

Approved: _____

**MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 7, 2013**

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE **REGULAR BOYNE CITY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD AT
6:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013.**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Sheets at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jerry Swift, Mike Sheean, Marie Sheets, and Bill Kuhn

Absent: Gail Van Horn and, Heath Meeder

**MEETING
ATTENDANCE**

City Staff: Streets/Parks & Recreation Superintendent Andy Kovolski,
Recording Secretary Barb Brooks, Main Street Manager Hugh Conklin
and Police Chief Jeff Gaither

Public Present: Two

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES
MOTION**

Swift moved, Sheean seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, a motion
to approve the January 3, 2013 meeting minutes as presented.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Main Street Manager Conklin asked for input as the Farmers Market committee works on plans for the upcoming outside market season. The committee is interested in hearing if there are any concerns or questions so they can try to address them. One of the things that will be new for 2013 is the prohibition of pets within the market during market hours. The committee has tried different ways to work around the issue and stay pet friendly but has been unsuccessful. Kovolski added that the market has not been a problem in the park, the vendors are using mats to reduce the wear on the turf, no irrigation has been damaged and the market contributes financially for fertilization of the grass. The general consensus of the board was that it seems to be going well, growing into a larger success and not causing any damage to the park. The board thanked Conklin for the update and attending the meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Avalanche is in order and going well

CORRESPONDENCE

- In a letter addressed to Jim Harrington of the Health Dept. of Northwest Michigan, the Michigan Fitness Foundation announced that Boyne City has earned a Bronze award as part of the 2012 Promoting Active Communities Program.
- A letter from Susan Pulaski, Health Coordinator from the Health Department of Northwest Michigan to encourage and offer assistance in making public parks smoke free.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Park Inspections

- Kuhn reported that Avalanche continues to be busy with all kinds of use. There have been minor issues but they have all been able to be handled by staff. Pet owners not cleaning up after their dog(s) is a problem that persists. It is especially bothersome at the base of the hill near the skating rink. Board discussion - hopefully when the signage goes up it will alleviate some of this.
- The board also discussed the skating rink downtown. They all reported that they have never seen anyone use it in the last month not even during Winter Fest. Kuhn reported that he lent out skates to a couple people one time for use at the downtown rink because the Avalanche rink was not open. The general consensus is that it doesn't seem to be worth the money and effort and people probably got more enjoyment out of the ice pole being there.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Avalanche Trail Signage update

The committee submitted proposed verbiage to be placed on the sign for board review and discussion. In addition to the rules proposed, hunting and guns were also discussed as an addition. The board asked police chief Gaither for his input. Gaither stated that it goes beyond hunting. Discharging of any type of firearm is prohibited, which includes pellet guns, paintball guns, etc. The board decided it should be on the sign as people from out of town may not be aware of this. The general consensus of the board is that the information to be placed on the sign is sufficient but the verbiage could be worded a little different to be clear and concise.

Dog Park

There is not a current proposal for a dog park, it is still being discussed and researched for consideration. Board member / Dog Park subcommittee member Gail Van Horn was absent so no update on progress was given.

Boyne City/Charlevoix Rd. Trail Update

A memo from Ross Maxwell, Director of Charlevoix County Parks was enclosed in the agenda packet. The memo outlines funding issues for phase 2 of the trail.

Boyne City to Boyne
Falls Trail Update

Sheean reported that there isn't anything new on the forefront; still working on one remaining piece of property. The committee continues to persevere and remain optimistic.

Board Member
Recruitment

One new board application came in and was distributed to the board at the meeting along with one that had come in several months prior. Jo Bauman was in attendance at the meeting at expressed that she may have an interest in serving on the board but has not filled out an application yet. She wanted to observe the board meeting and gather some information to ensure that if she committed to the position she could fulfill the duties. The board reviewed applications from Darryl Parish and Jason Biskner. Several of the board members stated they were acquainted with Mr. Parish from other organizations and thought he would be a good fit for the board as he has a passion for recreation, the outdoors and the community. **Sheean moved, Kuhn seconded, Passed Unanimously** to recommend the City Commission appoints Darryl Parish to the Parks & Recreation Board with a term expiration of December 31, 2015. (fulfilling the remainder of Carl Wehner's term)

MOTION

NEW BUSINESS

Park Rules/Enforcement

Police Chief Jeff Gaither was at the meeting to answer the boards' questions about park rules and enforcement. General rules should be enforced by staff and police should be called when someone ignores or breaks the rules and staff can not resolve the issue. Gaither stated that enforcement in parks is a challenge because in most instances by the time they arrive the person(s) is gone, but that doesn't mean the police should not be called. They will respond and they do track the calls and concerns and will investigate and/or step up surveillance if possible. He encourages all people that have a concern to call and report it.

Irish Boat Shop Request
Harborage Marina
Dredging

The City received a request from Irish Boat Shop to utilize City property and contract with for street sweeping during the dredging project at the Harborage Marina. Kovolski stated that he and staff members have already met with Mr. Biddick and have worked out the details to ensure the wellbeing of the park and proper restoration. They also discussed making a few improvements at Peninsula Beach as an added benefit. The consensus of the board that as long as staff was comfortable with it and stays on top it to ensure no long term damage will be done to the park, they were okay with the proposal.

2013/14 FY Budget

The board reviewed the current year budget. Kovolski stated that it would come in pretty close to what was proposed for each line item. The board asked whether there was going to be any large projects undertaken during the upcoming budget year. Kovolski indicated that there would not be. The proposed budget will consist of maintenance

and minor improvements. Board members also asked if there would be any continued improvements at Riverside Park to enhance the area. Kovolski stated they would continue to mow a trail but did really plan on any improvements as it doesn't seem to get much use. It was suggested that it didn't get much use because the word isn't out that there have been any improvements there and that it is not necessarily inviting. The board suggested that in the spring something is done to promote all of the parks, especially the more obscure ones including the nature area improvements near the river in the industrial park.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

(Swift stated that he would be absent for the March and April meetings and wishes to be excused as he will be out of town)

**ADJOURNMENT
MOTION

The February 7, 2013 meeting of the Parks and Recreation board was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. moved by Sheean, seconded by Swift

Barb Brooks, Recording Secretary