

Charter Township of Orion

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www.oriontownship.org

Orion Safety Path Advisory Committee (OSPAC)

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Township Hall Board Room - 7:00 p.m.

APPROVED

1. Call to Order 7:01 PM by Taylor Reynolds, Chairperson

2. Roll Call

- Brinkmann, Michael (Treasurer & Secretary) - Present
- Cotter, B.C. (Vice-Chair) - Present
- Drozdowski, Shane - Absent
- Muzzy, Heather - Present
- Reynolds, Taylor (Chair) - Present
- Richards, Jerry - Present
- Snowden, Eugene (Alternate) - Present
- Steele, Donni (Board Representative) - Present
- Flood, Michael (Non-Voting Member) - Absent
- Stout, Jeff (Operations Director) - Present
- Jessica Katers (OHM - Twp Engineer) – Present
- Melanie Sobas (OHM) – Present

Citizens Also Present:

- Herbert Klein Jr - 1976 Hunters Lane
- Patty Kuksov - 4475 Maybee Rd
- Janice Skurkis - 3514 Capaldi Circle
- Rick Skurkis - 3514 Capaldi Circle
- Margaret Liedel - 4495 Maybee Rd
- John Kirtland - 1346 Indianwood

3. Determination of a Quorum (min 4) – Yes; including alternate, seven voting members present

4. Approval of Minutes for June 11, 2013

Motion by Richards, second by Snowden, to approve minutes

Motion carries 7 - 0

5. Approval of Agenda for August 13, 2013 Meeting

Motion by Brinkmann, second by Taylor, to approve agenda as modified to add 7F Pathway Maintenance – Other, 7G Fund Status, 8C Axford Rd and 8D Code Enforcement

Motion carries 7 – 0

6. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items – 3 Minute limit per person

Mr Klein had three comments/recommendations for the Committee, namely:

- 1) Snow removal in the winter for high use areas of the safety path system
- 2) Systematic brush removal for safety paths (a topic discussed later in the meeting)
- 3) Expansion of mowing width from the road side of the paths to 10 feet (Committee responded that the safety path “jurisdiction”, by ordinance, extends 2 feet on either side of the path)

7. Pending Business

A. 2013 Maybee Road at Independence Twp (OHM) – Orion/Independence Township plans call for extending existing Orion path on south side of Maybee to the Township line and then continuing a short distance in Independence Township until it crosses and connects to the existing Independence path system. Citizens attending were protesting plans for the safety path on several grounds: they

contend the curve is unsafe and will be made even less safe with a safety path, suggest north side of the road would be better choice, worry about dog walkers creating unsanitary conditions and their privacy being invaded.

Committee responded that right-of-way already exists on the south side of the road whereas new easements would have to be negotiated on the north side and safety factors could be taken into account in the path design. Stout and Katers agreed to set up a meeting with the affected homeowners and OHM (Katers) to walk the area and address their concerns as much as possible in the design of the path.

B. Indianwood/Baldwin (OHM) – Phase 1, construction from the fire station north to the roundabout has been delayed by weather and should be completed in the near-future. The pedestrian crossing improvement at Joslyn and Indianwood has been completed.

C. Indianwood – East to Paint Creek Elementary (OHM/Stout) - The bid package for Phase 2, construction east on Indianwood from the roundabout to Paint Creek School will be completed by Thursday, 8/15; plan is for construction to begin in September and be completed by mid-November of this year

Bid package will include the Maybee Road project; however, that project will be slated for 2014, providing time to work out details which arise from the meeting mentioned in Item 7A.

D. Pathway Maintenance – Asphalt Repairs & Replacement (Brinkmann)

Motion by Brinkmann, second by Muzzy, to recommend the Board authorize OHM to prepare a bid package for asphalt repair and crack-sealing the Township safety paths in the areas designated in the OSPAC Asphalt Repair and Crack-Seal Inspection Reports. This work to be funded from the Maintenance- restricted portion of the Safety Path Fund.

Discussion: Stout preferred a systematic quadrant-based method of addressing repairs. Katers asked that the engineering re-evaluation inspection report be included in the scope of the work, but opined that could be done within the scope of the bid package requested. Consensus was that a more systematic approach need not preclude the repairs requested.

Motion Carried 7 - 0

E. Pathway Maintenance – Brush & Trimming (Brinkmann) – Following a discussion of the need for extensive pruning and brush removal, the pros and cons of contracting that work, the frequency of trimming and how to define the work for a request for quote, Brinkmann agreed to develop a request for quote for the next OSPAC meeting in September.

F. Pathway Maintenance – Other (Brinkmann) – Brinkmann reported that detail for the following additional categories from the OSPAC Inspection Report have been recently (today) e-mailed to the Committee. Those additional categories are: Engineering Re-evaluation, Curb Milling, Paint & Signage and Code Enforcement. This is in addition to the previously reported categories for Asphalt Repair, Crack-Sealing and Pruning and Trimming

G. Fund Status - A summary of the Safety Path Fund status through July 2013 was provided (See Attachment)

8. New Business

A. Pathway Master Plan (Reynolds) – There is a “Monkey Survey” on the Township web site to seek the input of citizens to the Plan. It is basically in two parts; the first part is a survey for the opinion of citizens for various categories; the second is a place for citizens to make additional input – sort of a “wish list”. The results will be compiled in November, after which public meetings will be scheduled for additional input. The Plan is to be completed in March 2014.

B. Road Diet Understanding (Reynolds) – Pictures and an explanation of the term “road diet” were provided. Process involves re-striping roads to improve safety and create pedestrian and bicycle access. An example would be to re-stripe a 4-lane road to convert it to 2-lanes with a center turn lane, thus providing room for a pedestrian/bike lane on each side which did not exist previously.

C. Axford – Katers reported that the RCOC Axford Road improvement project plans include room for a sidewalk on the west side and asked for Committee input. After some discussion the following motion was made:

Motion by Steele, second by Muzzy, to recommend the Board approve the addition of a six (6) foot wide concrete path or sidewalk on the west side of Axford, to be funded from safety path (construction) funds.

Motion carried 7 - 0

D. Code Enforcement – Stout reported the code enforcement officer was addressing items when requested.

9. Organization Reports

A. Planning Commission (OHM) – No report

B. Paint Creek / Polly Ann (Steele) – Steel reported that the Polly Ann Trail Manager has resigned and the committee is in the process of hiring a replacement.

C. Oakland County Trails Water Land Alliance (Reynolds) – No report

D. SEMCOG Public Mtg: Help Improve Bicycle and Pedestrian Paths and Amenities
August 13; 4-7 p.m.; Holly Police Department (Reynolds) – This meeting was earlier today.

10. Committee Comment – Cotter asked that a citizen award be added to the agenda next month. The award would recognize people or organizations that do an outstanding job of safety path maintenance, for example sub-division green space maintenance along the paths. Richards requested maintenance emphasis in future meetings.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Brinkmann, second by Snowden, to adjourn at 9:00 PM

Motion carries 7 – 0

Next Meeting: September 10, 2013 @ 7:00 pm @ Township Hall