

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at the Al Quaal Lodge. Chairman Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Chairperson Norman Andrews, Commission members Angelo Bosio, Edmund Holmgren, Dr. Stephen Pierson, Claudia Demarest, School Liaison Carrie Meyer, Dave Morton, and Dale Thomas and Council Representative Lindsay Bean. Also present was DPW Assistant Foreman-Parks Tim Dellangelo and City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Cathy Smith, and Tim Kopacz, U.P. Disc Golf Association.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There as none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Bosio, supported by Commissioner Holmgren and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of February 16, 2021 as presented.

DISC GOLF SIGN AND COURSE DESIGN

Tim Kopacz, U.P. Disc Golf Association, advised this project was approximately 6 years in the works and they would like to move forward with course expansion. He explained the redesign of the course expansion. The U.P. Disc Golf Association had the funds available for the construction of the redesign. The baskets would be upgraded on the existing course along with better signage and a rubber tee pad. In addition, he reviewed the proposed construction of the new sign to be placed by the south tow.

The Commission supported the redesign of the course and would continue discussions with U.P. Disc Golf Association during the process.

A motion was made by Commissioner Demarest, supported by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously to approve the construction of the proposed disc golf course sign to the located by the south tow.

DISCUSS DOG PARK LOCATION

Commissioner Bean advised the My Great Ishpeming group have had ongoing discussions regarding a dog park. A survey was conducted on-line and most people suggested the Brownstone property. Also discussed was inventorying City Parks and identifying parks that were in disrepair and possibly turning one of those into a dog park. Discussion would be continuing on this topic.

BALLFIELD UPDATE

Assistant Foreman Dellangelo advised the Men's League would be holding their league this year along with the Little League. Both leagues will need to submit a COVID plan to City Hall.

BOAT LAUNCH UPDATE

City Clerk Smith advised the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant and the Michigan Recreation Passport grant had been submitted. Additional information was requested from the Recreation Passport grant which had been forwarded to GEI, Inc and will need to be submitted by May 15th.

The Commission questioned if Negaunee would he handling storage of the equipment, maintenance of the equipment and repairs, and further questioned liability at the sites. Staff would check into this and reply to the members.

CAMPGROUND UPDATE

Commissioner Bean advised the City Council had accepted the grant with a revised budget which included Forest Management at the site and would be considered in-kind services toward the total match for the grant. She advised there would be a Campground Committee established to determine the design. She further noted

the Planning Commission would like to be involved and want to include recreation in this area in the Master Plan update.

There was discussion regarding timber management and select harvest versus a clear cut.

SKATE PARK UPDATE AND SKATE PARK COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

City Clerk Smith advised the DDA had approved a design contract with American Ramp for \$11,500. There was some discussion regarding the proposed skate park. No appointments were made to the Skate Park Committee.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Foreman Dellangelo advised there would be approximately 12 college students that would be brought on to begin getting the grounds ready for Memorial Day.

Commissioner Thomas announced this was his last meeting and thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve.

Tim Dellangelo announced he would be retiring the beginning of May so this was his last meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on June 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:30 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Demarest supported by Commission Holmgren to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Smith
City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager