



Approved:

**MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 12, 2015**

**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, FEBRUARY 12, 2015.**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Gail VanHorn and Darryl Parish

**MEETING
ATTENDANCE**

City Staff: City Manager Michael Cain, Streets/Parks & Recreation Superintendent Andy Kovolski and recording secretary Barb Brooks

Public Present: None

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

Meeder moved, Bowman seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, a motion approving the January 5, 2014 meeting minutes as presented.

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

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kovolski reported the only park that has any activity is Avalanche and things are going well there.

CORRESPONDENCE

MML PlacePlans grant award - City Manager Michael gave an overview of the grant process and what the City will receive in the way of assistance. The area being reviewed under the grant is Peninsula Beach to Veterans Park (south of State St.). The City will be looking for volunteers to serve on the steering committee and work directly with the team of consultants and serve as a liaison to the public to engage them in the process.

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

Park Inspection Reports - No reports; at the March meeting the board members will review the list of parks and split them up to track condition and use then report back to staff and the board.

Disc Golf Update - A representative of the Boyne Valley Club was not able to attend the meeting but reported they are still working on their long term vision and plan and are working on a proposal for the tee pads.

Trail(s) Updates – Phase I of the Boyne City/Charlevoix Trail is getting ready to go out to bid.

Dog Park Update – The park is still being used regularly and the users are really starting to take ownership in it. The City crew has been good about keeping the roadway plowed for traffic and parking.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Recreation Master Plan PUBLIC HEARING

A draft version of the Recreation Plan has been available for public review at City Hall and on the City's website. Notification was published in the local newspaper of the draft plan and the public hearing.

The public hearing was opened at 6:13 p.m. Citizen Hugh Conklin inquired about whether the marina and its' expansion plans were going to be included. Recording secretary Brooks indicated that it had been discussed during some of the public meetings and even though the current plan is 10 years old, it will be submitted as an attachment to the overall Recreation Plan. Hearing no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:18 p.m. The general consensus of the board is that all of the public comment has been captured throughout the process and is ready for City Commission consideration for adoption. **Swift moved, Bowman Seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** a motion to pass the resolution for a recommendation of adoption by the City Commission at their February 24, 2015 meeting.

**MOTION

NEW BUSINESS

Cislo Memorial Bench Request

Superintendent Kovolski reported that Ms. Cislo is requesting to sponsor a bench to have placed along the waterfront in Veterans Park or Sunset Park in memory of her late husband. It will be a standard City bench, the same style as in the downtown and Kovolski is recommending the area between the marina and baseball field. The City Manager added that he was pleased to hear that bench being considered is one of our standard benches for cohesiveness and also agreed with the location being recommended. **Sheets moved, Bowman seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** a motion to allow the memorial bench request from Ms. Cislo and that she work with City staff for implementation.

**MOTION

Avalanche Trail Design Concept Report

Steve Schnell from the Top of Michigan Mountain Bike Association (TOMMBA) presented the Avalanche Preserve Recreation Area Conceptual Design Report prepared by the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). TOMMBA and IMBA worked together to create the plan. The cost to develop the plan was \$6,000 supplied by TOMMBA at no cost to the City. The plan is meant to be general and more of an investigation of current conditions, potential challenges and possibilities. Phase II, if the City chose to move forward, would be further developing the plan from concepts to a plan that could be

implemented. The trails are intended to be multi-use (hiking, biking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, etc.). Site distance and signage is key to having user friendly multi-use trail. Schnell also added that the economic benefits to having and promoting good trails are huge. The VASA Trail brings an estimated 2.6 million dollars into the Grand Traverse area.

Board Discussion – The proximity to the archery range was questioned. Schnell stated that the topography is what really creates the separation to the archery range. There was further discussion regarding future funding and maintenance. TOMMBA has a lot of volunteers that log a great deal of volunteer hours to raise funds and provide in kind services for projects. Some type of maintenance agreement could be explored.

****MOTION**

Swift moved, Bowman seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY a motion to support the Avalanche Preserve Recreation Area Conceptual Trail Design Report and encourage the City Commission's support of Report as well as additional design planning work to seek future additional sustainable multi-use trail work at Avalanche Preserve.

**Old City Park Trail
Head Project
(Community Growth
Grant)**

City Manager Michael Cain gave an overview of what the Main Street Design committee has come up as a draft plan; which includes an informational kiosk, water trail signage, way-finding signage, park identification sign (archway) and Wi-Fi. The design committee would like to know if Parks & Rec have any input regarding the project and proposed placement of the items discussed. The general consensus of the board was that it looked good and the design committee should continue to develop the project.

**Pavilion Renovation
Project**

Brooks informed the board that the Veterans Park Pavilion Concept is being moved forward by a citizens' committee who has been working with City staff. Working from Concept 2 that evolved from the charrette, they have started to refine the design and look at funding opportunities. There is a grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) that could potentially fund up to 75% of the estimated \$700,000 project cost. The committee and staff feel it is feasible that the project could begin this year; fund-raise in the spring, planning and bidding through the summer and construction to begin after Labor Day. The committee and staff are looking for support from the board to move forward with potential funding opportunities and to consider budgeting funds in the upcoming 2015/16 budget. The board discussed if moving forward with concept 2 meant that the City was not exploring the option of relocation of the pavilion. City Manager Cain stated that at this time, between the additional cost and the unknown consequences of a different location could potentially hold the project up for years. It was the general consensus of the board that if the committee and staff can find a way to make this happen, they should move forward. **Meeder moved, Patoka seconded, PASSED**

****MOTION**

UNANIMOUSLY to support allocating funds in the upcoming 2015/16

budget and recommend the City Commission allows the Pavilion committee to solicit funds, work with staff to submit grant applications and hire a consultant and start construction as soon as it is financially feasible.

Dog Park Project and Grant Request

Michele Carter with the Ridge Run Dog Park committee requested the boards support in requesting that the City Commission allow staff to submit grant applications to help fund the fitness trail project at Ridge Run Dog Park. Possible grant opportunities are the Charlevoix County Community Foundation and Recreation Passport through the DNR. There was discussion regarding other projects for the City that are looking at funds from the Charlevoix County Foundation and each project would be competing with the other for the same pot of money if all of the applications were submitted. The board discussed whether it was their job to decide which projects should submit applications or if that should be left to the City Commission. City Manager Cain stated that the City Commission will ultimately decide; however, it is the job of the board to look at projects for Parks & Rec. and prioritize and make recommendations. Committee chair Carter indicated in light of these other projects like the Pavilion, she would like to request support for applying to the DNR - Recreation Passport grant at this time and maybe consider the Foundation during their next grant cycle. **Swift moved, Patoka seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** a motion to recommend the City Commission authorizes staff to work with the committee to apply for grant opportunities for a fitness trail at Ridge Run Dog Park.

****MOTION**

MDNR Grant Opportunities

Recording secretary Brooks attended a DNR Grants Program class. She reviewed the various grants offered by the DNR, types of projects that qualify for funding and timelines, amount of funding and process for each grant. She indicated that the City qualifies for these grants and there are many projects listed in the Recreation Plan that fit the criteria of projects they fund. She suggested that the board review the list of projects from the capital improvement plan to evaluate if the City should consider applying for grants to fund any of these projects. Kovolski will review the CIP and upcoming budget and make a recommendation.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 6 pm at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Swift moved, Bowman seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the February 12, 2015 meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Barb Brooks, Recording Secretary