



Approved:

**Meeting of  
October 5, 2017**

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, AUGUST 3, 2017.

**Call to Order**

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

**Roll Call**

Present: Mike Sheean, Jo Bowman, Hugh Conklin, Mike Doumanian, Lisa Alexander, Darryl Parish and Tom Smith

Absent: None

**Meeting Attendance**

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

Public Present: Four

**Approval of Minutes  
\*\*MOTION**

**Conklin moved, Doumanian seconded, passed unanimously**, a motion approving the August 3, 2017 meeting minutes as presented.

**Citizens Comments  
(on non-agenda items)**

Diane Sterling introduced herself and expressed an interest in serving on the board. With three active school aged children, the family utilizes all of the parks. She has lived in Boyne City full-time for approximately three years but has owned property and visited Boyne prior to making it her residence.

**Director's Report**

Activities are slowing down in most parks and irrigation is starting to be shut off. With the recent retiring of building maintenance personnel, it has left the department short staffed until a replacement is hired.

None

**Correspondence**

**Park Inspection Reports**

- Parish reported Tannery Park looks good and Riverside Park is ok
- Alexander stated that the trails at Avalanche are clear of downed trees and looks good
- Conklin informed the board that the resurfaced tennis courts are cracked. He added that the men's bathroom door is rusting. Kovolski stated that he is aware of the cracked surface issue and is working with the contractor.

**Reports of Officers,  
Boards, and Standing  
Committees**

**Park User Groups**

- Avalanche Archery Range - Former board member Bill Kuhn introduced Barney Hess. Barney has been active in caring for the archery range at Avalanche. Barney reported that the range is in pretty good shape and is getting quite a bit of use but he thinks with some promotion it could be even better. He placed a trail cam there

to get a count of how many users, times being used and age groups of users. Users are a mix of singles, couples and families bringing young children.

- Ridge Run Dog Park – There are still some dead/dying trees that need to be removed. A couple of them are dedication trees that need to be replaced. The fitness trail is a big hit and much appreciated. The gates still need to be installed. There are two upcoming planned events: MSU vs. UofM Tailgate party and Howl-o-ween costume party. The committee would like a financial update so they can plan for future improvements.

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### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Avalanche Improvements**

The board discussed spending a little more time coming up with more of a big picture plan to enhance the look at the base of Avalanche instead of continuing to add signs, structures, features, etc. that begin to make it look cluttered. The Friends of Avalanche will be hosting a work session meeting on October 11, 2017 at 6 p.m. at Avalanche to start the discussion and share ideas that will be brought back to the board for additional input and consideration.

Kovolski stated that utility poles have not been delivered to the site yet.

#### **Rotary Park Vehicle Parking Update**

Work has begun and is moving forward. This is only phase 1 and includes increasing the size, removing the fireplace, patching the roof, and attic insulation but does not include remodeling the restrooms, heat or enclosures (clear garage doors). Funds are still being raised to take on future phases. The contractor has run into bad soils that may not support the new foundations and is working to find a solution.

#### **Veterans Park Pavilion Update**

#### **Grant Projects Update**

Bulmann Dock & Lift will start working on the two kayak racks that they're building and donating. The kayak launch has been installed and is getting some use and the mobi-mat was installed at Peninsula Beach. Kovolski stated that his crew will be starting work at Riverside Park as soon as next week to grade the driveway and parking area. Brooks reminded the board that the shelter/pavilion to be installed at Avalanche was also related to grant received in 2015/2016 and the materials were already purchased. Parish stated that a participant in the Leadership Charlevoix County (LCC) program has expressed an interest in suggesting that improvements to Riverside Park and evasive species control be considered as one of the proposed civic projects for the LCC class. If the board is interested, he will suggest it to his class for consideration. The general consensus of the board was that it sounded like a good idea and would welcome a class project at Riverside Park.

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### **New Business**

#### **Trail Groomer Donation**

Michelle Cortright informed the board that a donation is being offered to the City through the Charlevoix Community Foundation of a snow trail groomer to be used at Avalanche. The groomer would become the property of the City, the City would provide a place to store the machine at Avalanche and it would be made available for the purpose of groom multi-use trails at

Avalanche through the winter months.

**Winter Trail Grooming at Avalanche**

Michael Cortright from North Country Cycle would like to offer his services and expertise to groom trails at Avalanche using the donating groomer. He proposes to groom trails specific for hikers and also trails for multi-uses (cross country skiing, snow shoeing and fat tire biking). There would be signs posted at the crossings directing users as to which trail is appropriate for them to use. Cortright added that he groomed 6 miles of trails at the school property on Erickson Rd. last year and plans to groom approximately 6 miles of trails at Avalanche. He added that having these groomed trails will be a big draw during the winter months and will be an economic boost as it will be bringing more people to Boyne City and to our downtown businesses. The grooming would be done in the evening and all volunteers would be reviewed by City staff.

**\*\*MOTION**

**Parish moved, Alexander seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the donation of the winter snow trail groomer to be stored and used at Avalanche.

**\*\*MOTION**

**Bowman moved, Smith seconded PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the offer from Michael Cortright to volunteer his services to groom both hiking and multi-purpose trails at Avalanche through the winter.

**2018 Grants / Potential Project**

Recording Secretary Brooks informed the board that it is time to start having discussions regarding potential upcoming projects and if we want to apply for any grants to help fund them. County allocation applications are released in January due February 1 and DNR grants open in January and are due April. The application process takes some time so the longer staff has to gather all of the necessary information can take a while so more lead time they have to prepare the better.

Ideas discussed by the board for the County Allocation funds were play equipment at Rotary Park, a vault toilet at the top of Avalanche and funds toward the Boyne Valley Trail to be used as match for State grants.

The board would like to review the City's Recreation Master Plan for capital improvements.

**Board Member Openings / Applications**

Mike Doumanian announced that he has purchased a new house in Boyne City but outside of the City limits and will need to resign from the board as he no longer meets the residency requirements. Parish also reported that with the addition of his new grandchild out of state that they will be spending approximately 5 months away from home and will not be able to attend meetings regularly. Jo Bowman who had expressed a desire to find a replacement for her board seat stated that she would remain on the board throughout her term unless a replacement was found after other vacated seats were filled. The board had two applications to review, Gow Litzenburger who applied in October 2016 but didn't meet the residency requirements at that time and Diane Sterling who applied in August but the board just received her application for review at the meeting. Mike Doumanian encouraged the board to accept Diane's willingness to serve on the board and if they have any concerns or questions, ask them now versus leaving a vacancy on the board.

**\*\*MOTION**

**Bowman moved, Alexander seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** (with regrets) to accept the resignation of Mike Doumanian effective at the end of the meeting.

**\*\*MOTION**

**Conklin moved, Bowman seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to recommend to the City Commission the appointment of Gow Litzenburger to serve the remainder of the term vacated by Patrick Patoka expiring December 31, 2020 and to appoint Diane Sterling to serve the remainder of Mike Doumanian's term expiring December 31, 2018

**Next Meeting**

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The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 6 pm at City Hall

**Adjournment**

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The October 5, 2017 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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Barb Brooks, Recording Secretary

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