

ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 13, 2016

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, September 13, 2016. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Karen Moore, Vice Chairperson Randy Kleiman, Boardmembers Joe Kaplan and Valerie Norman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

PUBLIC PRESENT: Emma DeGan (CUPPAD) and John Prokos

Approval/Correction of the August 9, 2016, Regular Meeting Minutes

The Recreation Advisory Board reviewed the regular meeting minutes from Tuesday, August 9, 2016.

Vice Chairperson Kleiman motioned to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Boardmember Kaplan. Motion was approved unanimously.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None.

Conflict of Interest Declarations

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy

Recreation Director Peterson stated that the sections needed to complete the non-motorized path City-wide were being reviewed by the Engineering Department for cost estimates and stated that some of the sections changed from last month which were prioritized. Recreation Director Peterson stated that she would receive the cost estimates next week from the Engineering Department and would distribute the cost estimates to the Board as soon as it was received.

Five-Year Recreation Plan

The Board reviewed the third draft plan that Emma DeGan from CUPPAD presented on the Five-Year Recreation Plan. The Board reviewed all City-owned public recreation facilities in the draft plan and came up with a score in accordance with the ADA Rating Scale, in regards to how accessible each facility is. Emma DeGan reviewed the rating scale for ADA accessibility which consists of scores 1 through 5 with 5 being the highest score. Each facility was previously given a score from the previous Five-Year Recreation Plan. The Board discussed and reviewed each facility and came up with a new score for each facility. The final plan is due to the DNR March 1st of next year.

Boardmember Kaplan brought up and discussed the possibility of adding the portage marsh to the recreation facilities list. He will meet with Recreation Director Peterson to further discuss and implement language.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Civic Center Usage Update/Program and Activity Update

Recreation Director Peterson reviewed the Civic Center Activity Report for August and mentioned that the Civic Center is now open for the season effective September 12, 2016, to May 5, 2017. Recreation Director Peterson stated that the Civic Center held an open house this past Monday from 3-6 pm and had 48 students register on the first day. She also touched on the various grant money that was received for the after school healthy snack program. She sent a letter out to local businesses in regards to donating any food or items that could be of use to the students.

Dog Park

Recreation Director Peterson discussed with the Board alternate locations for the dog park proposal. She visited a dog park just outside of Green Bay to get a feel for what it would entail. She stated that the overall concerns were the noise and smell along with the liability of creating a dog park. Some of the questions that need to be addressed are the hours of operation and how many days a week it would operate and if costs would be associated with such. The discussion of a dog park will remain on the agenda for further discussion. Grant funds would have to be obtained for this project.

Various

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

MISCELLANEOUS

Boardmember Kaplan stated that he would be working with Bonifas Fine Arts Center by holding four field trips starting on Wednesday, September 14th, 2016, for 4th graders. The field trips will teach students on the subject of journaling, observation and bird identification and will take place near Aronson Island.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

John Prokos, former Physical Education teacher at Escanaba Senior High School discussed ways to get people back down Ludington Street. He presented ideas such as installing a zip-line down at the Ludington Park; holding an endurance event for citizens and also having a series of short course bike races throughout the summer months. He stated that these events would bring in people from other cities and states along with bringing in business for the local stores and shops. He wanted to try to find ways to get people back down the Ludington Street and Ludington Park in order to get more utilization of our beautiful City park.

The Board discussed that having an event would be easy to do with a simple application process when utilizing a City park or facility.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Boardmember Kaplan, seconded by Vice Chairperson Kleiman to adjourn the meeting with the time being 7:11 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peterson
Recreation Director

Karen Moore, Chairperson

Date