



Safety Path Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, June 12, 2012

1. **Call to Order** 7:04 PM by Taylor Reynolds, Chairperson

2. **Roll Call**

- Brinkmann, Michael (Treasurer) – present
- Cotter, B. C. – present
- Muzzy, Heather – present
- Porter, Neal (Board Representative) – absent (excused)
- Steele, Donni (Vice-Chair) - present
- Campbell, David (Secretary) – absent (excused – Brinkmann doing minutes)
- Sidebottom, David (Alternate) ~ present
- Reynolds, Taylor (Chairperson) – present
- Flood, Michael (Non-Voting Member) - present

Also Present – Dave Schroeder, OHM, JoAnn Van Tassel, Township Supervisor; Citizens: George Hanby (sic), Gerald Richards, Lisa Damian, Jim Clark

3. **Determination of a Quorum** – Yes; six voting members present, including Sidebottom, plus non-voting member Flood.

4. **Public Comments** – Citizens (see above) attended to contribute to the discussion of the Baldwin – Indianwood Road Project. Their input included in item 7-A below.

5. **Approval of Minutes for May 8, 2012 Meeting.** Motion by Brinkmann, second by Taylor, to approve minutes as written. Motion carries 6-0

6. **Approval of Agenda for June 12, 2012 Meeting.** Motion by Taylor second by Brinkmann to approve agenda as revised to cover Baldwin – Indianwood Project 1st instead of 2nd under 7-A, Pending Business. Motion carries 6-0.

7. **Pending Business**

A. 2011 Construction Project Expansion (OHM)

1. **Indianwood (Joslyn to Baldwin) and Baldwin (Indianwood to Klais)** – Dave Schroeder (OHM) explained the procedure (letters, meeting, follow-up, etc) used to acquire the necessary easements for this project. Citizens commented that they were offended at the process and suggested that, in their opinion it could (should) have been handled more tactfully, in particular, with a “win – win” philosophy . Supervisor Van Tassel expanded on the follow-up process with specific description of negotiation(s) (walking the property, looking at alternative routing, etc.), including concessions the Township was willing to make for the affected property owners. Much of the discussion centered on the limitations imposed by the specifications of the Road Commission of Oakland County (RCOC), in particular with regard to setback from the

road, which force the acquisition of added easement. The RCOC has traditionally has an intransigent policy with regard to waivers in this area for safety paths. Citizens reiterated their belief that a win-win was achievable if the OSPAC was willing to work toward getting waivers from the RCOC. Brinkmann agreed to pen a letter to the RCOC explaining the issue, requesting them to reconsider their policy and requesting a waiver(s) for this specific project. Gerald Richards, who has had positive experience at the state level acquiring a waiver in similar circumstances, agreed to provide input. Van Tassel indicated that the direction of the Township Board to come to a resolution of this issue within 60 days of the 1st Board meeting in June will proceed.

B. 2009-2010 Construction Project Completion (OHM)

1. **Kern Road spur** – Project complete. There was some discussion of the amount of removal of foliage for the path. Van Tassel suggested that foliage would return, but, if there is concern, memorial tree planting may offer an opportunity. Muzzy agreed to contact Bald Mountain State Park re this possibility.

C. 2012 Construction Projects Expansion (OHM)

1. **M-24, Clarkston south to Scripps on west side** – Project essentially done, with only landscape restoration remaining. Several positive comments reported.
2. **Joslyn crossing at Orion Library** – Also included in the M-24 project (for economic reasons) was the library crossing of Joslyn, which is near-complete. The crossing design was revised to move it to the south to avoid moving a fire hydrant. It will need to be re-stripped by the RCOC.

MOTION by Steele, **SECOND** by Brinkmann, to extend meeting 20 minutes.

MOTION CARRIES 6-0.

D. 2012 Maintenance

1. **ASI repairs** – Joslyn at Flintridge and Waldon west of former Boys & Girl Club complete.
2. **Joslyn north of Heights Road** - needs review for maintenance.

E. LOCS Transportation Committee – No report; Porter not in attendance.

F. Multi-Jurisdictional Phragmites Control & Grant Proposal Discussion – Muzzy reported that Michigan DNR is prioritizing eradication from state boundaries inward; as a result, it will be a while until we get help from the state level. Muzzy displayed an eradication kit, which she is trying and indicated that **REGULAR** mowing (not just a few times a years) combined with some chemicals was very promising. Van Tassel working with RCOC and Township DPW to work on this when resources are available.

G. Maps – A few minor revisions still remain. Muzzy to input to OHM; otherwise, ready for printing. Some confusion on getting the actual printing done.

H. 2013 Construction Projects

1. **Safety Path Fund** – Brinkmann reviewed funds available (after pending projects are completed) for 2013 planning. Amount available for 2013 construction is \$747,485; Restricted Maintenance Fund has another \$551,439 available for major maintenance.

2. **Locations** – Schroeder to update cost estimates for OSPAC “Priority 1” future construction projects.

3. **Grants - Schroeder** asked to investigate grant potential for future projects.

I. **Board Presentation Topics** – Deferred to a future meeting pending updated data.

8. New Business

A. **OSPAC Sign/ Banner** – Cotter to report at next meeting.

B. **Township Master Plan** – Master Plan for 2008 – 2012, covered under Parks & Rec, was adopted 2007. Van Tassel reported the Township has development of the updated plan out for bid.

C. **Lake Orion Review to future OSPAC Meetings** – Taylor to pursue.

9. Organization Updates

A. **Planning Commission** – no news affecting safety paths

B. **TWLA (formerly OTAC)** – no report

C. **Paint Creek Trail** – no report. Van Tassel indicated that the Township has representative(s) on all of the trail committees and described the method by which the Township pays into their respective funds. Township is responsible for maintenance on portion of the trails within the Township.

D. **Polly Ann Trail** - Steele reported input to Trail Master Plan was handled well.

9. Committee Comments

- Cotter suggested OSPAC consider donated memorial park benches along the safety paths.
- Steele emphasized Township needs to move on Baldwin – Indianwood Project.
- Van Tassel requested that the OSPAC members check out Indianwood, in particular to assess the sightline of the crosswalk at Paint Creek School and to consider north-side vs. south-side path construction.

10. **Adjournment at 9:30** (Motion by Muzzy, Support by Steele, Motion Carried 6-0).

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
Township Hall Board Room