

**ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, December 20, 2016**

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, December 20, 2016. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room at the Catherine Bonifas Civic Center.

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Karen Moore, Boardmembers Joe Kaplan and Valarie Norman and City Council Liaison Ralph Blasier

**BOARDMEMBERS EXCUSED:** Vice Chairperson Randy Kleiman

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kim Peterson, Recreation Director; Brooks Bougie, Recreation Assistant

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Nicole Sanderson and Mike Segorski

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

N/A

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 AND WORK SESSION HELD ON OCTOBER 27, 2016**

Boardmember Kaplan stated that there was a correction to the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. He stated that it was not a workshop, they were field trips (four trips total), in regards to the journaling, observation and bird identification field trips.

Boardmember Norman said there should be an addition in regards to number #6 of the October 27<sup>th</sup> work session minutes, the last paragraph; she thought there should be an addition of more of a focus on safety of the continuous bike path.

**A motion was made by Boardmember Kaplan, seconded by Boardmember Norman, to approve the corrections to the meeting minutes of September 13, 2016, and the Work Session minutes for October 27, 2016. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Recreation Director Peterson asked if Nicole Sanderson's presentation can be moved up ahead of Unfinished Business along with Mike Segorski's public Comment on the North 30<sup>th</sup> Street Ski Trail.

A motion was made by Boardmember Norman, seconded by Boardmember Kaplan, to approve the adjustments to the meeting agenda. Motion was approved unanimously by the board.

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

NONE

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **City of Gladstone Update on the Little Bay De Noc Trail**

Nicole Sanderson, Recreation Director of the City of Gladstone gave a presentation on the update of their non-motorized bike path to the board. She stated that in 2014 the City of Gladstone conducted a feasibility study on the trail which was funded by Hannahville 2 percent grant. She showed a quick video on the updates. She stated that there is still \$74,000 dollars that needs to be raised and they are currently seeking donors. She stated bids are going out to contractors in January and the project will be complete by July 2017. The trail will start at the Shell Gas Station in Gladstone and continue until P Road (Terrace Bay Hotel Area). She further stated that all permits have been applied for and approved. MEDC will match the funds raised through a crowdfunding grant which they have forty-five days to collect approximately \$35,000. She stated they currently have ninety donors and \$20,000 raised.

#### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – West Side Ski Park**

Mike Segorski wanted to give an update on the North 30<sup>th</sup> Ski Trail. He stated that the trail has been rolled but at this point there are still some rough areas. He also touched on all the maintenance that still needs to be done to the trail and all future maintenance that will need to be done to keep the trail up. Recreation Director Peterson stated that trail signage has been ordered and is in the process of being manufactured which would greatly improve the area. Segorski also wanted to give thanks to Recreation Director Peterson for all the work she has done to improve the trail. Recreation Director Peterson stated there is a lot of work and maintenance that needs to be done to maintain the trail and make it better for this year and coming years. Mike Segorski has volunteered a lot of his time to maintain the cross country ski trail, along with the newly created snow shoe trail.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy**

Recreation Director Peterson presented the board with a list of the priority sections for the non-motorized path with cost estimates as provided by the Engineering Department. The board reviewed the list and funding opportunities were discussed.

She then stated that she was not given a price for the viaduct project but has been in contact with a company out of British Columbia, Canada. She then presented the board with literature in regards to building a tunnel through the viaduct from the company. U.P. Concrete and Pipe is a local company that has been in contact also as they have expertise with tunnels and non-motorized pathway systems. The board would like to pursue a study for feasibility, routes, viaduct construction costs, etc. and would like to apply for the Hannahville 2% grant funds in 2017. Recreation Peterson will discuss the grant possibilities with administration.

### **Five-Year Recreation Plan**

Recreation Director Peterson presented the board with another draft of the Five-Year Recreation Plan and asked the board to review it before the January meeting. She then asked if there needed to be any corrections or additions to the draft. It was brought up that the page numbers were out of order.

After discussions on the West Side Ski Park, it was suggested that a land use suitability survey be added to the plan. Recreation Director Peterson also brought up that on page 33 of the draft that the West Side Ski Park be renamed to the West Side Recreation Area and City Forest. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South and Lake Shore Drive Access Site needed to be moved up higher on the map.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Project Updates**

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

Recreation Director Peterson stated that she would email the November Civic Center Activity Report to the board after the meeting. The Civic Center recently had their annual Christmas Party for the students but the turnout was down due to other area activities that night, but the party was still well received; prizes, food and drinks were provided for the students during the party.

##### **B) Dog Park**

Recreation Director Peterson stated that she was looking into an area near the airport and that she would advise the board on the exact location as soon as she meets with Delta County. She stated they will continue to look for funding for the project and stated that the area by the water plant was out as a potential choice for a location.

**C) Skate Park**

Recreation Director Peterson stated that she was still in the process of gathering more information on a potential skate park within the City. She had looked into the Tony Hawk grant which provides up to \$25,000 dollars towards the construction of a skate park, however, you have to provide proof that you sought funding from the community through fundraising first.

**D) Various**

Recreation Director Peterson advised the board that the ice rinks were being worked on at Webster and Royce for flooding. A \$1,500 grant was received from the Community Foundation for the cost of a roller for out at the West Side Ski Park and Ludington Park to roll the trails. A \$2,000 grant was received from Public Health of Menominee and Delta Counties for the purchase of new ice skates to be used at both rinks free of charge. A \$46,000 Park and Play Structure Grant was awarded for the Marketplace from a DNR Recreation Passport Grant.

Boardmember Norman brought up the idea of having a family fun day within the city to provide a fun day for families to come down and have food and enjoy different activities, such as bounce houses and games during the winter. More details will be worked out and reported back.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**MISCELLANEOUS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Boardmember Norman motioned to adjourn, seconded by Boardmember Kaplan, meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peterson  
Recreation Director

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Karen Moore, Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date