

- 1. Call To Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval Of Minutes**

Documents:

2-13-18 MTG.PDF

- 4. Public Input**
- 5. Old Items**
- 6. Agenda Items**
 - A. Lake Restoration Discussion
- 7. Adjourn**

Draft Lake Mitchell Advisory Committee

February 13, 2018: Mitchell Recreation Center Conference Room

Present: Mayor Toomey, Chad Nemec, John McLeod, Mike Kuchera, Jeff Burg, Mike Vehle, Mark Puetz, Justin Luther, Nate Powell, Steve Roth, City Attorney Justin Johnson, City Administrator Stephanie Ellwein, Mike Blaalid (TAT), Evan Hendershot Daily Republic

Meeting started at 4:00 p.m.

Motion Mike Vehle, Second John McLeod to approve the December 12, 2017 and the January 30, 2018 meeting minutes as read. Motion approved and carried.

Public Input

Ron Pierson questioned if the lake would be drained, what would happen to the fish and what impact it would have on property values to a homeowner selling their house during a dredging project. Mayor Toomey noted he is working with Fyra Engineering and they are looking at draining and mechanically dredging which could potentially close the lake from right after Labor Day to right before Memorial Day, stating there is always pain in growth. Mike Vehle noted he felt that working toward an improvement is better than an odorous and green lake in someone's backyard.

Sue Bennett expressed concern that people who live on the lake would be stuck with a heavier cost in the lake restoration and felt that the cost should be shared with all Mitchell residents. Mayor Toomey noted funding is not in place that first the mapping of the lake must be done, as that will determine how much dredging, what type of dredging and what the costs associated with that would be. Chad Nemec stated that funding would be debated at a later time.

Sherry Stilley stated she was at the Public Forum on January 9th and would like clarification on what is the difference between hydraulic and mechanical dredging. Chad Nemec informed her that for mechanical dredging the lake is drained but hydraulic dredging the lake would not. Mark Puetz noted if the lake is not drained you leave the water column open to remnants of sediment that is removed and the mechanical dredging gets down to the hardpan, which returns the lake to 1928 condition. Jeff Burg questioned what would be done with the sediment. Mayor Toomey noted this is being worked on and the closer the locations are to the lake the more cost effective it is, however, care must be taken that the sediment does not leach back into the lake.

Steve Donovan (Ducks Unlimited) stated he could not endorse the rough draft of the Lake Mitchell Development strategy as it states that watershed improvements are not necessary. Mayor Toomey said he has looked at 16 various alternatives from many different companies and are not ignoring the watershed, however, we do not own the land but the watershed will be addressed in step 4 and will continually be worked on. Mark Puetz noted that the Committee worked with NRCS to get a two-page list to landowners of available programs. Steve Donovan questioned why no money has been allocated for the watershed. Mayor

Toomey noted watershed improvements are primarily funded through grants and while the lake is worked on, we will continue working on the watershed. Nate Powell noted the three committees agreed to in lake solutions and they will continue to work on other solutions.

Agenda

Letter regarding Conservation Programs – The Committee reviewed the letter sent to producers with the two-page list of available conservation programs. Mike Vehle stated this was sent to all producers ten miles north of the railroad bridge. Mark Puetz noted there has not been much response so they will be making phone calls and going to meet with anyone interested. Jeff Burg felt that personal contact is better as producers get so many advertisements that most will overlook the mailing. If you can identify 3-4 key landowners that are willing to talk to their neighbors about the available programs. Mike Kutchera questioned whom or where a landowner would call. Mark Puetz noted you could call Heidi Rients (NRCS), Dave Bartel (JRWDD), Mike Blaalid or the contact person listed for each individual program.

Lake Mitchell Fact Sheet – Mike Vehle reviewed with the Committee the rough draft Fact Sheet covering bullet points he felt were important and would help people have a better general understanding of the lake and would like the feedback from the Committee. Mike Kutchera noted once this is finalized it is important to have it put in the paper. After a brief discussion Motion Mark Puetz, Second Justin Luther to purchase ad space 2-3 times to place the bullet points in once they have been revised and approved by the appropriate channels. Motion approved and carried. John McLeod informed the Committee that once the bullet points have been finalized and approved he would print them as needed for any upcoming meetings or events.

Discussion with Watertown Officials and Lake Kampesca Improvements – Mike Vehle informed the Committee he has been doing research on starting a lake district and forwarded all Committee members information on Pelican Lake and Lake Kampesca and the codified law governing them for their review.

Motion Justin Luther, Second Mark Puetz to adjourn the Lake Mitchell Advisory Committee meeting at 5:02 p.m., noting the next meeting of the Lake Mitchell Advisory Committee to be Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at the Recreation Center Conference Room at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Angel DeWaard