



City of Boyne City

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Approved: 6/6/13

MEETING OF MAY 2, 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, MAY 2, 2013.**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Jerry Swift, Heath Meeder, Marie Sheets, Darryl Parish, Bill Kuhn, Gail Van Horn and Mike Sheean

Absent: None

MEETING ATTENDANCE

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

Public Present: Six

EXCUSED ABSENCES MOTION

Swift moved, Parish seconded PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, a motion to excuse Gail VanHorn from the April 11, 2013 Meeting and Mike Sheean from the March 28, 2013 special meeting and the April 11, 2013 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES MOTION

Swift moved, Parish seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, a motion to approve the April 11, 2013 meeting minutes as presented

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Rob Wiltjer, Jason McCary and Forest Omland informed the board that they have formed the Boyne Valley Disc Golf Club and now have leagues playing at the course and their numbers have been growing. They expressed wanting to work with staff to address safety, litter, and good use of the course by promoting etiquette. They would like to see more trash cans a long the course and coordinate regular disposal (may need to be more than once a week). Board members inquired about the condition of the course. Omland and McCary stated that the overall condition of the course is in pretty good shape. New signage is needed a couple of the holes, needs to be hand raked and would like to see more benches and less picnic tables. The club's website is boynevalleydiscgolf.org. The thanked Omland, McCary and Wiltjer for

attending the meeting, taking a leadership role and representing disc golf and to continue to work with staff on issues, concerns and suggestions.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

All parks' facilities are open and water turned on. The farmers market is moving back to Veterans Park for the season and the Mushroom Festival will be held May 16 - 19.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Park Inspections

- Meeder stated that the water at the top of Avalanche was not on yet.
- Meeder also informed Kovolski that there were downed trees along the walking trail. Swift inquired as to whether board members or volunteers could cut and remove these branches and/or trees that are impeding on the path and are potentially dangerous. Kovolski stated that he would rather not have anyone cutting branches or trees other than city staff and downed trees or branches should be reported to him.
- Kuhn stated that the rocks that have fallen into the river from the riverbank in Old City Park still need to be addressed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Horse Trail Ride Services at Avalanche Request

There were 3 members of the board and 2 members of the public that went on a preliminary test horseback ride at Avalanche Don with Boyne Valley Equine stated that he thought the ride was successful with no real issues and everyone seemed to enjoy it. VanHorn stated that she and her husband enjoyed the ride. Swift stated that he felt there needed to be more separation for the disc golf and walking trail. He thought that more consideration should be given to starting behind the 1910 Building as suggested earlier by Sheean. There is shade and it is a quieter area. They encountered walkers, pets and disc golfers and everyone seemed to work around each other. Brooks added that she did not go on the ride, she did walk a portion of the trail waiting for everyone to return and was surprised that the distance she walked seeing hoof prints on the trail and wondered at what point they veered from the trail if at all. Meeder also came across some manure on the trail when he walked the trail on the following Tuesday and wondered if they cleaned up after their Saturday ride. Brooks also indicated that there was manure on the trail and a definite odor and stated that you could hear the horses from a distance so there was no element of surprise when you encountered them. Meeder expressed that he thinks this is a good idea and supports it is on a separate trail; he is not in favor at all if it is on the walking and/or disc golf trail. Parish agreed with

Meeder. Don stated that part of the reason they stayed on the trail is because at the time there were still some low hanging branches off the trail where he is proposing to ride and didn't want anyone to get hurt. A couple of the board member agreed to meet Don at Avalanche again to see if they could work together to come up with some trail options and asked Kovolski if any staff members would be able to join them at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 4 and then have a special board meeting to discuss the request further before making a recommendation. **Kuhn moved, Swift seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to call a special meeting to be held on May 8, 2013 at 6 p.m. at Avalanche.

****MOTION**

VanHorn reported that she will work with interest individuals, regroup and report back to the board next month.

Dog Park

Sheean reported that the trail plans are moving ahead and fund-raising efforts to support the trail continue

Boyne City/Charlevoix Rd. Trail Update

Sheean reported that there isn't anything new on the forefront. The committee continues to persevere and remain optimistic.

Boyne City to Boyne Falls Trail Update

The board reviewed volunteer board applications from Jo Bowman and Jason Biskner. Both Mr. Biskner and Ms. Bowman were in attendance of the meeting. Ms. Bowman stated that she has been coming to Boyne City for over 20 years and is very excited to be retired and here full-time. She enjoys the outdoors, has a passion for the parks and recreation and would like to be more involved in the community. Mr. Biskner stated that he had been visiting the area prior to moving here a few years ago. Part of his family's decision to relocate in Boyne City was based on our beautiful parks and the recreation opportunities. Mr. Biskner has two young children and the family enjoys our parks on a regular basis. The board was thrilled to have two willing and competent citizens to choose from. Both candidates seemed to be a good fit. After board discussion, based on the time commitment and meeting availability, **Swift moved, Sheean seconded, Passed Unanimously** to recommend the City Commission appoint Jo Bowman to the Parks & Recreation Board with a term expiration of December 31, 2014.

Board Member Recruitment

****MOTION**

NEW BUSINESS
Election of Officers

VanHorn moved to re-elect the current officers, Sheets as Chair and Swift as Vice Chair. There was no second, the motion died. Sheets explained to the board that she has enjoyed her time serving as the chair and has learned a lot but feels that with other involvements that she has, it would be best if someone else from the board stepped in and thought that Jerry Swift would be a good candidate. Swift, who appreciated the sentiments and confidence in his ability that was shared by his fellow

board members, felt that the board should be led by someone with more experience and history with the board and parks and recreation department, such as Kuhn or Sheean. Kuhn stated that he and his wife plan to do more traveling and was concerned about living up to the commitment of serving as board chair. Kuhn suggested that even though Sheean has served as the board's chair in the past, he really is a good fit, has the passion and commitment. **VanHorn moved, Kuhn Seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to elect Sheean as the board's Chair and re-elect Jerry Swift as Vice Chair.

****MOTION**

The board also thanked Marie Sheets for her service and leadership to the board as the Chair.

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at Rotary Park.

NEXT MEETING

The May 2, 2013 meeting of the Parks and Recreation board was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Moved by Kuhn, seconded by Swift, **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ADJOURNMENT

****MOTION**

Barb Brooks, Recording Secretary