

## **Torch Bay Nature Preserve**

**Approved Minutes from 10/9/20 Meeting at 9 a.m.**

### **Torch Lake Township – Community Services Building**

Attendees: Jerry Klinefelter, Mark Jakubiak, Dee Jakubiak, Mary Van Valin, Masha Petersen, Deb Graber

Absent: John Jenkins

Recording Secretary: Melinda Murdock

The meeting was held at 9:00 am on October 9, 2020. Those in attendance were Deb Graber, Jerry Klinefelter, Mark and Dee Jakubiak, Mary Van Valin, Marsha Peterson and Melinda Murdock. Absent was John Jenkins. The purpose of the meeting was review issues with upkeep and maintenance in the nature preserve.

The first item on the agenda was the need to pick up approximately 300 feet of road jurisdiction from the county, allowing the nature preserve to have control over problems of misuse, such as parking in the area reserved for emergency use, overnight campers, littering, building fires, etc. it has been proposed that a gate be installed to block off this area and having a key available with the fire department to allow them access. Motion made to pick up jurisdiction and approved 5-0.

The discussion included concerns about people using the primitive boat launch having to carry their boats and about vehicles going around the gate. A new parking area would also need to be created. The expense for installing a gate would come out of nature preserve funds, as would other maintenance costs at the end of the road.

Enforcement of ordinances continues to be a problem. The position of Ordinance Officer is open but has not been filled.

A survey was done several years ago to delineate where nature preserve jurisdiction would begin. The next item on the agenda that we discussed was the need to replace trail markers. Many have been knocked down. The existing trail markers were not made of materials resistant to weathering and to porcupine chewing and should be replaced. One large beech tree is also down and will be removed from the trail.

The nature preserve voted to elect Mary Van Valin chairperson and Melinda Murdock secretary. The next meeting will be held on Thursday October 22 at 9:00 am at the township hall. The meetings are open to the public.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

**Klinefelter motioned to approve minutes, M. Jakubiak seconded. Approved 5-0 at 10/22/20 meeting.**