



**Meeting of the
BOYNE CITY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**
Thursday, October 2, 2014
6:00 p.m. at City Hall



www.cityofboynecity.com
click on boards &
commissions for complete
agenda packets & minutes
for each board

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
 - A. Consideration to excuse Heath Meeder
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. Approval of the September 4, 2014 meeting minutes
4. CITIZENS COMMENTS (non-agenda items – limit to 5 minutes)
5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
6. CORRESPONDENCE - none
7. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES
 - A. Park Inspection Reports (All Parks / Road End Access Sites)
 - B. Disc Golf Update
 - C. Trail(s) update (Boyne City/Charlevoix and Boyne Valley)
 - D. Dog Park Update
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Avalanche Signage update
 - B. Avalanche Trees removal on face of hill
9. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Boyne Valley Lions – park improvement(s) discussion
 - B. Review Recreation Master Plan and schedule a Public Hearing
10. GOOD OF THE ORDER
11. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. Next regular meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2014
12. ADJOURNMENT

ATTENDANCE RECORD
Parks & Recreation Commission
FY 2014– 2015

Member	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April
Bowman, Jo	A	P	E	X	P							
Kuhn, Bill	P	P	P	X	P							
Meeder, Heath	P	P	E	X	E							
Parish, Darryl	P	P	P	X	P							
Sheean, Mike	P		P	X	P							
Sheets, Marie	P	P	P	X	P							
Swift, Jerry	P	P	P	X	P							
VanHorn, Gail	P	P	P	X	P							

P=Present
A=Absent
E=Excused



Approved: _____

**MEETING OF
SEPTEMBER 4, 2014**

**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 4, 2014.**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Sheean, Bill Kuhn, Jo Bowman, Darryl Parish, Marie Sheets, Jerry Swift and Gail VanHorn

Absent: Heath Meeder

**MEETING
ATTENDANCE**

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

Public Present: Seven

****MOTION**

Sheets moved, Van Horn seconded PASSED UNANIMOUSLY a motion to excuse the absence Meeder.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES **MOTION**

Bowman moved, Parish seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, a motion approving the July 17, 2014 meeting minutes as presented.

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

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kovolski reported that all the parks have been busy but held up well. The irrigation on the south side of Veterans Park made a big difference. Closing of some buildings/facilities will take place towards the end of the month.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

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

Park Inspection Reports

- Rotary Park - Parish reported the park looked good.
- Riverside Park - Sheets stated it needs mowing and there is still a lack of signage that acknowledges that it is a park. It was also suggested that the Riverside Park Master Plan be reviewed.
- Old City Park - Sheets reported that Friends of the Boyne River had some funds for maintenance to take care of this year but would like to see if the City would take it over in the future.

Parish added that most of the plantings are native to the area and are meant to take over the bank for stabilization purposes so generally it will tend to have a slightly wild look to it. It is not supposed to be a manicured garden area. Kovolski stated that if the FoBR doesn't have the ability to maintain it in the future the City will have to take it over.

Disc Golf Update – Forest Omland from the Boyne Valley Disc Golf Club reported the course is in great shape, the new baskets are a huge improvement and the practice area is a nice addition. The course has reached a huge increase in the disc golf course ratings. At the beginning of the year it rated 99 out of 200 courses and currently it rates 48th. Omland suggested a dog waste bag station be placed on hole #10, additional caution / safety signage on the walking path in some places and also inquired as to when the old baskets will be placed out for bid. The club is also working on a proposal to consider expansion of the course by adding a few more holes. This will be presented at the October meeting. A member of the public inquired as to why we have so large trash cans on every hole and that we should promote “Carry in, Carry out”. The board discussed this and decided that even though they would like to see more people do the right thing by carrying out what they brought in, some people just won't. The garbage cans have been effective in keeping the trails clean; although one on every hole might be overkill and that we should be able to get something more aesthetically pleasing that won't detract from the natural beauty as much.

Trail(s) Updates – Sheean reported things are progressing on all trails. Grant applications for the Boyne Valley Trail should have something soon on the status of their grant applications. The Boyne City to Charlevoix Trail, phase I is working their way through the process of an easement through Young State Park. This issue is between the MDNR and MDOT but is being addressed and will be taken care of soon. The County believes they will be able to get the project out to bid and be on schedule with letting the contract before February for construction in the spring.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Memorial Bench Proposal

Kovolski stated that we have a request from Adam Looze to place a memorial bench on remembrance of William “Bill” Grice. A photo showing what the bench will look like was in the agenda packet, except the color will be black instead of what is shown and it will have a small plaque on it. Teri Looze (Adam's mother) was present to represent the proposal. Teri stated that friends and family have donated funds to purchase the memorial bench and would like to see it placed in a city park or somewhere downtown. Adam and his dad will coordinate the installation of the concrete foundation.

Board Discussion – Sheean said that he thought Old City Park, looking over the river, would be a good location. Bowman stated that is a beautiful bench and agreed that Old City Park is a fitting location. She commented how nice it is that the City works with people and allows memorial benches, trees, etc. Kuhn agreed that he like the looks of the bench but added that there should be some consistency with look of future benches to ensure it is in keeping with the surroundings and current features. Kovolski stated that he thought there would be room right off the sidewalk close to the river. The general consensus of the board was they liked the look of the bench, the saying on the plaque and concurred that if the location Kovolski mentioned will work, it would be a nice place for it.

****MOTION**

VanHorn Moved, Bowman Seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY to recommend approval of the memorial bench in memory of Bill Grice at Old City Park and for the Looze family to work with City Staff on exact placement and logistics.

Avalanche Signage

Kovolski reported that we are still waiting on the Wood Shop for the remaining signs. Conklin added that he had some concerns the vinyl lettering is easily peeled off and also brought to the board’s attention that one of the directional arrows is slightly skewed in the wrong direction.

Dog Park Update

Committee Chair Michele Carter reported the Grand Opening Celebration was a huge success with over 100 people in attendance and 50 - 75 dogs plus one iguana. The donation plaques are in place, drinking fountains have been delivered (installation is being coordinated) and informational rack cards are being made for distribution. Fund-raising is ongoing and some of the next steps are: tree plantings, benches, further development of the agility area (items are being donated and/or sponsored), shade pavilions (some materials and labor have been donated toward these) and an onsite donation tube. Everything is continuing to move forward. Carter brought up the fact there is a need for way finding signage the City should consider. Chair Sheean and members of the board expressed their appreciation toward Carter and those involved with creating the dog park and amazed at how much has been done in a short period of time.

NEW BUSINESS

Art Display Project

City Assistant Planner Annie Doyle gave the board an overview of the proposed walkabout sculpture project. It is proposed to have eight different art sculptures around the downtown. The art selection will be juried. Doyle added that this is a Main Street Project and is being overseen by the Design Committee. The committee worked with City staff to review possible locations that would not have a detrimental impact on driving and walking traffic. The general consensus of the board was they liked and heard positive feedback regarding the current

****MOTION**

sculptures and would like to see more in the future. Kuhn added that he thought the placements shouldn't be restricted to just the proposed locations on the map. **VanHorn moved, Kuhn seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to support the concept of the Walkabout Public Art Project.

**Boyne Valley Lions -
Park Improvement**

Lion Woody was not able to make the meeting but would like to explore park enhancement projects with the Parks board to take back to the Boyne Valley Lions' board and see if there is support to take on a Lion's sponsored community project.

**Avalanche Mountain
Bike Trail Enhancement**

Steve Shnell representing Top of Michigan Mountain Bike Association (TOMMBA) made a presentation on planning and design expertise assistance that the group could contribute to the improvement of trails at Avalanche Park. The plan would evaluate and look at ways to minimize maintenance, control erosion and deterioration. TOMMBA is a regional association that looks at trails throughout northern Michigan. The TOMMBA board chose Avalanche because they felt it had great potential. The value of the assistance is about \$6,000 in master planning and design that could be implemented in the future as funds allow. Hugh Conklin asked if the plan could look at other uses such as cross-country skiing. Forrest Omland thought it was a good idea to have someone evaluate all of the trails at Avalanche. Conklin also asked if once the plan is developed, if there any assistance towards implementation. Shnell stated the group has volunteers that can assist with grant writing has performed some actual trail work.

Board Discussion - Bowman likes that it lends expertise in trails. Kuhn stated that he would like to see a plan that could improve the trail in a way that would improve the overall health of Avalanche. After board discussion the consensus was the City should accept the professional assistance TOMMBA is offering. **Sheean moved, VanHorn seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to recommend the City Commission accepts professional assistance from TOMMBA to create a plan to improve and maintain the Mountain Bike Trail at Avalanche.

****MOTION**

**Trail Town Master Plan
Recommendation**

Chair Sheean summarized the most current version of the Master Plan. Only a few minor items had been incorporated or changed since the last time the board reviewed the plan and provided input. Sheean indicated the plan had been reviewed favorably by the Main Street Board and will be presented to the Planning Commission at their upcoming meeting prior to going to the City Commission.

Board Discussion - The general consensus was if there are no significant changes from the last time it was reviewed, let's move forward with it. **Bowman moved, Sheets seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to support the Trail Town Master Plan and recommends adoption by the City Commission.

****MOTION**

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 6 pm at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

The September 4, 2014 meeting of the Parks and Recreation board was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Barb Brooks, Recording Secretary

Draft