

**ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**September Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, September 9, 2014**

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, September 9, 2014. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Randy Kleiman, Karen Moore, Maggie Pomeroy

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jonathan Harris, Todd Maki

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Penegor, Recreation Director  
Cheryl Syers, Recreation Office Assistant

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

**Approval/Correction of the June 10, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes**

The Recreation Advisory Board reviewed the regular meeting minutes from Tuesday, June 10, 2014. Randy Kleiman motioned to approve the minutes as written. Maggie Pomeroy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

New Business: 5. Fencing at Lemerand Park

**Conflict of Interest Declarations**

None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. **Recreation Passport Grant at Ludington Park Update.** Mr. Penegor informed the tennis court re-surfacing phase of this project was completed within budget. A universally accessible picnic table was purchased for the Ludington Park pavilion. The 6' ADA sidewalks connecting the pavilion, restrooms, tennis court and basketball court are anticipated to be completed after the last reservation of the pavilion which is October 4, 2014.

2. **Summer Programs Update.** Mr. Penegor informed summer activities were slow due to unseasonably cooler temperatures. There were 40 youth registered for the Learn to Swim program at the Escanaba Municipal Beach, which was down approximately 25% from the previous year. A volleyball court was added to the beach and the public was provided with free use of beach toys and life preservers.

28 youth were signed up for the Young Beginners program at the Webster Wading Pool. The pool opened June 25, 2014 and approximately 2,032 persons utilized the pool during a 31 day period or an average of 66 persons per day.

Soccer numbers were positive with 50 youth registered in the 4 & 5 year old program and 71 registered for the 6 & 7 program.

Two sessions of tennis lessons were held with 18 students in the first class and 17 in the second class.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Tapani Field at Veteran's Park Dedication.** Mr. Penegor announced the new Tapani Field at Veteran's Park will be officially dedicated on Thursday, September 18, 2014 from 10-11am and the board is invited and encouraged to attend. The dugouts have recently been power washed and painted. Nault's Lawn Service fertilized the field and round-up was sprayed in the baseline infield to kill weeds. The old foul ball netting was removed. New netting will be purchased in 2015 with assistance from Escanaba Little League and a grant through MMRMA. The Community Foundation of Delta County donated approximately \$7,000 for the purchase of a new scoreboard. Kobas Electric is donating the electrical service hookup and Public Works will assist with installation. A flag pole is being donated by a local service organization. TV6 and the local newspaper will provide media coverage and the City Band is anticipated to play at this event.

**2. Dickson Field Improvements.** Mr. Penegor informed gates with locks were recently installed on the dugouts at Dickson Field to prevent vandalism and unauthorized use of the dugouts. The field was also recently top dressed and fertilized.

**3. Lighthouse Race.** Mr. Penegor informed the Lighthouse Race which raises money for the Eskymo Fan Club and takes place in July annually did not take place this year. Mary Feuerbach coordinated the event in 2013 and indicated she would like the Fan Club to organize future events. Mr. Penegor informed he contacted Sue Roberts of the Fan Club and there was positive interest in the Fan Club coordinating this event next year.

**4. Civic Center Activity Report/Upcoming Events.** Mr. Penegor informed the Civic Center held an Open House on Wednesday, August 27th with some staff present to register students and provide tours of the facility. A \$100 donation was received from Wal-Mart and used to purchase free school supplies for students. Drawings were also held for recreational games and back packs. Public attendance was low although the event was publicized by TV6, radio, newspaper, and flyers provided to the schools which were included in student school packets. The Civic Center opens to youth on September 15, 2014.

6<sup>th</sup> grade girls' basketball assessments were held on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> with approximately 40 students attending. Students will be divided into teams based on the assessments with the first game scheduled for Saturday, September 20, 2014.

Toyota will be sponsoring the BASS Fishing Tournament scheduled for September 18-21, 2014 in Ludington Park. ESPN will provide media coverage of this event with 50 anglers participating. Weigh-in will be from 4-6pm. There will be entertainment, whiskey sampling, beer tent, food and other vendors present. This is the largest fishing tournament hosted by Escanaba and thousands are anticipated to attend.

**5. Fencing at Lemerand Park.** Mr. Penegor stated he received a proposal from the Escanaba Little League to remove a portion of the 4' chain link fencing on the unused ball field located west of the Escanaba Senior High School (former Tapani Field) and reinstalled

with volunteer labor to the Lemerand Softball Complex. The relocation of the fencing would provide a more controlled environment by restricting vehicles and allowing a safer area for active play for multiple leagues. Board chair Karen Moore stated she is in favor of relocating the fence however, recommended equal fence portions be removed from the north and east sides. Motion by Randy Kleiman to allow for relocation of the unused fencing from the old Tapani Field to be removed in equal portions, seconded by Maggie Pomeroy, unanimous.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Board chair Karen Moore commented since Escanaba is hosting more fishing tournaments the portable restroom located on Aronson Island would be better fitted with a permanent facility which would also be an aesthetic improvement. Cheryl Syers indicated a permanent restroom facility has been discussed at Harbor Advisory Committee meetings and may be an item for the harbor capital improvement plan.

**Adjournment.** With no further business, Randy Kleiman motioned to adjourn the meeting and Maggie Pomeroy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Penegor  
Recreation Director

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Karen Moore, Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date