

ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, June 11, 2019. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Escanaba City Hall, Escanaba, MI 49829.

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Karen Moore, Vice Chairperson Joe Kaplan and Boardmembers Patti Woerpel and Barb Chenier

OTHERS PRESENT: Recreation Director Kim Peterson, Recreation Assistant Brooks Bougie and City Council Liaison Ralph Blasier

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a vacant seat on the Recreation Advisory Board.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2019

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Kaplan, seconded by Boardmember Woerpel, to approve the meeting minutes of March 12, 2019. Motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Five-Year Recreation Plan – Review of Progress

The Five-Year Recreation Plan 2017-2021 was reviewed for progress taken to date and what can be done moving forward. Grant opportunities on projects was also discussed and reviewed.

Non-Motorized Pathway Improvements – Recreation Director Peterson stated the City Council accepted and approved the project agreement at their June 6th City Council Meeting for \$300,000 from the MDNR Trust Fund Grant. Administration will be meeting with MDOT TAP grant representatives on June 12th for a \$698,000 grant. The project is anticipated for completion in 2020. Hannahville 2% dollars with two different grant cycles was approved to the City in the amount of \$17,000. The City Council budgeted \$50,000 for the project.

Bocce Ball – Hannahville 2% grant was submitted and denied for the project. Another grant will be submitted in the near future.

Dog Park – The dog park will be constructed next week.

City-Owned Property – Tree Replacement (ash) and Maintenance – Discussion took place on creating an ordinance for oak wilt disease and not cutting them from April to October where the disease could spread easily. This item will be placed on upcoming meeting agendas for further discussion. Recreation Director Peterson will check on code enforcement regulations.

Lighting Inventory – LED lights were installed at the Ludington Park Tennis Courts.

West Side Recreation Area and City Forest – Discussions have recently taken place on having the sludge and fire range located near the cross country ski trails, specifically loop 2. Further discussions will continue to ensure the property is utilized to the fullest potential. Neighboring communities will be contacted to see what they do with their sludge.

3rd Avenue South Pocket Park (1st and 3rd Avenues South and South 30th Street – 3.93 Acres) – The Delta County Non-Motorized Committee has reviewed this property and is available if a plan is developed.

Lemerand/Ness Complex – A donation from Patt Abrahamson to the schools enabled the parking lot reconstruction and a press box being built. The City no longer has a lease on the Lemerand property and it is back in the possession of the schools. The City makes a donation to the schools for the Lemerand Field.

Centralized Ice Rink – The Webster and Royce Ice Rinks were relocated to the Civic Center this past season. Administration is looking to provide the service of free ice skate rentals, warming facility at the Civic Center and ice rink behind the Civic Center for the upcoming 2019-20 season.

L-Dock Reconstruction – Marina is currently working on this project and hope to have it complete by the middle of July 2019.

Court Resurfacing Schedule – Royce Tennis Court will be resurfaced this year. Discussed the reconstruction of the Ludington Park Tennis Courts. Administration is seeking a \$75,000 grant from Rotary. City Council did budget \$125,000 for the reconstruction of the tennis courts. It is the plan to make the four tennis courts multi-use with tennis and pickleball.

Splash Park – Discussed the Webster Wading Pool and money that is being put into the structure. The idea would be to have a splash park in place of the Webster Wading Pool in the future.

Kayak Launch Lift Within Aronson Island – The idea was to have a kayak launch lift over the bridge to the left of Aronson Island where MISH Watersports had their rental business. However, they are no longer renting from the Escanaba Municipal Beach area. Discussed the idea of having signage to promote people launching their kayaks from the same site.

All other projects listed will remain in the Five-Year Recreation Plan and be addressed if funding becomes available.

2. Upcoming Community Events for 2019

Recreation Director Peterson reviewed the upcoming summer events. Rock the Dock will be held on July 4-6; July 12-13; August 3; and September 6. A community cook out day will be held on June 22nd in partnership with RRN. Four movie nights in Ludington Park for June 15; June 29; July 4; and July 20.

Sponsors of Rock the Dock will be the same as last year with Meijer, Visit Escanaba, City of Escanaba, Escanaba DDA, Escanaba Public Safety, EMP and Hannahville Indian Community.

Posters will be distributed throughout the community in the near future with all information listed with events, dates and times.

3. Project Updates

Civic Center Usage/Program and Activity Update

Recreation Director Peterson reviewed the Civic Center usage report from May 2019.

Royce Tennis Courts Resurfacing Bid

Recreation Director Peterson stated Royce Tennis courts would be done after July 1st at a cost of \$10,998. \$13,000 was budgeted for the project. Seven bids were sent out with two being submitted.

MISCELLANEOUS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Boardmember Woerpel, seconded by Vice Chairperson Kaplan, to adjourn with the time being 7:15 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peterson, Recreation Director

Karen Moore, Chairperson

Date