

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at the Al Quaal Lodge. DPW Foreman Bill Anderson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Commission members present were Jane Hendrick, Claudia Demarest, Craig Heikkila, Kevin Corkin, Council Members Jason Chapman and Kurt Kipling and School Representative Carrie Meyer (7). Absent: Johnathon Noracon (1). Also present were DPW Foreman Bill Anderson, DPW Assistant Foreman-Cemetery/Parks Kaleb Rundman and Kathy Hakala- Utility Clerk/Deputy Treasurer.  
PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

Appointment of Chair and Co-Chair – After some discussion, a motion was made to retain Member Hendrick as Chair and Member Heikkila as Co-Chair by Member Demarest supported by Member Hendrick and carried unanimously.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Demarest supported by Member Hendrick and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 15, 2024.

#### PARK REPORT

DPW Assistant Kaleb Rundman reported that we received the picnic tables for Pioneer Bluff Park through the Habitat for Humanity and will be up in the spring, the ice rink is up and running, the fence repairs are finished at the Pioneer Bluff park. The tube slide has been running for 2 weeks with an average of 66 tubers per day, we hired 6 part-time and 2 full-time employees to run it and things are going smooth. The NCAA Ski Tournament is taking place the weekend of the February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

DPW Foreman Bill Anderson reported that DPW Assistant Foreman-Cemetery/Parks Rundman has been working to attract more activity to the North Trails. Todd Paquette stated that Elizabeth Peterson is now the Media Marketing person for Polar Roll and they would like to do another race this year. The tube slide is up and running, there are some maintenance issues to be corrected on it this spring and summer. NIOWA is going forward with their project this spring. They will be running a waterline from the top portion of the hill to the lodge and through the park down to the cemetery to the plant. Part of the negotiations with them is that they will be grading the triangle by the bandstand to make the land flat. There was discussion on contacting the Great Lake Sports Commission to apply for a grant to build a new lodge. It would be located where the piston bully is parked on the bluff overlooking the hill. Member Demarest and Council Member Chapman stated that they would like to do something to save the Al Quaal Lodge.

OLD BUSINESS –Member Demarest would like to have a joint meeting with the Council and Parks & Rec in March. DPW Foreman Anderson suggested to do it in April because of the meetings already scheduled in March. He will contact Assistant Manager/City Clerk Cathy Smith to discuss a meeting with City Council.

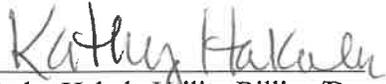
#### NEW BUSINESS

- a. There was discussion on changing the schedule for the Parks and Recreation meeting. Member Demarest made a motion that they be every other month starting in March, supported by Council Member Chapman and carried unanimously.
- b. Travel Marquette partnered with SAIL DPW Foreman Bill Anderson will reach out to them for more information to pass along at the next meeting.
- c. Kevin Corkin gave an informational presentation on the Brasswire Campground. There was discussion on how to make some improvements to attract more campers such as adding showers, something for children to do, having firewood available, and more lighting. Would also to have more advertisement and signs for Pure Michigan.

*February 18, 2025*

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:44 p.m. a motion was made by Member Hendrick supported by Member Demarest and carried unanimously to adjourn.



Kathy Hakala Utility Billing/Deputy Clerk