

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at the Al Quaal Lodge. Chairman Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Chairperson Norman Andrews, Commission members Edmund Holmgren, Claudia Demarest Dr. Stephen Piereson, David Morton, and Council Representative Lindsay Bean. Also, present was DPW Assistant Foreman-Streets Scott Smith and DPW Office Manager April Holm. Absent: Angelo Bosio and School Liaison Carrie Meyer. We have 1 empty seat on the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There as none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Holmgren, supported by Commissioner Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of April 20, 2021 as presented.

DISC GOLF SIGN AND COURSE DESIGN

The lease agreement is still being worked on and once it is complete it needs to go to the State for approval.

The Commission would like to get an update on the disc golf proposal. They have some questions that they would like to ask about the organization that is proposing the disc golf idea. They would like us to try to get a representative to come to the next meeting to further discuss details. This topic will be added to the next agenda.

MEMORIAL BENCH

Scott Smith discussed the proposal of having a memorial bench donated to Lake Bancroft in memory of Kathrine Kivisto Wirtala. The proposal came from family and friends. The bench would be donation to the city and Sunburst Memorials would be doing the installation. The bench is a cedar color and is made out of a hard poly-plastic that is non-porous, and 100% recycled plastic. The material is naturally graffiti-resistant and UV protected. It will not rust, rot, peel, dent, or split in weather extremes. There will be no maintenance nor current or future costs to the city. The only request the family and friends made was that the city work with the Katherine's sister on the permanent placement of the bench.

A motion was made by Commissioner Demarest with support by Commissioner Piereson to approve the donation of the memorial bench to Lake Bancroft with placement being coordinated between the city and Sister of the deceased. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Morton made an additional motion with support from Commissioner Demarest regarding the bench that any and all future bench donations to Lake Bancroft would have to be a similar style to keep everything looking uniform. The motion was carried unanimously.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSS DOG PARK LOCATION - Mayor Bean advised the Commission that many locations are still being looked at currently. No decisions have been made as of yet.

Commissioner Morton would like the Park Department to possibly look into doing an inspection on all of the playground equipment in our parks. He said some of the equipment looked dangerous for children to be playing on. He noticed some chains in horrible shape and the bearings where the swings attach to the base was badly worn down. There was a broken spring toy in the tot lot.

A member of the Commission also brought up the subject of smoking and they would like to see no smoking signs posted at all of the playgrounds and ballfields.

Commissioner Morton also proposed an idea of putting out a can recycling receptacle by the ballfields to prevent spectators and participants from throwing their soda cans on the ground. He thought that by providing some sort of receptacle would prevent a lot of clean up later.

Mayor Bean mentioned that they are going to start encouraging more topics to be brought in front of the Park and Rec commission instead of going straight to Council. Also, instead of RAMBA reaching out to council members they will start encouraging the RAMBA Board reach out to the Park and Rec Commission.

Some of the Commission expressed interest in looking into other possible locations for Campgrounds within the City of Ishpeming to start generating some income for the city. The topic was tabled for now but possibly will be revisited in the future.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on August 17, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:58 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Holmgren supported by Commissioner Demarest to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

April Holm
DPW Office Manager/Recording Secretary