



**Meeting of the
BOYNE CITY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Thursday, October 6, 2016
6:00 p.m. at the
City Hall**
(Temporary location: 364 N. Lake St.)



*Scan QR code or go to
www.cityofboynecity.com
click on boards &
commissions for complete
agenda packets & minutes
for each board*

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
 - A. Excuse the absence of Commissioner Hugh Conklin and Board President Michael Sheean
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. Approval of the September 1, 2016 meeting minutes
4. CITIZENS COMMENTS (non-agenda items – limit to 5 minutes)
5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
6. CORRESPONDENCE
 - A. None
7. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES
 - A. Park Inspection Reports
 - B. Disc Golf Update
 - C. Trail(s) update (Boyne City/Charlevoix and Boyne Valley)
 - D. Friends of Avalanche
 - E. MParks Grant Project (Avalanche) update
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Sunset Coast Birding Trail Request
9. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Review and consideration of board member applications from Lisa Alexander and Michael Doumanian
10. GOOD OF THE ORDER
11. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. Next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2016 @ 6 p.m.
12. ADJOURNMENT

*Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services in order to participate in municipal meetings may contact Boyne City Hall for assistance:
Cindy Grice, City Clerk, 319 North Lake Street, Boyne City, Michigan 49712 (231) 582-0334*

ATTENDANCE RECORD
Parks & Recreation Commission
FY 2016- 2017

Member	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April
Bowman, Jo	P	P	X	P	P							
Conklin, Hugh	--	--	--	--	P							
Meeder, Heath	E	P	X	E	P							
Parish, Darryl	P	P	X	P	E							
Patoka, Patrick	P	P	X	P	P							
Sheean, Mike	P	P	X	P	P							
Sheets, Marie	P	P	X	P	P							
Swift, Jerry	P	P	X	P	P							

P=Present
A=Absent
E=Excused

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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.

UNFINIHSED 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

Sunset Coast Birding Trail

Introduction

In 2011, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) conducted a demographic and economic study regarding birding in the United States. The study found that in 2011 there over 47 million individuals in the United States over the age of sixteen who regarded themselves as birders. Of these 47 million, over 2 million were Michigan residents. In addition, the study estimated that birders spend approximately \$41 billion on trips and equipment for the purpose of birding, generating a total economic impact of over \$107 billion!

Over the last few years, many regions in Michigan have developed birding trails with the purpose of attracting birders to their area. The Saginaw Bay Birding Trail, The Superior Birding Trail, The Sleeping Bear Birding Trail, The Beaver Island Birding Trail, The Sunrise Coast Birding Trail, and the North Huron Birding trail have all now been established. Information regarding each of these trails can be found on Michigan Audubon's website at <http://www.michiganaudubon.org/go-birding/birding-trails/>.

Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet Counties host a wide variety of protected areas and habitats that attract a large number of Michigan's over 400 bird species. Whether it is a pair of nesting, federally endangered Piping Plovers, a Snowy Owl visiting for the winter, or the many warblers and waterfowl that pass through the area on their way to and from their breeding grounds, the tip of the Northwest Lower Peninsula offers exciting birding opportunities. Local parks, nature preserves, and natural areas make prime birding locations easily accessible and also highlight local conservation efforts.

With this in mind, a group of individuals and conservation related organizations in these counties are developing the Sunset Coast Birding Trail. The trail will provide information about birding in this region and highlight sites that provide prime birding opportunities to encourage birders to visit the area. Primary sites will be highlighted on a website, a printed map, and will also feature signage at the site itself. There will be approximately 30 primary sites on the birding trail – roughly ten per county. Because a printed map has limited space in which to feature sites, additional sites that offer good birding opportunities will be identified that will be featured on the website only.

The trail will also point visitors to other local amenities and attractions such as hotels/campgrounds, restaurants, museums, and other tourism oriented establishments. Birders visiting the area will need a place to eat, place to stay, and may also shop and visit attractions. Given that the prime birding months span from September through May, visiting birders can provide a boost to the local economy during the slower seasons.

Successful birding trails in more than 20 states are demonstrating that trails bolster economies, bring people closer to nature and create support for conserving habitats. The Sunset Coast Birding Trail will offer a unique opportunity to showcase the diverse natural features of Antrim, Charlevoix and Emmet counties and generate an economic benefit to the local communities.

Dear Darryl Parish,

I am writing to you on behalf of The Sunset Coast Birding Trail Development Team. This trail will be based primarily in Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet Counties. 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. Please see the attached Sunset Coast Birding Trail Introduction for more information.

Sites have been selected based on the quality of habitat, accessibility, and geographic location. They are composed of two categories.

Primary Sites: These are the prime birding sites that 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). Please see the included image for an early draft of the sign.

Secondary Sites: These 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.

We are pleased to inform you that we have selected the following sites that belong to the City of Boyne City:

Primary Sites:

1. Riverside Park

Secondary Sites:

1. Veterans Memorial Park

We request your permission to include these sites on the Sunset Coast Birding Trail. Granting permission is the only thing we required for participation; however, the following items would also be of assistance:

1. Someone from your organization is welcome to accompany our volunteer when the time comes to place signage at the parking areas, to ensure that the signage is located to your organization's approval.
2. We would prefer the signage be attached to an already existing structure. Please suggest a location at your site. If a suitable structure is not available, we can provide and install a post.
3. If your organization already has in place a system for routinely checking the condition of signage, we would appreciate any notice concern damage to our signs. If that is not feasible, we will happily have our own volunteers routinely check the signs.
4. Please provide us with a short description of the site(s) to go on the website and map. Also, it would be helpful to list any other activities that are available at the site. This will allow us to highlight additional activities that may be enjoyed by visitors and also to warn them to be on the lookout for mountain bike traffic, to avoid the site during hunting season, etc.



SUNSET COAST BIRDING TRAIL

*This trail highlights the important habitats
and birds along Michigan's Sunset Coast in
Antrim, Charlevoix and Emmet Counties.*



sunsetcoastbirdingtrail.org

5. Provide a logo that can be used to highlight your organization's ownership of the site on the website and on the printed map.

Please respond with your answer to our request for permission or with any questions you may have regarding the Sunset Coast Birding Trail. We look forward to working with your organization on this project.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION – 4 year term

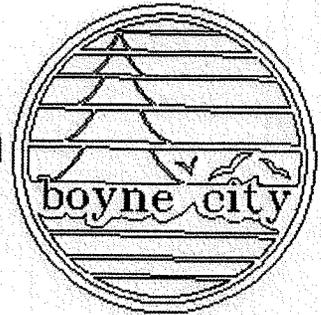
Name	Phone	Alternate Phone	Term Expires
Jo Bowman 423 Pearl St. Boyne City, Mi 49712 Bowmajo000@yahoo.com	989-670-1175		12/31/2018
Patrick Patoka 1008 West St. Boyne City, MI 49712 ppatoka@boyne.com			12/31/2016
Heath Meeder 322 E. Cedar St. Boyne City, MI 49712 heathmeeder@yahoo.com	989-350-0926		12/31/2018
Darryl Parish 1113 Marshall Rd. Boyne City, MI 49712 darryl.parish@gmail.com	231-497-4410		12/31/2019
Michael Sheean, Chair 633 Forest Park Lane Boyne City, MI 49712 m_sheean@yahoo.com	231-582-4030		12/31/2018
Marie Sheets PO Box 154 Boyne City, MI 49712 mariessheets445@yahoo.com	231-675-3344		12/31/2016
Jerry Swift, Vice Chair 508 S. Lake St. Boyne City, MI 49712 jerryswift47@gmail.com	231-582-2724		12/31/2018
Hugh Conklin 440 Hemlock St. Boyne City, MI 49712 hughconklinbc@gmail.com	231-582-7897		12/31/2019

FIVE members needed for a quorum.

Revised: February 4, 2015

CITY OF BOYNE CITY

319 North Lake Street Boyne City, MI 49712 (231) 582-6597



BOARD MEMBER APPLICATION

The City understands you are interested in becoming a member on one of the City Advisory Boards/Commissions. We appreciate your interest and future dedication to Boyne City. In order for the City to have information on file as reference when the next board has an opening, we ask you please complete the following and return to City Hall.

See next page for a list of Boyne City Advisory Boards or Commissions, term of appointment, and meeting schedule.

Name: MICHAEL DOUMANIAN
Address: 861 DEER RUN DRIVE, BOYNE CITY, MI 49712
Telephone: 231-675-3262 (daytime) 231-549-6874 (evening)
Email: MDOUMANIAN@BOYNE MOUNTAIN.COM
Occupation: DIRECTOR FOOD & BEVERAGE BOYNE MOUNTAIN

Please check any Advisory Board or Commission you may be interested in.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport Advisory Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development Corporation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown Development Authority/ Main Street Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Review | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Board of Appeals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> District Library Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic District Commission | |

Reason(s) you wish to serve: TO GIVE BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY. I'M A ACTIVE PARENT WITH TWO YOUNG CHILDREN AND I WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE AND SEE BOYNE CITY'S PARKS AND RECREATION CONTINUE TO GROW AND IMPROVE

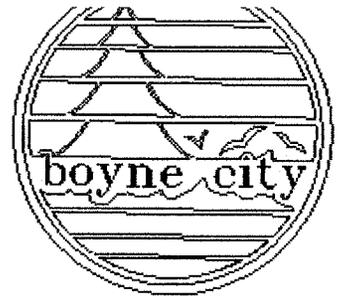
Other community or civic service activities: CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - CURRENT PRESIDENT. BOYNE THUNDER COMMITTEE. NORTHERN MICHIGAN SKI ACADEMY - 9 COACH.

Signature: _____

Date: 9-10-76

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Name: LISA Alexander
Address: 1120 Wilson St.
Telephone: 459 4300 (daytime) _____ (evening)
Email: macalistersmom@hotmail.com
Occupation: Paramedic City of Boyne City

Please check any Advisory Board or Commission you may be interested in.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport Advisory Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development Corporation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Main Street / DDA Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Review | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Board of Appeals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> District Library Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic District Commission | |

Reason(s) you wish to serve:

I believe in Outdoor Spaces
NEIGHBOR TO AVALANCHE
NATURAL RESOURCES BACKGROUND

Other community or civic service activities:

Historical Commission

Signature Date 8-31-2016