

Elmwood Township Parks and Recreation Committee
Minutes of an Informal Meeting on June 22, 2005
Greilickville Beach

Sarah Bourgeois, Norm Brokaw, Fred Plamondon, Bill Swanson, Chuck Raney

1. Beach Grooming

- a. The beach badly needs grooming. It's a wonderful waterfront location, but it is basically blocked by vegetation, a "swamp" or "moat" and other detritus.
- b. Bill will ask the DEQ to come and say what can and can't be done.
- c. In its current state it may be unsafe for children to swim, since they can't be seen by their parents through the vegetation.
- d. The merry-go-round was removed for safety reasons.
- e. Rotary Charities may provide new playground equipment.

2. M-22 Access

- a. The state would prefer fewer road (driveway) cuts.
- b. Perhaps the Marina and the Park could share an access.
- c. Perhaps Heritage Harbor could share the same access. This might require an access road through the park.
- d. If there were coordination of these activities, the state might approve a light to make access to M-22 easier for all the businesses. Maybe across from the McDonald's/Harbor Watch entrance.
- e. Some sort of pedestrian access would be good, perhaps to allow boaters and park users to patronize businesses on the west side of M-22. The current pedestrian access near the Lakes States building is private and too far north. But pedestrians don't seem to care for overpasses.
- f. There are similar safety/access issues for the Tall Ships, Inland Seas (Manitou) and other businesses which use the waterfront but have offices on the west side of M-22 with whom we should coordinate.

3. Park Improvements

- a. The park is a gem, and the Elmwood staff are capable and dedicated. The question is how do we coordinate activities and resources to make Elmwood Township parks a place our citizens are proud of, and which our guests tell their friends about.
- b. There was some talk about the possibility of borrowing/renting TC's beach groomer.
- c. There are volunteers willing to do just about anything if we give them something useful to do.
- d. The park needs a rest room. Should it be part of the Marina or part of the MHA museum, if they build one?

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4. Other Organizations

- a. There are lots of nonprofit organizations that would like to be a part of whatever we do in Elmwood Township, such as MHA, the Children's Museum, etc.
- b. There is an active Greilickville Businessperson's Association, which has an obvious interest in Elmwood parks and maybe a dollar or two.
- c. We should certainly coordinate with TC. With the demise of the power plant, this area is just plain heaven with views folks would kill for. Do we have the foresight to plan it correctly?
- d. We should also coordinate with the Marina Committee, since the marina is so close.