

**TOWN OF BASS LAKE  
SAWYER COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE & BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Thursday, May 6, 2021**

**MINUTES**

Planning Committee Chairman Bond Sutton called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The meeting was held in person and virtually using Zoom. Members Present: Chairman Bond Sutton, Dick Theis, Dan Tyrolt, Tony Pfendt, Michael Friend, Thomas Whitt, James Evans, Dave Aubart, Alternate Sig Wysocki and Clerk Erica Warshawsky.

Warshawsky affirmed agenda was posted in compliance with open meetings law.

Motion by Pfendt seconded by Whitt to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2021 Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

Sutton read correspondence received from Sawyer County Zoning and Conservation approving Conditional Use Application #21-004 for Darlene and Micheal Friend.

Sutton introduced Mike Heim to present his thoughts regarding Henks Park and the possibility of creating an interpretive nature trail. Heim visited Henks Park and is impressed. The trails are well laid out with minimized disturbance, no invasive species, soil intact - classic Kettle Moraine country. Heim reviewed soil changes and gave suggestions for plantings. Sutton asked Tyrolt for his thoughts. Tyrolt suggested highlighting what is already existing and is not in favor of planting and tending to something new. The wetland could be highlighted. We could label what is there already. Pfendt agreed and added that we could add plants later if needed. Theis agreed with Tyrolt. Discussion followed. Edmond Packee suggested identifying habitats. Motion by Whitt, seconded by Theis to leave as is. Motion carried. Motion by Friend, seconded by Evans to move forward with a budget and identify species. Tyrolt stated that he is an engineer and puts his trust in Heim to identify plants and make recommendations. Motion carried.

Sutton reported that the Town of Bass Lake Outdoor Recreation Plan is due for a 5-year update. Sutton suggested discussing one item at each meeting. Sutton asked Phil Nies for input. Nies suggested having 2 people work through the improvements in the plan to see if new improvements need to be made. Nies explained that the reason for the plan is that it is useful when applying for grants and it is good for planning. Sutton stated that we need to go through what has been completed and what has not. Tyrolt reported that a lot has been completed so there is a lot to check off and a good chunk to do. Discussion followed.

Sutton reviewed the 2021 budget. The total parks budget for 2021 is \$22,716.00. Out of that amount, \$5,500.00 was carried over from last year is for Little LCO Landing blacktop and parking which should be completed this spring. \$4,000.00 - \$5,000.00 for general/ongoing expenses (utilities, insurance, etc.). Nies added that the Planning Committee will want to budget \$4,500.00 - \$5,000.00 next year to have Northwest Regional Planning update the Comprehensive Plan after the census data is available.

Sutton presented the park maintenance and updating handout. Sutton asked Nies about expanding parking at Henks Park. Nies reported that Highway Crew Chief Truit Campbell may be able to move the gate and gazebo. Aubart stated that Heim mentioned erosion at Henks Park, the parking lot will take care of that. Sutton reported that the shoulder at Little LCO Landing near Porkorny's Resort will be blacktopped to expand parking. Parking will be on one side. Discussion followed.

Sutton presented a letter from Edmond Packee that Chairman Justin Hall asked the Planning Committee to review. The topics in the letter were presented at the April 20, 2021 Annual Meeting. The topics in the letter are covered in items 4 – 6 of the agenda.

Sutton began with item 5 “Town of Bass Lake Boundary Lines”. Sutton reviewed 3 maps posted on the Town Hall corkboard: non-boundary map, boundary map and the county map. Tyrolt reported that he has not had any issues, but noted it is important to keep everyone notified. Packee expressed concern with contractors. Packee expressed concern over the boat landing at Victory Heights. The landing belongs to Sand Lake, but below that is Bass Lake, what responsibility does Bass Lake have. Nies stated that this very issue has been discussed before and Sand Lake has full responsibility. It is a non-issue.

Sutton presented item 4 “The Use of Herbicides in Bass Lake. Sutton began with #3 under Recommended Objectives in Packee’s letter “Advise COLA that the Town of Bass Lake is the state third tier administrative unit that must be included in LCO lake treatment permitted and non-permitted treatments”. Friend asked who has oversight of permits for treatment. Tyrolt explained that it is highly regulated. It takes a lot of coordination with the DNR. Whitt added that remediation requires even more notification. Tyrolt explained that COLA must notify the public when the whole lake will be treated. Anything over 10 acres requires a notice in the paper. Property owners within 100 feet of a treatment site must be notified. Cola is required to follow State statutes. Discussion followed. Tyrolt suggested asking COLA to send a copy of the permit. Packee stated that he is not opposed to the use of herbicide, he is concerned about proper notification and certification.

Sutton introduced item 6 “Phosphorus Pollution”. Discussion about the differing opinions of the cause of phosphorus pollution followed. Tyrolt reported that a maximum load study was done to address concerns of excess phosphorus. Friend asked what the answer is to reduce excess phosphors. Tyrolt responded that land management and education is important. Tyrolt noted that forestry and agriculture impact phosphorus levels. The goal is to reduce runoff. Friend asked what the Planning Committee and the Town do to educate the public. Tyrolt responded that LCO and COLA already do a lot of work but could use letters of support. Sutton asked Michael Shal to explain the role erosion plays in lake level management. Discussion followed.

Sutton asked for any other business. No response.

Motion by Whitt, seconded by Friend to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Motion carried.