



Approved:

**MEETING OF
September 1, 2016**

**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, SEPTEMBER 1, 2016.**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Sheean at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Sheean, Jerry Swift, Jo Bowman, Patrick Patoka, Heath Meeder and Marie Sheets

Absent: Darryl Parish

**MEETING
ATTENDANCE**

City Staff: Streets/Parks & Recreation Superintendent Andy Kovolski and Recording Secretary Barb Brooks

Public Present: Three (3)

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES ****MOTION****

Swift moved, Meeder seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, a motion approving the August 4, 2016 meeting minutes as presented.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS
(on non-agenda items)**

Lisa Alexander introduced herself and expressed an interest in serving on the board. She turned in an application prior to the start of the meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kovolski reported coming up Labor Day weekend are many events; the triathlon, car show, Red Fox Regatta, Dalmac and Stroll the Streets. Kovolski also gave an update on the City facilities and Safe Routes to School sidewalk project.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Dick Wheeler regarding positive experience at the dog park.

**REPORTS OF
OFFICERS, BOARDS
AND STANDING
COMMITTEES**

Park Inspection Reports -

- Bowman visited Peninsula Beach, Sunset and Tannery Parks and said they were looking good. Sheets indicated that Old City Park was being well used and was clean.
- **Disc Golf Update** - None
- **Trail(s) Update** - Board Chair Sheean stated that there was a great turnout for the BC/Charlevoix Trail ribbon cutting ceremony. He added that the Friends of Avalanche had their 3rd meeting and has had good participation. The group has cleaned up some of the downfall from the clearing on the face of the hill, installed signs and will start working on repairs to the steps.
- The board discussed the removal of dead or dying trees that pose

a safety threat along the walking trail. Board members inquired as to if there was a way to be more proactive about having some that are close to the path removed so they are not a potential hazard instead of addressing them once they are fallen and either across the path or looming overhead. It was suggested that we hire a contractor to perform this work. Kovolski thought his crews could handle it and would take a look at them while they were removing the ones that have fallen.

**UNFINIHS
BUSINESS**

**Non-motorized Trail
Route into town from
the BC/Charlevoix Trail**

Kovolski reported that signs went up to direct trail users to some of the side streets with less vehicle traffic. Concerns were expressed regarding the area where there is only the striped bike lane or paved shoulder. A suggestion was made to add a rumble strip on the white line to alert motorist that they are veering off the road.

**NEW BUSINESS
Avalanche Trail
Construction**

Steve Schnell from the Top of Michigan Mountain Bike Association (TOMMBA) stated that a crew of four professional trail artisans, who travel all over the United States working on trails, will work with local volunteers to install the first phase of the mountain bike trail. Conklin brought up the concern regarding horses being allowed on Avalanche and asked how that would impact these trails. Steve indicated that horse traffic would be detrimental to the trail and if the use was going to be allowed, they would not go to the expense and put in all of the man hours to build this trail. The board recalled having the discussion before regarding horses in Avalanche and on riding on various trail but no formal action to deal with it ever took place because there just wasn't much use and had not really been a problem. After further discussion the general consensus was to prohibit horses on the mountain bike trail only at this time. **Swift moved, Meeder seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to recommend the prohibition of horses on the mountain bike trail and sign the trail accordingly.

****MOTION**

**Sunset Coast Birding
Trail Request**

Board Member Parish was contacted by the Sunset Coast Birding Trail Development Team regarding the selection of Boyne City to be placed on the map of the birding trail. The purpose of the trail is to attract visitors to this area by highlighting prime birding sites. By doing this, it will both demonstrate the diverse natural features of our area and provide an economic boost, notably during the shoulder seasons. Sites have been selected based on the quality of habitat, accessibility, and geographic location. They are composed of two categories; Primary and Secondary sites. Primary are birding sites will be featured both on the website and on the printed map. In addition, signage in the form of an 8x12 aluminum sign will be placed at the site's parking area(s). Secondary sites also offer excellent birding opportunities, but are either too close to a primary site, offer less parking availability, or are too far from the central hub of primary sites to be considered a primary site

themselves. They will be featured on the website, but not on the printed map. They also will not receive signage. The development team had selected Riverside Park for the “Primary” and Veterans Park as the “Secondary”. The general consensus of the board was that this was a great opportunity and doesn’t really require much from the City. There was unanimous agreement that Riverside Park was an excellent primary location and unanimously disagreed with the selection of Veterans Park as the secondary. Other parks were discussed but the board opted to wait for some input from board member Parish at the October meeting before making a recommendation.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 6 pm at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

The September 1, 2016 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Barb Brooks, Recording Secretary