

## **ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 10, 2017**

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, October 10, 2017. Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Escanaba City Hall, Escanaba, MI 49829.

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Karen Moore, Boardmembers Valarie Norman, Barb Chenier and Patty Woerpel

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kim Peterson, Recreation Director; Brooks Bougie, Recreation Assistant; Ralph Blasier, City Council Liaison; City Manager Patrick Jordan

**BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT:** Boardmember Joe Kaplan

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

### **APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 8, 2017**

A motion was made by Boardmember Patty Woerpel, seconded by Boardmember Barb Chenier, to approve the meeting minutes of August 8, 2017. Motion was approved unanimously.

### **APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Chairperson Karen Moore added a discussion on the west side development area.

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

None.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **Appointment of a New Vice Chairperson**

Recreation Director Peterson stated Vice Chairperson Kleiman's term on the board has expired effective June 1, 2017. The vote for a new Vice Chairperson will be postponed to next month's meeting.

#### **Non-Motorized Pathway System**

Recreation Director Peterson stated she is working on compiling information and grant requirements on four different grants that will be submitted over the next six months for the north side non-motorized pathway system. The grants will consist of Hannahville 2%, Iron Bell, MDOT TAP and MDNR Trust Fund. The Hannahville 2%

grant was submitted as the deadline was September 30<sup>th</sup>. She has met with Iron Belle representatives, MDOT representatives, Wells Township Supervisor, as well as Bay College.

Bay College will be implementing a pathway system on campus. The pathway will connect to the City's proposed pathway along North Lincoln Road by way of Bay College's sidewalk on the north side of the parking lot on Danforth Road. Therefore, the City is now looking at constructing a separated non-motorized pathway system on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue North from the light at North Lincoln Road to North 30<sup>th</sup> Street.

Wells Township will be included in the grant process as they are in need of signage and line painting on 426 which would tie into Sheridan Road and 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue North.

Recreation Director Kim Peterson stated that everything is on target with regards to the timeframes.

City Manager Patrick Jordan stated he was aware of a safety concern on Danforth Road where the current bike route is as cars drive in the designated bike route to avoid the bad road pavement. Recreation Director Kim Peterson stated she will meet with City Engineer/Public Works Superintendent Bill Farrell on such to see if this section should also be included in the grant process. She further stated matching funds from the City could possibly be used if the road pavement was going to take place next year or 2019.

### **Kiwanis Donation**

Recreation Director Peterson stated she was approached by Kiwanis and attended their last meeting on the possibility of the group donating musical equipment to Ludington Park. The cost would be approximately \$12,100 for the musical equipment and they would also construct a cement pad. The location would be to the right of Harbor Hideout where the ADA sidewalk currently is located. A piece would connect the current sidewalk to a cement pad to allow for complete ADA accessibility. Construction would be done by the Kiwanis group and volunteers, with inspection being done by the playground company out of Manistique.

**A motion was made by Valarie Norman, seconded by Barb Chenier, to approve the musical equipment project as presented by Kiwanis. Motion was approved unanimously.**

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

N/A

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **West Side Development Area**

Chairperson Karen Moore stated the City of Gladstone recently had their Northshore plan completed by the MSU Extension Center. She suggested contacting them to get a quote on what it would involve to have them look at the west side ski park area. Recreation Director Kim Peterson will contact the MSU Extension Center to discuss possible options for this area.

Discussion was held on the area being used for fat tire bikes, mountain bike trails, etc. Also, there are a lot of wetlands areas and would be helpful to determine what areas could be developed.

Recreation Director Kim Peterson stated Mike Segorski is a volunteer for the City and spends a lot of time on the trails. His help and involvement is extremely important and the City is very lucky to have him. He maintains the trails, created the snowshoe trail and recently constructed the parking lot area, fencing barriers and gates.

### **Project Updates:**

#### **Civic Center Usage Update/Program and Activity Update**

Recreation Director Peterson reviewed the September usage for the Civic Center building. She stated the pickleball group would like an outdoor court and this is in the Five-Year Recreation Plan.

The Civic Center is in need of a truckload of pumpkins if anyone has any connections.

The Civic Center has been open for the season since September 11<sup>th</sup> and there are approximately 180 kids registered to utilize the facility.

#### **Dog Park**

Recreation Director Peterson stated the City of Escanaba was the only U.P. community to submit a grant to the Bark for Your Park. Unfortunately, we were not awarded the grant. Discussed various funding sources to construct a dog park.

There were two locations by the airport for a potential dog park. It was suggested to meet at the sites next month to tour both sites and come up with one desired location. Recreation Director Kim Peterson will reach out to the Kennel Club, Animal Shelter and citizens for input on location and fundraising ideas. Information will be posted on social media, as well as the Daily Press reaching out to citizens to get involved.

#### **Various**

An idea of placing wooden swings along the beach was discussed. Suggested having them sponsored to pay for the construction of such. It was suggested to place the swings along the Water Department "circle" drive as there is a lot of activity with people watching boats and enjoying the water. A unique design could be created to add to the atmosphere. Recreation Director Kim Peterson will check on the City's policy for donations and obtain a construction cost.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

N/A

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

N/A

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Valarie Norman, seconded by Barb Chenier, to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Motion was approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peterson  
Recreation Director

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Karen Moore, Chairperson

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Date