

## **2023 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VEVAY TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMISSION**

The following is a synopsis of the actions of the Recreation Commission throughout 2023.

The Recreation Commission was re-established as part of the 5-Year Community Parks & Recreation Plan. The members appointed were Roger Cargill, Coe Emens, Mary Ruttan, Patricia McNeilly, and John Fischer. The Commission is responsible for the implementation of the 5-Year Community Park & Recreation Plan, focusing on development, funding strategies and community outreach.

The Recreation Commission held nine (9) regular monthly meetings. At the organizational meeting Roger Cargill was elected Chairperson, Coe Emens was elected Vice-Chairperson, and Mary Ruttan was elected Secretary.

The primary funding opportunities were through grant applications and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The Recreation Commission recommended, and Vevay Township applied for and was awarded a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Passport Grant in the amount of \$150,000. This grant is the “first” grant the Township has ever received and will be used to implement the first phase of the Recreation Master Plan. Currently, the two Ingham County Parks & Millage Round 8 grants are pending. The first Ingham County Parks & Millage Round 8 grant was for the implementation of phase two of the Recreation Master Plan and the second grant request was for the Hayhoe Trail Extension. The Township applied for a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Sparks Grant and a Slotkin FY24 Community Project Funding Grant which were not awarded. The Vevay Township Downtown Development Authority re-committed \$150,000 in match funding.

Through the ARPA funding, the 30 plus year old swing set was replaced. The swing set includes two children’s swings, one bucket toddler swing and one all-inclusive swing. Also installed were two interactive puzzle panels, engineered wood fiber safety ground cover, and two Doggie Waste Stations.

The Commission continues to work on the Hayhoe Trail Extension project, the development of community awareness through social media, alternate funding sources to develop individual projects within the park improvement plan, and the legacy tree donation policy.

The Recreation Commission would like to thank the Vevay Township Board for the opportunity to serve and pledge our continued support to the 5-Year Community Park & Recreation Plan.

Respectfully,

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Mary Ruttan, Secretary