	$43,034	$43,034			$43,034
Lift Expansion	$320,000	$120,000			$120,000
Play Space for Kids	$7,000			$7,000	$7,000
Nordic Trails	$64,500		$64,500		$64,500
Wayfinding	$10,000			$10,000	$10,000
Picnic Area	$49,610			$49,610	$49,610
MTB Trails	$65,000		$65,000		$65,000
Fitness Stations	$24,000		$24,000		$24,000
Nordic/Snowshoe Rentals	$20,000			$20,000	$20,000
Alpine Rental Equipment	$50,000			$50,000	$50,000
Maintenance Building CIP - $80,000					
Groomer to be purchased though Motor Pool					
Lift Expansion excluding platter lift					
Infrastructure Total	**$3,855,843**	**$3,000,000**	**$153,500**	**$302,343**	**$3,455,843**
Activities					
Climbing Wall	$80,000		$80,000		$80,000
Challenge Course/Ropes Course	$350,000			$350,000	$350,000
Disk Golf Course Expansion	$15,000			$15,000	$15,000
Activities Total	**$445,000**	**$0**	**$80,000**	**$365,000**	**$445,000**
Total Improvements	**$4,300,843**	**$3,000,000**	**$233,500**	**$667,343**	**$3,900,843**

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION – CONCEPT B+ WINTER

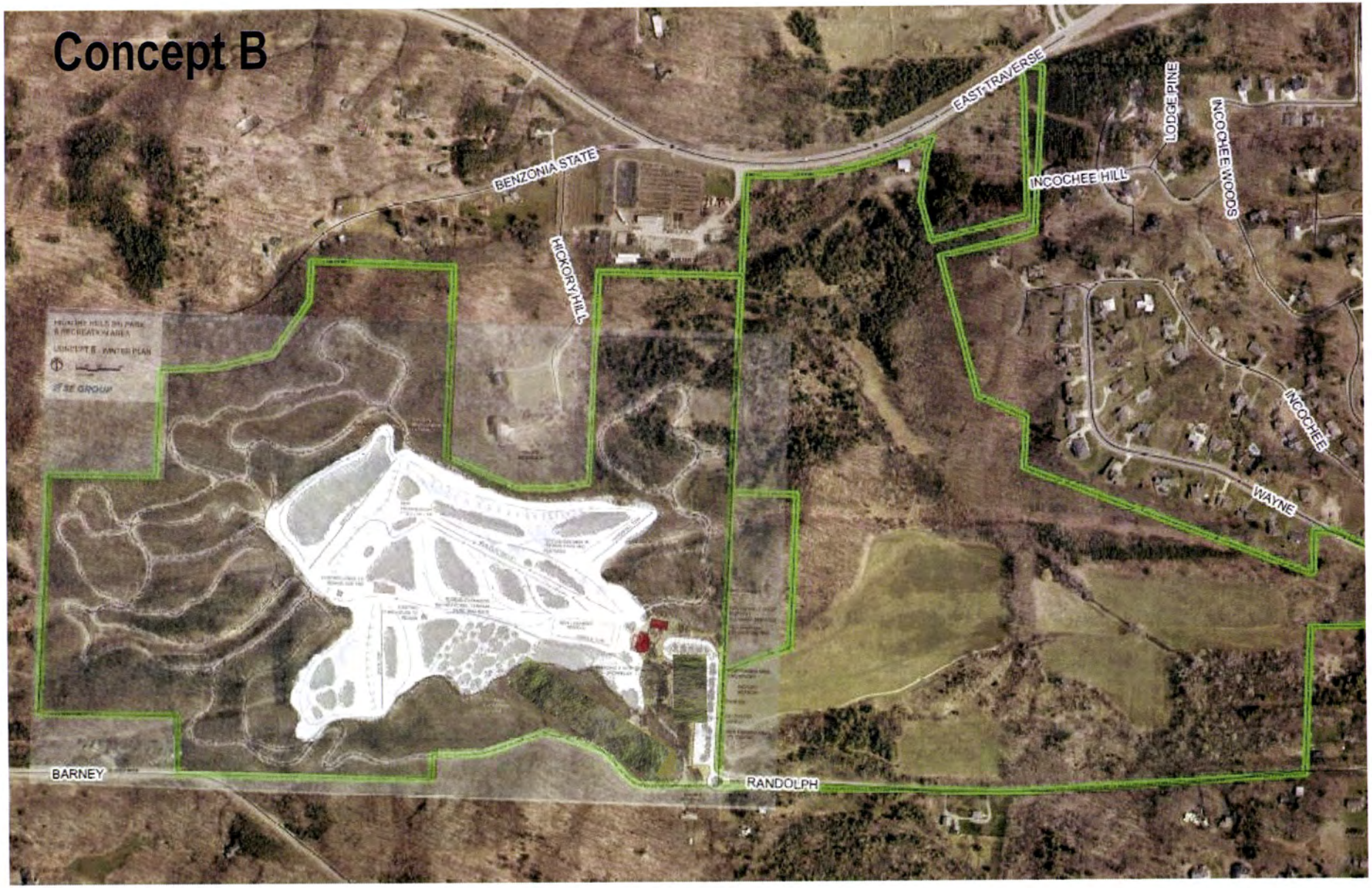
DRAFT RECOMMENDATION – CONCEPT B+ SUMMER

Common Elements

- Trail expansion
- Disk golf
- Sledding Hill
- Ropes Course/Climbing Wall
- Picnic Area
- Fitness Stations

Move lodge and parking to west

HICKORY HILLS – HICKORY MEADOWS CONNECTION



HICKORY HILLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MAY 2015

Member	Representing/Interest
Barry Smith	City Parks and Recreation
Brian Haas	City Parks and Recreation
Brian VanDenBrand	Garfield Township
Dave Green	City DPS
Don Stellin	Grand Traverse Ski Club
Ed Johnson	Mountain Biking
Eric Okerstrom	Nordic Skiing
John Kostrzewa	Nordic Skiing
Laura Ness	Preserve Hickory
Lauren Vaughn	City Parks and Recreation
Mac McClelland	Preserve Hickory
Marc Hamlin	Disk Golf
Matt McDonough	Rec Authority/Natural Resources
Maureen Madion	Preserve Hickory
Mike Groleau	Rec Authority
Tim Werner	City Commission
Todd Vigland	Trails/Natural Resources
Valarie Handy	Garfield Township Parks Commission
Copied on all mailings	
Chuck Korn	Garfield Township Supervisor
Julie Dalton	City of Traverse City
Michael Estes	Traverse City Mayor
Rob Larrea	Garfield Township Planning
Penny Hill	Assistant City Manager

RANK THE GOALS FROM OUR MARCH 18, 2015 SPECIAL MEETING

1 Equals least important and 5 equals most important

Prioity Score		ITEM
4.83	1	Finish Wags West improvements
4.50	2	Complete the development of Jupiter Gardens
4.50	2	Encourage people to use new parks development flow chart process for new ideas
4.50	2	Create link from P & R webpage for the input of park and program ideas
4.50	2	Finish community gardens process
4.33	6	Enhance City Parks and Rec website to have a page for each park with into on goals, plans, etc.
4.33	6	Put park ID signs in all parks
4.17	8	Re-design Lay Park so that it has continuity and connections to Hannah, Union St. Dam, and American Legion
4.17	8	Develop Sunset Park Fitness Park and other amentities including playground and pavilion / restrooms
4.00	10	Complete West Boardman Lake trail to Medalie Park
4.00	10	Begin recycling program in all City Parks
3.83	12	Enforce No Smoking in those parks where it is in effect - Increase signage
3.67	13	Create more temporary "pop up" projects while waiting for long term projects
3.67	13	Partner with more groups for special events or projects
3.50	15	Find location for second socializing dog park
3.50	15	Create designated dog beach
3.50	15	Improve sand volleyball courts and surrounding area
3.33	18	Have City create separate Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department instead of a Division of DPS
3.17	19	Install 2 outdoor table tennis tabes at Lay Park
3.00	20	Develop park plan for Huron Hills Park (Kewaunee just off Birchwood)
2.83	21	Create more City sponsored recreation programs
2.83	21	Add park to SoFo area (south of 14th St.)
2.50	23	Create shared community garden for those in need of food; operated by volunteer labor
2.50	23	Add capacity to Day Camp program
2.33	25	Create alternate themed day camp programs to increase capacity and variety
2.17	26	Create curling facility (Granite 'rocks' and ice surface)

Memorandum

The City of Traverse City

TO: Parks and Recreation Commissioners

FROM: Lauren A. Vaughn, Parks and Recreation Superintendent

RE: Superintendent's Report

DATE: May 4, 2015

The Hickory Hills Community Input meeting was held on March 24. There were about 35 people in attendance. Mac McClelland gave a power point presentation and then fielded comments and questions about the plan. There were some good comments and there was confirmation that concept B + as called by the committee seems to be the most favorable to the part of the community that was present at the meeting.

Mac will be at our May 7 meeting to discuss the proposal to the City Commission to use Brown Bridge Trust Fund money to assist with the Hickory project.

Status on the Carnegie (History Center) Building. The Crooked Tree Arts Center started their lease on the newer part of the building on March 15. They will be using the carpeted areas on the main floor and 2 classrooms and an office on the lower level. The Grand Traverse Rock and Mineral Club began on April 1 to lease one small room for a workshop on the lower level of the newer side. The History Center is leasing 4 rooms on the lower level of the old part of the building for their work. The upper floor of the older side of the building is still in transition and will eventually be used by the City to rent for events, meetings, etc.

Please read the following information regarding trail ribbon cutting ceremonies the next 2 Fridays in case you are interested in attending.

Trail Ribbon Cuttings Planned
Boardman Lake Trail: May 8
West End Beach Trail and Access Project: May 15

TRAVERSE CITY- The City of Traverse City plans to celebrate the completion of two trail projects: Boardman Lake Trail and West End Beach Trail and Access Project on **May 8 and May 15** respectively. The community is invited to attend both ribbon cutting events to commemorate the completion of these important projects. Both projects are great additions to the Traverse City recreation and transportation network.

Boardman Lake Trail: **May 8, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.**

On Friday, May 8, 2015 at 3:00 p.m., the extension of the Boardman Lake Trail will be celebrated. Representatives from the City of Traverse City, Grand Traverse County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and Michigan Department of Natural Resources will speak at the event. The event will take place at the new recreation area that can be accessed from Lake Avenue. On-street parking is available. Bike racks are located at the recreation area.

The Boardman Lake Trail project extends the existing multi-use trail to 14th Street and includes both a trail along the lakefront and an upland trail for an approximate total of 4,400 linear feet of new trail. The project included the creation of a small lakefront recreation area with a gazebo, seating, deck and floating dock with kayak/canoe watercraft launch. In addition, the project includes a trail connection to Lake Avenue that links Old Towne and Central neighborhoods to the Boardman Lake Trail and recreation area.

West End Beach Trail and Access Project: **May 15, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.**

On Friday, May 15, 2015 at 3:00 p.m., the West End Beach Trail and Access Project will be celebrated. Representatives from the City of Traverse City, Michigan Department of Transportation and Slabtown Neighborhood Association will speak at the event. The event will take place at the trail terminus on the north side of Grandview Parkway. Public parking is available at the West End Beach parking lot or along Bay Street. Bike racks are located along the trail.

The project includes the extension of a non-motorized trail along the north side of M-72/West Grandview Parkway from the parking lot at West End Beach to Elmwood Avenue, a distance of approximately 1,285 feet; a pedestrian crossing of M-72/West Grandview Parkway near the alignment of Elmwood Avenue connecting the trail extension with neighborhoods and trail networks to the south. North of the trail crossing intersection, a small viewing platform and ramped access to the beach were constructed. The project included investments to improve water quality including a stormwater treatment structure and the elimination of the direct discharge from the parking lot. Additional project components include: beach access quarried rock steps in two locations, site landscaping, irrigation systems, furniture and solar/wind hybrid streetlights.

See you Thursday, May 7th.

TO: Park and Recreation Commissioners

FROM: Lauren A. Vaughn, Parks and Rec. Sup't.

DATE: May 4, 2015

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 7, 2015 – Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

May 23, 2015 – Scheduled opening for Milliken Waterscape

June 4, 2015 – Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

June 15, 2015 – Day Camp Starts

July 2, 2015 – Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.