

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at the Al Quaal Lodge. Vice Chair, Craig Heikkila called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Present: Commission members present were Claudia Demarest, Kevin Corkin, Craig Heikkila, and Jason Chapman (4). Absent: Carrie Meyer and Bob Antilla (2). One (1) vacant seat. Also, present was DPW Director Bill Anderson, Kaleb Rundman, Foreman Cemetery-Parks, and City Clerk Cathy Smith.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Demarest supported by Member Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of October 21 and November 18, 2025, as presented.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### a. Questions about Al Quaal Renovations

DPW Director Bill Anderson advised the architect was still working with Marquette County Building Codes on the potentially renovation for the lodge. There was discussion on using logs for interior versus drywall; the stairway being too steep to utilize a handicap ramp; and beginning fundraising for the renovations.

##### b. Discuss Dog Park

DPW Director Anderson explained the last item on the 5-year plan was a dog park. The need for a dog park was discussed and the lack of funding available.

A motion was made by Member Chapman, seconded by Member Corkin, and carried unanimously to table discussions on a dog park and place this item in the next 5-year recreation plan.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### a. Request from the Ishpeming Kriskindlmarkt: Borrowing Tubes

Member Corkin advised the Kriskindlmarkt would like to borrow tubes for a tube slide they are considering during the market. The slide would operate for two weekends, and the market would begin the Friday after Thanksgiving. The proposed tube hill would be either on Maple Street or Main Street but pending approval by the City.

Members commented on this event being positive for the community.

A motion was made by Member Chapman, seconded by Member Heikkila, and carried unanimously to allow the Kriskindlmarkt to utilize surplus toboggans and tubes along with some new tubes if necessary for the Kriskindlmarkt for next year, 2026.

##### b. End of Season Brasswire Campground Report

DPW Director Anderson advised this report was through November, the year-end report would be provided next month. There was brief discussion on the budget report and the solar panel project for the campground.

##### c. Joint meeting with the DDA and Planning Commission on February 2, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

City Clerk Cathy Smith advised the Planning Commission and DDA invited the Parks and Recreation Commission to attend their joint meeting on Monday, February 2, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

In addition, brief discussion took place on the need for all members to advise staff if they are not planning to attend meetings and if there was not going to be a quorum the meeting would be cancelled and all members

would be notified. Also discussed was the meeting location with some members wanting the meeting to remain at the lodge.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:02 p.m. a motion was made by Member Chapman supported by Member Corkin and carried unanimously to adjourn.

  
Cathy Smith, City Clerk