Chairperson Dan Small called the regular meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee to order at 6:04 p.m.

Present: Chairperson Dan Small; Committee members Pam Blough, Barry Houghton

Absent: Committee member, Kurt Koella

Also Present: Joe VanderStel, Water Facilities Manager (City Liaison); Cheryl Davidson, DPW Admin. Assistant; Patrick McGinnis, City Manager; Chase Layman, Life Scout, and his father, David Layman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of September 07, 2017.

CALL TO AUDIENCE
A call to the audience was made for non-agenda items. Chase Layman, who is a Life Scout in Troop No. 165, and his father, David Layman, were present to discuss Chase’s proposal to do his Eagle Scout project regarding re-storing Dewey Hill.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Stewardship Grant
The City of Grand Haven (through Vester Davis, Ass’t to the City Mgr.) was not successful in receiving the 2018 Community Forestry Grant from the DNR, but Joe V. said we may want to apply for the DNR Forest Stewardship Grant for 2018.

NEW BUSINESS
Proposed Dewey Hill Eagle Scout Project
Chase Layman was advised to come to this group to propose his idea of doing his Eagle Scout project on “Re-Storing Dewey Hill”. He is now 14 years old in 8th Grade. He has until the age of 18 to complete this project. His initial idea was to put up fencing to keep trespassers out.

A discussion was had, with many ideas and points being thrown out by the committee, as follows:
(Dan): Asked if he plans on using a snow fence?, sand fence? Remember the fence should start high because wildlife, such as rabbits, etc. use these trails and that way would still be able to get up the hill.

(Pam): Anaconda pipe is so slippery that sand doesn’t adhere which causes erosion. Deer don’t necessarily go up the face of the hill.

(Joe): Remember that Musical Fountain is there also.

(Pam): Put up signage that tells folks what trails to use and what not to use is very effective.

(P. McGinnis): May have to have signage saying you will be penalized like $500, something to that effect.

(P. McGinnis): Maybe signs saying something as simple as “go around back of hill instead of face”.

(Chase): Chase said GVSU suggested a sign saying “Dune Restoration in Progress”.

(Dan): Dan said signage IS very important, but may not be part of a scout project.

(Pam): Pam suggested doing a test. Pick two (2) 20’ sections of sand and add wood mulch on one, and top soil on the other to see if some vegetation will come back.

Chase’s father, David, said they are going to have to investigate further what needs to be permitted and what doesn’t. Dan commented that any grade change requests a permit.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

[Signature]

Joe VanderStel, Water Facilities Manager