

**ESCANABA RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

The Escanaba Recreation Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room at the Civic Center, 225 North 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Escanaba, MI 49829.

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Boardmembers Jenny Gylock, Shirley Gollach, Mary Blasier and Lorne Watson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Recreation Director Kim Peterson, Recreation Assistant Brooks Bougie, City Council Liaison Karen Moore; other public included, Glendon Brown and Jim Hansen

**BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT:** Vice Chairperson Rhonda Waters

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – N/A

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 12, 2023**

A motion was made by Boardmember Gollach, seconded by Boardmember Watson, to approve the meeting minutes for December 12, 2023. Motion was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

A motion was made to accept the agenda as is by Boardmember Gylock, seconded by Boardmember Blasier. Motion was approved unanimously.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION** – N/A

**PUBLIC HEARING** – N/A

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – N/A

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Election of Officers**

A motion was made by Boardmember Gylock to elect Vice Chairperson Waters as Chairperson, seconded by Boardmember Blasier. Motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Boardmember Gollach to elect Boardmember Gylock as Vice Chairperson, seconded by Boardmember Watson. Motion was approved unanimously.

## **Approval of 2024 Meeting Dates**

**A motion was made by Boardmember Blasier to approve the 2024 meeting dates as presented, seconded by Boardmember Gollach. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**Discussion and Review of FY2024-2025 Budget** – Recreation Director Peterson reviewed and highlighted what the Recreation Department was looking into putting in the budget for the upcoming fiscal year to include: Resurfacing the basketball courts at Ludington Park and Stephenson Park and removing the basketball court at Royce Park due to its severe dilapidated condition; redoing the remainder of the Civic Center flooring which is original from 1967; Winter/Summer Sports equipment updates for \$1,500 for Winter Sports and \$500 for Summer Sports; DNR Trust Grant match of 25% for a \$400,000 dedicated pickleball court project at a cost of \$100,000; Continuation of working on the Splash Park Project and working with C2AE to finalize the scope of the project with corrections per DNR on the bid specifications; the beach waterline is in need of updating the cost would be split between three departments and is a place marker in the budget; Place marker for the shelter houses at Royce and Webster in regards to maintenance and upkeep of the buildings; and hiring of two beach directors for this year to cover time off and to have a director on site at all times, this would come at an additional cost of \$500 for the budget year.

**Enhanced Escanaba Seeking Approval/Support for the Refrigerated Ice Rink Project** – Karen Moore spoke on behalf of Enhance Escanaba which is looking into fundraising opportunities for a refrigerated ice rink that would be 80'x44' and is seeking support from the Board to start fundraising and give their support of the project. Mrs. Moore stated that the ice rink has two chillers that operate at 50 degrees or below. Enhanced Escanaba will be raising all the money for this project and working with the City regarding future maintenance. Enhanced Escanaba will be selling ads to place on the boards to cover maintenance expenses or any emergency expenses with help from the DDA. The plan is to place the ice rink in the parking lot behind the bandshell. The estimated electricity is \$600-\$1,000 per month. Mrs. Moore asked for approval to go ahead with the planning contingent on meeting with the City to work out the particulars of operation and maintenance.

Discussion was held on clearing the ice, storage of materials, maintenance of the project, City participation, location and size of the refrigerated ice.

**A motion was made by Boardmember Blasier to give support for the project, seconded by Boardmember Watson. Motion was approved unanimously.**

## **Project Updates:**

**Splash Park** – Director Peterson touched on the status of Splash Park in New Business discussion for budgets.

**Dedicated Pickleball Courts** – Recreation Director Peterson stated that the City is still looking into grant opportunities for eight dedicated pickleball courts. A DNR Trust Fund will be submitted this year and a Public Hearing will be held at the next Board meeting. The site selected for such project is Royce Park.

**Upcoming Events** – Director Peterson touched on all the upcoming events coming up this summer to include the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks on July 6<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of July 13<sup>th</sup>, Rock the Dock on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Labor Day Parade and Golf Ball Drop September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Two movie nights in the park sponsored by Highline for July 13<sup>th</sup> and August 10<sup>th</sup>. Summer of Melodies series is being worked on to revamp the event to bring in more participation.

**Bids for Sanitation, Food Vendors and Royce Park Resurfacing** – Director Peterson stated that bids have been sent out for sanitation and food vendors which are due in March. Everything will be kept the same from the 2023 season. The Royce Park Resurfacing Bid is due in March and will include resurfacing of Royce Park Tennis Courts at an estimated cost of \$40,000.

**MISCELLANEOUS** - N/A

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – Jim Hansen and Glendon Brown raised concerns about the state of the marina and what is going to happen moving forward. Others in attendance felt the same.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Boardmember Watson, seconded by Boardmember Blasier, to adjourn with the time being 7:00 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Peterson, Recreation Director

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Kim Peterson

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Date

Recreation Director Conducted the Meeting