

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

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**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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6:00 p.m., Monday  
December 11, 2017

**BIG BEAR SPORTSMAN CLUB**

8927 Puustinen Road

Kaleva, Michigan

**MINUTES**

**Ms. Tamara Buswinka called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.**

Present: Tamera Buswinka, AES Community Development; Ken Blakey-Shell, City of Manistee; Karla Kasten, Kaleva Village; Jack Cramer, Springdale Twp; Randy Sanovic, Manistee Snowbirds; Mark Coe, Manistee Snowbirds; Linda Cudney, Cleon Twp; Elaine Gibbs, Copemish Village; Karen Kolk, Filer Twp; Margaret Batzer, Manistee County; Greg McPherson, Bear Lake Village; and Nancy Baker, Manistee County Planning Assistant.

**Committee Reports**

❖ **Zimmerman Trail: Extension to Tribal Lands**

A committee has looked over several routes. The most feasible route is Hill Rd— to Kemmer Rd—to Tribal Lands—to the casino area. This trail link gets the committee closer to linking to the Kaleva area and to the Lake Michigan shoreline. Contact with the DNR regarding the 2108 grant for the trail was made. Trails in Michigan have become a priority for the state and the governor.

❖ **Marketing Promotions**

A meeting to promote the trail system should occur in January. This meeting is very important to organize the promotion of the trails to the public. Marketing ideas of shirts, hats, stickers etc. will be discussed. The goal is to get the public really excited about the upcoming trail system.

❖ **Thompsonville—Copemish--Mesick Trail**

It is unclear where the beginning of this trail is located. Contact with the Betzie Valley Trail committee to get some information regarding this matter is being checked into. Ms. Buswinka named grants and the way these grants work together. There will be a need to raise money, but the amount will not be as much as first anticipated. Grants will need to be worked on in January. The group agreed that other engineering companies that have trail building experience should be considered. This will show the municipalities that the committee is spending grant money wisely. Engineering proposals will be compared by a group of 4-5 committee people. The comparisons will be presented to the entire committee for formal evaluations.

❖ **Thompsonville to Kaleva, Kaleva to Chief Rd**

Contact with Merit Energy for these areas are still being pursued.

Manistee County Courthouse 415 Third Street Manistee, Michigan 49660  
AES 395 Third Street Manistee, Michigan 49660

❖ **Filer-Stronach-Norman**

A good portion of this segment is federal forest land. Trail work on federal forest land could take a large amount of time. Filer to Stronach land is mostly private land. A committee group to work on this segment should be formed. This will be looked into at future meetings.

**Recreation Authority Discussion (Tamara Buswinka)**

❖ **Draft "Articles of Incorporation"-with edits incorporated**

The Articles of Incorporation has been edited. If anyone has any further revisions/edits please direct them to Rob Carson.

❖ **Phasing of Existing Committee Meetings to Rec. Authority Development meetings**

The committee members should bring back any questions from the public concerning taxes, property value etc. Discussion ensued on the trail committee members possibly being the recreation authority. There are steps to be done before a recreation authority can be officially set in place. Discussion regarding the title of the authority was discussed with concerns of the name Manistee being in beginning of the title, using the word trail in the title etc. Using the name of Manistee at the beginning of the title may not be well received from the outer parts of the county. Using the word regional was mentioned. Many ideas were discussed. Incorporating of the word county-wide was mentioned with placing Manistee at the end of the title. The group agreed to the temporary name of County-wide Recreation Authority. The use of the word Authority was discussed. It will be checked into to find out if the word Authority by law must be used. Ms. Buswinka requested the group come back with some titles; some with and without the word authority, the use of Manistee not necessarily at the beginning and to see if an acronym can be formed from the title.

**General Comment & Questions**

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be February 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., at the Big Bear Sportsman Club, Kaleva.

The meeting ended at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nancy Baker, Recording Secretary

Date: December 11, 2017