

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at the Al Quaal Lodge. Member Stephen Piersen called the meeting to order at 3:57 p.m.

Present: Commission members present were Claudia Demarest, Lisa Thompson (4:02 p.m. arrival), Stephen Piersen, Jane Hendrick, Kevin Corkin (4:30 p.m. arrival), Council Representative Lindsay Bean (6). Absent: School Representative Carrie Meyer (1). Also, present was DPW General Foreman Bill Anderson, DPW Assistant Foreman-Cemetery/Parks Kaleb Rundman, City Treasurer April Holm, DPW Office Manager Raquelle Ball and NMU Nursing Students assigned to the City of Ishpeming, Anna Orr and Ella Shoppe (2).

PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Demarest for correction to the minutes from October 17, 2023 to correct the word “for” to the word “to” in the ‘Parks Report’ in paragraph four, supported by Member Thompson and carried unanimously to approve the minutes with the change for 10/17/2023.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION ORDINANCE

The Parks and Recreation Commission were provided copies of the adopted Ordinance 11-2600 for their records.

PARKS REPORT

DPW Assistant Foreman-Cemetery/Parks Kaleb Rundman provided an update on the Pisten Bully and the new Gator and added both new pieces of machinery have been assets to the Parks even with the mild winter. The new equipment has made for better grooming of the trails.

The Brasswire Campground is targeted to open May 1, 2024, weather dependent. Some discussion on water testing.

The Parks Department has tentatively hired enough part-time workers to open the tube slide, however with the mild winter, opening has been halted.

The Parks Department reported that Holli Forest Products, Inc. has widened the hill and it is in much better condition. Moyle Trucking & Excavating will be preparing a quote to take care of the remaining tree stumps. Once complete this could bring in National Races.

Staff provided a brief update on the Kayak launches to be installed on the Ishpeming and Negaunee sides of Teal Lake.

NEW BUSINESS

DPW General Foreman Bill Anderson advised the Parks and Recreation Commission were invited to attend the joint meeting of the DDA and Planning Commission scheduled for March 11, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. Member Lindsay Bean indicated the vacant lot on Canda would be part of the discussion.

DPW General Foreman Bill Anderson suggested the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend to Council that playground equipment that had been deemed unsafe be removed by Spring. There was discussion related to the report from MMRMA.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Member Demarest seconded by Hendrick and carried unanimously to recommend to Council to remove the playground equipment as outlined by MMRMA in their risk assessment.

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Member Demarest asked if there was any update on the Dog Parks; DPW General Foreman Bill Anderson advised there was no update at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Member Lindsay Bean revealed the City Council voted to adopt the City of Ishpeming Parks and Recreation Plan for 2024 through 2028 at their January 10, 2024 Council Meeting.

Member Demarest questioned the status of exterior repairs to the Al Quaal Lodge; DPW General Foreman Bill Anderson stated a quote has been requested from a contractor regarding construction of handicapped bathrooms and roof repairs.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for April 16, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:40 p.m. a motion was made by Member Demarest by Member Hendrick and carried unanimously to adjourn.



Raquelle Ball
DPW Office Manager