

ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, January 9, 2018. Meeting was called to order at 6:01 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; Craig Woerpel, W.D.B.C. Radio

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT: Vice Chairperson Joe Kaplan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO MINUTES - REGULAR MEETINGS OF NOVEMBER 14, 2017 & DECEMBER 14, 2017

A motion was made by Boardmember Patty Woerpel, seconded by Boardmember Barb Chenier, to approve the meeting minutes of November 14, 2017, and December 14, 2017. Motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Non-Motorized Pathway System – Project Update

Recreation Director Peterson updated the board on the various grants that the City has applied for. Recreation Director Peterson stated that the total for the project is estimated at \$851,000. She stated this included the MDOT light at North Lincoln Road and Danforth Road and crossing at the Sheridan Road railroad tracks. She then stated that a meeting is scheduled next week with MDOT to see what the City's next steps will be. The DNR grant meeting will be this month in either St. Ignace or Munising, depending on the weather for the location she will attend.

West Side Ski Park Discussion

Recreation Director Peterson updated the board on the status of the West Side Ski Park. She is still waiting on a proposal to determine what areas of the ski hill park are usable and can be expanded upon. Signage continues to be updated. Mike Segorski has been working at the area and has included benches throughout the trails and is working on additional signage. Mike Segorski is also widening the trails for the use of snow shoes, cross country skiing and possibly fat tire bikes and hiking/walking. This project is in the Five-Year Recreation Plan and funding will be sought in the upcoming budget.

Dog Park Location

Recreation Director Peterson touched on submitting plans for a selected site to the FAA for the location of the dog park as it is next to the airport if a gazebo/covered area is desired. There is a 45 day review period for any permits with the FAA. She then stated that the City might have a corporate sponsor that would donate \$25,000 to fund the project. The site location is still under discussion; there are currently two options under consideration near the airport. More information will be reviewed to determine what site is best suited for a dog park.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Project Updates:

Civic Center Usage Update/Program and Activity Update

Recreation Director Peterson provided an update for the month of December for Civic Center activities; she then updated the board on various things happening at the Civic Center such as getting the gym floor redone, the Christmas and New Year's Eve parties held at the Civic Center.

The board continued discussions on the possibility of relocating the Royce and Webster Rinks and cost savings that would be incurred. During the summer/fall months various public hearings to seek public input will take place to come up with the best place possible. Considered one central ice rink at the Civic Center or possibly relocating to Ludington Park.

Rock the Dock events scheduled for this summer will be July 7th and August 4th. Depending on funding sources, weekend events could take place centered on these dates. .

A motion was given by boardmember Norman, seconded by boardmember Woerpel to table the ice rink discussion for next month along with scheduling a public hearing on this matter. The motion carried unanimously.

Various

N/A

MISCELLANEOUS

Recreation Director Peterson thanked boardmember Norman for her donation of Christmas lights for the municipal dock decorations for next year.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Valarie Norman, seconded by Patty Woerpel, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peterson
Recreation Director

Karen Moore, Chairperson

Date