

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY COUNCIL
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN
Special Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 31, 2017**

Pursuit to a special meeting notice posted January 17, 2017, the meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Marc D. Tall at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 410 Ludington Street.

Present: Mayor Marc D. Tall, Mayor Pro Tem Ronald J. Beauchamp, Council Members Patricia A. Baribeau, Ralph B. Blasier, and Michael R. Sattem.

Absent: None

Recreation: Chairperson Karen Moore, Vice-Chairperson Randy Kleiman, Board Members Joe Kaplan and Valarie Norman.

Absent: One Vacancy

Also Present: City Manager James V. O'Toole, Robert S. Richards City Clerk, Recreation Director Kimberly Peterson, Peter VanSteen of CUPPAD, Media and members of the public.

Sattem moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve the agenda as submitted.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

PUBLIC HEARING(S) – None

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation – Preliminary Community Five-Year Recreation Plan.

The preliminary draft of the updated Five-Year Recreation Plan was presented to the City Council and Recreation Advisory Board. The purpose of the presentation was intended to provide an opportunity for both the City Council and the Recreation Advisory Board to collectively discuss the plan. City Administration reviewed the following:

- Five-Year Recreation Plan was required by the end of March in order for the City to be eligible for recreation-related grant funding from the Department of Natural Resources, other funding sources, and put City recreation projects on the radar for potential grant opportunities;
- Recreation Director Kimberly Peterson presented a brief synopsis of the Five-Year Recreation Plan, including its goals, scheduled of proposed projects, costs, and potential funding sources;

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- The Committee had been working on the plan since last March, with the help of the Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Regional Commission, CUPPAD;
- Five-Year Recreation Plan included input from City Staff, Recreation Advisory Board and from members of the public. Director Peterson advised the 30 day public review process was about to expire.

Peter VanSteen, CUPPAD representative, provided a synopsis of the Five-Year Recreation Plan which included the following:

- Five-Year Recreation Plan incorporated ADA rating requirements that was incorporated into the Five-Year Recreation Plan. It was suggested to measure and review all the parks in detail as a goal for future improvements. He advised any new City Parks would required to meet ADA requirements;
- Information from previous policies and City Ordinances were updated and incorporated into the new Five-Year Recreation Plan; The Five-Year Recreation Plan can be amended in accordance to the same process used to adopt the initial plan.

Recreation Director Kimberly Peterson read into the minutes additional public comments and recommendations to be included into the Five-Year Recreation Plan. (See Attachment – A)

Director Peterson reviewed additional funding to be included into the City Capital Plan for the Non-Motorized Pathway.

After further discussion on a creation of a regional recreation authority, non-motorized trail, other potential recreational activities, the Recreation Advisory Board made the following resolution on the draft plan to be presented to Council for a final public hearing and adoption at their February 16, 2017, Council Meeting:

**CITY OF ESCANABA FIVE-YEAR RECREATION PLAN
RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS, the City of Escanaba Recreation Department has prepared a Five-Year Recreation Plan which recognizes the various recreation needs of the City of Escanaba; and

WHEREAS, a Five-Year Recreation Plan is required to be eligible to apply for recreation grants administered by the Department of Natural Resources, Grants Management; and

WHEREAS, the draft Five-Year Recreation Plan for the community has been available thirty days prior to a scheduled public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board has reviewed the Five-Year Recreation Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board recommends the Escanaba City Council adopt the City of Escanaba 2017-2021 Recreation Plan as the official recreation planning document.

Ayes: Kaplan, Norman, Kleiman, Moore

Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. VanSteen stated CUPPAD was working with Wells Township regarding their Five-Year Recreation Plan, and discussion would take place regarding the non-motorized pathway crossing on US-2 and HWY-41.

COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

Hearing no further business or public comment, the meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Richards, CMC
City Clerk

Approved: _____

Marc. D. Tall, Mayor

Attachment – A

Five-Year Recreation Plan Comments and Recommendations

City Administration

*Feasibility Analysis of a Delta County Regional Sports and Recreation Authority Concept. Currently there are multiple tax supported entities operating a number of sports and recreational facilities and programs independent of each other throughout Delta County. The concept is to work with all the local units of government, school systems, college system, the Hannahville Indian Community and the various community stakeholders on the drafting of a "Feasibility Analysis Request for Proposal" which if found feasible, could create a Delta County-Wide Regional Sports and Recreation Authority. The purpose of the feasibility analysis would be to:

- Identify opportunities to maintain or expand, and/or strengthen the delivery of sports and recreational services and opportunities currently offered.
- Identify potential revenue streams. Outline a cost allocation methodology.
- Unify and consolidate grant writing efforts.
- Identify legal requirements needed to create such an authority.
- Outline options for managing of services and facilities.
- identify challenges, opportunities, weaknesses and threats to the merging of services and facilities.
- Identify efficiencies to be gained by the merging of services and facilities.
- Identify deployment strategies to improve service or facilitate economic efficiencies.
- Recommend an organizational structure.
- Provide an outline on how this concept can obtain political and community buy-in and support.

**Kayak launch lift to the Aronson Island area. The addition of a kayak launch would be a great addition as it provides the ease of launching, along with an ADA accessible area.

**Non-Motorized Pathway Improvements – A non-motorized pathway from Bay College to the north City limits needs to be added to the current list.

Adding a bocce ball court within the City.

Citizen

North 30th Street west side ski park area needs to be expanded upon to include additional recreational activities.

Construction of another pavilion on the north end of the park near the water fountain and gazebo.

Attachment – A cont.

Improve upon and dedicate Veteran's Park to the veterans. Plaques or some type of monument can be installed in order to recognize our veterans and something for the public to see and to make the area more appealing overall.

Installing another disc golf course at a much larger scale.

Adding a dog park within the City.

Incorporate easier/flat trails to the west side ski park.

Recreation Advisory Board

Property inventory should be a conducted in order to let the public know what the City has in regards to total property.

Adding a dog park within the City.

Adding a splash park within the City.

Adding a skate park within the City.

Lighting inventory and lighting upgrades.

Tree replacement (ash trees).

Identifying property boundaries which are owned by the City.

Assess the ski trails on the west side ski park. Move ski hill access to behind the Great Lakes Sports Club on 19th Avenue North. Property inventory for uplands, wetlands, etc. (land use suitability survey). Securing the area of unwanted activity. Promoting growth and wildlife.

Migratory bird enhancement.

*Recent items to be incorporated into the Five-Year Recreation Plan - Section 5e

**Items added to the Five-Year Development Schedule