

ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Escanaba City Hall, Escanaba, MI 49829.

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Karen Moore, Vice Chairperson Joe Kaplan, Boardmembers Patty Woerpel and City Council Liaison Ralph Blasier

OTHERS PRESENT: Recreation Director Kim Peterson, Recreation Assistant Brooks Bougie, Glenn Vande Water and Mike Segorski

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT: Boardmember Barb Chenier and Valarie Norman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 12, 2018

A motion was made by Boardmember Woerpel, seconded by Vice Chairperson Kaplan, to approve the meeting minutes of June 12, 2018. Motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Recreation Director Peterson stated under Unfinished Business the "None" needs to be removed. Under New Business agenda item one the lease agreement dates should read "September 1, 2018, to August 31, 2019".

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dog Park Discussion

Recreation Director Peterson stated the Regional Prosperity Initiative granted a \$5,000 grant award to construct the potential dog park with a deadline of June 30, 2019. Cost estimates are \$15,000 for a 6' high fence with half-acre for small dogs

and one acre for large dogs, water source, garbage and dog dispenser receptacles with work being performed by volunteer/donated labor.

A meeting will be held with a potential corporate sponsor for the middle of August.

Review of the signage and registration form will be reviewed at next month's regular meeting when a full board is available to review.

Recreation Director Peterson will look at construction of the fence around the solar panels near the Delta County Airport as the construction was done quickly and looks nice.

Centralized Ice Rinks

Recreation Director Peterson stated the Water Department is looking at connecting a water source to the Civic Center to flood a rink as was done in previous years.

Discussed an interest to construct an outdoor pickleball court at the Webster Park area which would then be available if relocated. Information will be gathered and reported to the Board on the current lease arrangements with the school and how large the area is for the Webster Park.

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Kaplan, seconded by Boardmember Woerpel, to conduct Public Hearings on September 11th and October 9th to obtain public input on having a centralized ice rink at the Civic Center facility. Motion was approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Action Agency Lease

Recreation Director Peterson stated the Community Action Agency's annual lease renewal needs to be reviewed and recommended to City Council for final approval. There are no changes to the lease for this upcoming year for September 1, 2018, to August 31, 2019. Last year utility costs were increased from \$225/month to \$300/month. The lease is for the senior center to operate out of the Catherine Bonifas Civic Center.

A motion was made by Boardmember Woerpel, seconded by Vice Chairperson Kaplan, to recommend to City Council approval of the proposed lease renewal from September 1, 2018, to August 31, 2019. Motion was approved unanimously.

West Side Recreation Area

Recreation Director Peterson stated administration is seeking approval of a proposal by Glenn Vande Water, Proprietor of Vande Water Natural Resource Services for assessing existing vegetation community types and potential recreation and education uses for the West Side Recreation Area. This is a priority #1 in the Five-Year Recreation Plan. This is a budgeted item in the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget.

Glenn Vande Water stated he anticipated the plan to be completed in August 2019.

Information will be forwarded to Mr. Vande Water to include the 240 acre parcel called the "Walch Property" which was purchased with Trust Fund monies, along with information on a Forest Management Plan.

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Kaplan, seconded by Boardmember Woerpel, to approve a proposal for assessing existing vegetation community types and potential recreation and education uses for the West Side Recreation Area by Glenn Vande Water of Vande Water Natural Resources Services not to exceed the amount of \$3,500. Motion was approved unanimously.

Project Updates:

Civic Center Usage Update/Program and Activity Update

Recreation Director Peterson will forward a copy of the June's Civic Center activities to the Board.

Rock the Dock August 3rd-5th

Recreation Director Peterson stated the past Rock the Dock was a huge success for the three-day event and the weather was great. The next Rock the Dock will be August 3rd – 5th. Saturday, will once again, be focused on kids' activities and events.

Fish Bench Project and Cost Review

Recreation Director Peterson stated that cost estimates were \$2,495 for five bench swings and another for \$600 for one. The idea was to have businesses/individuals place the bench swings around the Water Department for additional seating.

This will be looked at for future development.

Various

Recreation Director Peterson stated the next movie night will take place July 21st and August 11th. Various sponsors have donated funds to make these events happen.

Hammocks in Ludington Park were discussed. City administration is trying to educate the citizens while using hammocks in the park by having the proper straps so as not to damage the trees.

Discussion centered around ash bore disease and trees within the City dying off over the next few years from such. Administration has been recently reviewing such concern.

MISCELLANEOUS

None.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Boardmember Woerpel, seconded by Vice Chairperson Kaplan, to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. Motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peterson, Recreation Director

Karen Moore, Chairperson

Date