

# Antrim Creek Natural Area

*Jerroll Drenth, Chairman*

Vacant

Jacob Veenstra

Gary Strange

Carl Veenstra

**January 9, 2008**

## **Minutes**

Meeting held at Banks Township Hall in Ellsworth

**ACNA Commission  
Members Present:**

Jake Veenstra Gary Strange, and Jerroll Drenth

**Members Absent:**

Carl Veenstra

**Others Present:**

Joe Meyers and Gene Dawson

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **2. Public Comment**

Gene Dawson spoke on how he is the chairman of the Parks Committee and how they are looking at a boat launch on Lake Michigan. Gene indicated that they were looking at Antrim Creek as a potential site but also indicated that he didn't know if there were any restrictions on developing the site.

Discussion ensued over a boat launch and the benefits for the county. Jerroll Drenth spoke on other potential sites and the economics of having it at ACNA; discussion ensued over the potential areas in ACNA for a launch. Discussion ensued over having a safe harbor.

**Motion by Gary Strange, supported Jake Veenstra to have further investigation on a boat launch on Lake Michigan at ACNA. Motion carried - unanimous.**

### **3. Review of the August 1, 2007 Minutes**

The Commission indicated that the minutes were satisfactory.

### **4. Grant Update**

Discussion ensued over the informational arbors grant and what information is to be on them.

Discussion ensued over the history of the natural areas.

Discussion ensued over the endowment fund.

Joe asked the commission to contact people that would be interested in working on creating the necessary panels for the arbors.

The Commission asked the Coordinator/Planners Office to contact the Jones family to see if they would like to get involved.

**5. Member Comment**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

**The next Antrim Creek Natural Area Commission  
meeting is scheduled for  
February 13, 2008**

# Antrim Creek Natural Area

*Jerrold Drenth, Chairman*

Vacant

Jacob Veenstra

Gary Strange

Carl Veenstra

**February 13, 2008**

## **Minutes**

Meeting held at Banks Township Hall in Ellsworth

**ACNA Commission Members Present:** Jake Veenstra, Carl Veenstra, and Jerrold Drenth

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Pete Garwood and Betty Hoffmann

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **2. Public Comment**

None

### **3. Review of the January 8, 2008 Minutes**

The committee accepted the minutes with changes. The meeting location was changed from Antrim Creek Natural Area to Banks Township Hall in Ellsworth.

The committee discussed the reference, in the minutes, to the exploration of a Boat Launch at the ACNA. Reservations were expressed regarding a boat launch as opposed to what is now available.

Jerrold Drenth, Chairman, discussed a conversation he had with David Jones. In addition, Pete Garwood, Coordinator/Planner, discussed a conversation he had with Nancy Jones in regards to the prospects of a boat launch. Neither David Jones nor Nancy Jones was supportive. Carl Veenstra brought up what a hot button issue this was the last time it was considered and informed the committee that the current set up was considered an acceptable compromise at that time.

### **4. Grant Update**

Several ideas were discussed in regards to the ACNA Arbors.

- Including photography that changed from season to season.
- Add Lake Huron Tansies
- Take out the Red Sea Anemones and find the right kind
- Check to see if the Coast Rainbow Trout is the proper species

Jerrold Drenth distributed a document written by Nancy Ritsema which recounts the history of the ACNA and the area (attached).

**Motion by Carl Veenstra, Supported by Jake Veenstra to direct Pete Garwood, Coordinator/Planner to contact Mark Stone and inquire about doing the design work on the interpretive panels for the Information Arbors of the ACNA.**  
**Motion Carried – Unanimous.**

The committee also directed Mr. Garwood to contact Site Planning for a quote on developing specifications for the Arbor.

The committee agreed with a suggestion from Nancy Jones that the book Pioneer Notes, by Grace Guyer, could be a good resource for the history of the area. Conversely, they thought “Whistle Up The Bay”, by Betty Beebe, might cover too broad of an area.

**Motion by Carl Veenstra, Supported by Jake Veenstra, to request the ACNA Endowment committee to grant the \$16,000 to the Informational Arbors project.**

**Motion Carried – Unanimous.**

**5. Member Comment**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

# Antrim Creek Natural Area

*Jerrold Drenth, Chairman*

Jacob Veenstra

Betty Hoffmann

Gary Strange

Carl Veenstra

**March 19, 2008**

Minutes

**Meeting held at Banks Township Hall in Ellsworth**

**Members Present:** Carl Veenstra, Jerrold Drenth and Betty Hoffmann

**Members Absent:** Jacob Veenstra and Gary Strange

**Others Present:** Joe Meyers

## **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The committee welcomed Betty Hoffmann to the committee.

## **2. Public Comment**

None

## **3. Review of the February 13, 2008 minutes**

**Motion by Carl Veenstra, supported by Betty Hoffmann to approve the minutes as amended. Motion Carried – Unanimous.**

## **4. Boat Launch**

Jerrold spoke on the boat launch and how the ACNA Commission is opposed to the type of boat launch the Parks Committee is researching. The ACNA is satisfied with the current boat launch arrangement – by portaging.

Discussion ensued over previous information presented to the committee regarding the natural area's boat launch.

## **5. Arbor Grant**

Discussion ensued over the project and the bids that were received from Site Planning and Michigan Maps Online.

Joe explained to the Committee that the costs on the Site Planning bids were not correct and we talked them down to \$3,200 instead of \$3,400.

Jerrold spoke on how he thought that the price was high but would be acceptable.

**Motion by Carl Veenstra, supported by Betty Hoffmann to approve Site Planning to complete the design work for the arbors and arrange three (3) inspection meetings and three (3) Committee meetings. Motion carried – unanimous.**

Discussion ensued over the design of the panels as well as the final outcome of the panels.

**Motion by Carl Veenstra, supported by Betty Hoffmann, to authorize Michigan Maps Online to do the design work on the panels. Motion carried – unanimous.**

The Committee asked the Coordinator/Planner Office to invite Mark Stone, Michigan Maps Online, and Traver Wood from Site Planning to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next meeting will be on April 9<sup>th</sup> or April 16<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday).

# Antrim Creek Natural Area

*Jerrold Drenth, Chairman*

Jacob Veenstra

Betty Hoffmann

Gary Strange

Carl Veenstra

**April 16, 2008**

Minutes

**Meeting held at Banks Township Hall in Ellsworth**

**Members Present:** Carl Veenstra, Jerrold Drenth, Betty Hoffmann, Gary Strange, Jacob Veenstra,

**Members Absent:** none

**Others Present:** Joe Meyers, Eileen Wallick, Wes Fogle and Traver Woods

## **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Jerrold introduced everyone in the meeting.

## **2. Public Comment**

Eileen Wallick spoke on the painting at Antrim Creek Natural Area (ACNA) and that she will try to complete the project.

## **3. Review of the March 19, 2008 minutes**

Jerrold spoke on the minute amendments.

**Motion by Carl Veenstra, supported by Jacob Veenstra to approve the minutes as amended. Motion Carried – Unanimous.**

## **4. Informational Arbor Grant – Traver Wood and Wes Fogle**

Discussion ensued over the arbors and the style that we were looking for. Traver Wood brought the drawings from the original out john specs, and the committee spoke on how they wanted more of a rustic look.

Discussion ensued over the look of the Informational Arbor. Discussion ensued over whether or not to have a roof over the structure. Discussion ensued over the design of the arbor.

Discussion ensued over the placement of the north loop.

Discussion ensued over the size and the timbers used and how mounting will be used.

Traver Wood and Wes Fogle left the meeting at 7:58 pm.

## **5. Informational Arbor Grant – Mark Stone**

Mark Stone spoke on the design work for ACNA that he was working on.

Mr. Stone also spoke on the natural history, native information and modern challenges. In addition, he discussed how ACNA was acquired.

Carl Veenstra spoke on ACNA artifacts and how we should be able to have them returned to Antrim County upon request.

The committee appreciated Mark Stone giving a presentation. Mr. Stone left the meeting at 8:17pm.

## **6. Various Matters as Appropriate**

Jerrold Drenth spoke on Eileen Wallick and the Barnes Park staff and what they are responsible for. Mr. Drenth asked Eileen to clean up a tree at the north end of the trail.

Mr. Drenth also spoke on the road conditions at the Antrim Creek Natural Area.

**Motion by Gary Strange, supported by Carl Veenstra, to pay for the temporary fix on the roads, not to exceed \$800.00. Motion Carried – Unanimous.**

Gary Strange spoke on the minutes and the boat launch. He also discussed that he is much in favor of a boat launch. Mr. Strange would like to see us look for grants to get a safe harbor.

Carl Veenstra spoke on how he is opposed to any further work on the boat launch and they came to a compromise a long time ago.

Discussion ensued over a boat launch.

Carl Veenstra spoke on the hunting uses at the ACNA.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

# Antrim Creek Natural Area

*Jerroll Drenth, Chairman*

Jacob Veenstra

Betty Hoffmann

Gary Strange

Carl Veenstra

**May 7, 2008**

Minutes

**Meeting held at Banks Township Hall in Ellsworth**

**Members Present:** Jerroll Drenth, Carl Veenstra, Gary Strange, Jake Veenstra and Betty Hoffman

**Members Absent:** none

**Others Present:** Joe Meyers, Mark Stone and Traver Wood

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Public Comment**

None

**3. Review of the April 16, 2008 minutes**

**Motion by Betty Hoffman, supported by Carl Veenstra to approve the minutes as amended. Motion Carried – Unanimous.**

**4. Informational Arbor Grant**

Traver Wood presented the drawings for the arbor. He presented the three drawings for the informational arbor and he would like to get estimates to see the cost of construction.

Discussion ensued over the informational arbor and the roof.

Discussion ensued over the best ways to mount the signs as well as the design of the arbor.

Mr. Wood also passed out renderings for the front and sides of the arbor.

The committee liked the low ceiling rendering because light in the arbor would not be an issue like we once thought it might be.

Jerroll Drenth, Gary Strange and Joe Meyers were pleased with the work Traver Wood has done thus far.

**Motion by Jake Veenstra, supported by Carl Veenstra, to go with the lower profile and have Traver Wood get quotes for construction. Motion carried – unanimous.**

Mark Stone spoke on the Community Foundation and how we are losing money.

Discussion ensued over the Community Foundation.

The committee decided that they would like Mr. Wood to draw up the designs and put it out for bid because they were comfortable with the designs.

**Motion by Gary Strange, supported by Jake Veenstra, to put construction of the arbors out for bid. Motion carried - unanimous.**

Mark Stone spoke on the meeting between Betty Hoffman and himself.

Mr. Stone also spoke on the history of Antrim Creek and what his ideas are. Discussion ensued over the panels and what to include.

Discussion ensued over the artifacts.

**6. Various Matters as Appropriate**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

# Antrim Creek Natural Area

*Jerroll Drenth, Chairman*

Jacob Veenstra

Betty Hoffmann

Gary Strange

Carl Veenstra

**July 2, 2008**

Minutes

**Meeting held at Banks Township Hall in Ellsworth**

**Members Present:** Jerroll Drenth, Carl Veenstra, Jake Veenstra and Betty Hoffman

**Members Absent:** Gary Strange

**Others Present:** Joe Meyers, Dave Jones and Nancy Jones.

## **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

## **2. Public Comment**

Nancy Jones spoke on how three plaques are missing on the rocks from the entrances; two on the north and one on the south.

## **3. Bid Opening**

Joe Meyers spoke on how they moved the placements of the arbors slightly.

Bid Openings	Jordan Construction Services	Extreme Seasons Builders	Cole Inc.
Option 1	\$24,062	\$19,000	\$40,576
Option 2	\$30,295	\$25,000	\$46,467
Option 3	\$31,564	\$27,000	\$47,276

Discussion ensued over the bids and the spendable reserve and where to go from here.

Discussion ensued over the endowment fund.

Discussion ensued over the cost of the arbor.

**Motion by Carl Veenstra, supported by Betty Hoffman to recommend that the Board of Commissioners accept the bid from Extreme Seasons Builders, for Option 3, for a total of \$27,000 and ask the endowment committee to have a meeting in order to release \$7,000 to cover the overages. Motion carried – unanimous.**

## **4. Antrim Creek Natural Area Budget Request**

Discussion ensued over the Budget.

**Motion by Jake Veenstra, supported by Carl Veenstra, to approve the budget as presented for submittal to the Parks Committee. Motion carried – unanimous.**

## **5. Minutes**

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the last meeting.

**Motion by Carl Veenstra, supported by Jake Veenstra, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.**

## **6. Various Matters as Appropriate**

Betty Hoffman asked if we should thank the people that helped us with the invasive species.

**Motion by Betty Hoffman, supported by Carl Veenstra, to send a letter to the Au Sable Institute thanking them for their help.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

# Antrim Creek Natural Area

*Jerroll Drenth, Chairman*

Jacob Veenstra

Betty Hoffmann

Gary Strange

Carl Veenstra

**October 8, 2008**

Minutes

**Meeting held at Banks Township Hall in Ellsworth**

**Members Present:** Jerroll Drenth, Carl Veenstra, Gary Strange and Betty Hoffmann

**Members Absent:** Jake Veenstra

**Others Present:** Joe Meyers

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

**2. Public Comment**

None

**3. Review of Minutes**

Betty Hoffmann indicated that her name was incorrectly spelled on the minutes and on the agenda.

**4. Informational Arbors**

Discussion ensued over the progress of the construction of the arbors.

The committee discussed the placement of the arbors and how the south end arbor has the potential to get some excessive wind in the winter, so we might want to consider planting some trees to block some of the wind.

Discussion ensued over the informational panels for the arbors; the committee reviewed the information of the panels that Mark Stone has done and thanked him for all the hard work he had done.

Discussion ensued over how to get the panels produced for the arbor.

**Motion by Jerroll Drenth, supported by Gary Strange to approve Mark Stone to get the panels produced for the informational arbors. Motion carried – unanimous.**

Discussion ensued over the inspection of the panels and how we were over budget.

**Motion by Gary Strange, supported by Carl Veenstra, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve up to \$500 for inspections for Site Planning to complete the informational arbor project. Motion carried – unanimous**

**5. Public/Member Comment**

Betty Hoffmann spoke on how we need to get the signs put back up that were torn down at the creek ASAP.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.