

ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 8, 2015

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, December 8, 2015. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Randy Kleiman;
Boardmembers Joe Kaplan, and Maggie
Murphy-Pomeroy

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT: Todd Maki

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

PUBLIC PRESENT: Emma DeGan from CUPPAD, Rick Elrod
and Jarred Drown from Mish Watersports

Approval/Correction of the October 13, 2015, Regular Meeting Minutes

The Recreation Advisory Board reviewed the regular meeting minutes from October 13, 2015.

Boardmember Murphy-Pomeroy motioned to approve the minutes as written of October 13, 2015, seconded by Boardmember Kaplan. Motion was approved unanimously.

Adjustments to the Agenda

None

Conflict of Interest Declarations

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy.

Recreation Director Peterson announced that the City of Escanaba was awarded a Hannahville Indian Community 2% Grant for the creation of a Delta County Wide Non-Motorized Trail Master Plan, which was submitted on behalf of the Joint Government Group. Director Peterson stated she would like to see CUPPAD's Plan

include the ten missing links of the non-motorized path incorporated and then prioritized. Director Peterson stated that she has spoken with CUPPAD in regards to funding and stated they have some great ideas but without the City having a priority list of where the project needs to begin makes it difficult. She also stated a cost estimate for the project is needed so funding can be determined.

Emma DeGan from CUPPAD briefly touched on the regional recreation plan, looking at recreation as a whole throughout the region. She stated that the City's plan plays well with what they already have as far as a plan. She touched on what is already in place and mapped out, along with the missing links in the non-motorized path plan.

Director Peterson stated that CUPPAD will be present at the Joint Government meeting scheduled for noon on December 9th. CUPPAD will be presenting the regional recreation plan in front of the board as a starting point for the project. With the information presented, Director Peterson stated that she is hoping the 2003 non-motorized plan can be updated. She then stated she will get a better idea from the joint government meeting as to what kind of timeline the City is looking at to get the project started.

2. Ludington Park Disc Golf Course Improvement/ Beach House Area Cement Work/ Catherine Bonifas Civic Center Concrete Work.

Director Peterson stated that the Community Foundation awarded the City of Escanaba \$4,000 for cement work of the tee boxes for the disc golf course located at Ludington Park. She stated that after speaking with the marina that the City would do a joint RFP for all cement work hoping the City would get a better rate for the work. Director Peterson then stated that the City received \$8,100 grant from Public Health for cement work connecting sidewalks at the Beach House and also including a bike rack. The work will create ADA accessibilities. Public Health also gave the City of Escanaba an additional \$4,000 to use for the creation of two cement pads with walkways going up to the pads with ADA handicap accessible picnic tables to be constructed in front of the Civic Center. Director Peterson stated that if there is any money left over the money will go towards getting benches at the beach.

PUBLIC HEARING

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Chairperson.

Director Peterson stated Chairperson Harris resigned from the Recreation Board and a new chairperson must be appointed, as well as the vacancy filled.

There is currently a vacancy on the Board and there are two applications that have been submitted. The mayor is currently reviewing the applications and the vacancy will be filled soon.

Vice Chairperson Kleiman motioned, seconded by Maggie Murphy-Pomeroy, to have this discussion tabled for the next board meeting when the vacancy is filled. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. After Action Review - Recreation Water Equipment Rental at the Beach House.

Recreation Director Peterson stated that in talking with the marina, beach staff and other administration there were no major concerns with last year's rentals. She then stated that the only concern was that some of the kayaks would congregate in front of the mouth of the marina making it hard for the boats to get in and out. A map was created to explain where the kayaks should and shouldn't go and was reviewed with Mish Watersports.

Boardmember Kaplan brought up the concern about the wildlife nesting. Director Peterson stated that this concern will be incorporated in the upcoming RFP language for 2016.

Director Peterson went on to state that since last year was the first year for water equipment rental the City had proposed \$100 fee for the season which basically went towards the utilities. She stated maybe looking into a two year RFP because of the amount of money invested into the equipment rental program. She also mentioned maybe increasing the rental fee to \$100/month due to the fact that the rental equipment program continues even when the beach closes, so the City employees still have to go down there to check everything out (i.e. bathrooms, garbage and supplies are being used).

Rick Elrod and Jarred Drown from Mish Watersports stated that the first year of the program was great and they were basically looking just to break even and that they exceeded their goal and actually made some profit.

City Council Liaison Blasier suggested not raising the \$100 fee for the season due to the fact that the program is just getting on its feet and he suggested that we should wait to see if they get on solid ground before we think about raising the fee.

A motion was made by Boardmember Kaplan, seconded by Boardmember Murphy-Pomeroy, to have the 2016 Ludington Park Beach House Lease for Recreation Water Equipment RFP remain at \$100 for this upcoming season with an RFP for 2 years. Motion was approved unanimously.

3. Project Updates.

A) West Side Cross Country Ski Trail Update.

Director Peterson stated administration was hoping to get back behind the ski trail, however, the recent weather has made the area extremely damp. Once the weather gets colder an assessment will take place. Two updated signs have been ordered for the North 30th Street and Comfort Inn Suites locations indicating the proper loops and including the new 5.1 mile snow shoe trail.

B) West Side Snow Shoeing Trail Update.

Director Peterson stated that she spoke to Mike Segorski about the snow shoe trail and he stated it is very wet out there still and hasn't had a chance to do any work out there; he is waiting for it to freeze up a bit. Director Peterson then stated that the City is working on some snow shoe signage which will be a blue triangle with a snow shoe symbol on it.

C) Civic Center Usage Update/ Program and Activity Update.

Director Peterson stated that this month's Civic Center Activity Report is attached to the agenda and can be reviewed. The Civic Center will be holding its annual Christmas Party for the kids on Friday, December 18th from 5-9:00 p.m. and that Civic Center will also be having a New Year's Eve party from 4-8:30 p.m. with fireworks to follow at 9:00 p.m. at the Municipal Dock on Thursday, December 31st.

D) Various.

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

MISCELLANEOUS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Boardmember Murphy-Pomeroy, seconded by Boardmember Kaplan to adjourn the meeting with the time being 6:28 p.m. Motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peterson
Recreation Director

Randy Kleiman, Vice Chairperson

Date