



Approved: March 6, 2014

**MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 6, 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, FEBRUARY 6, 2014.**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Sheean at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Sheean, Bill Kuhn, Jerry Swift, Heath Meeder, Marie Sheets and Jo Bowman

Absent: Darryl Parish and Gail VanHorn

**MEETING
ATTENDANCE**

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

Public Present: Fourteen

****MOTION**

Excused Absence(s): **Kuhn moved, Meeder seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to excuse the absence of VanHorn and Parish due to traveling out of town.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES **MOTION**

Swift moved, Meeder seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, a motion approving the January 2, 2014 meeting minutes as presented.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kovolski reported Avalanche is going well and the staff is doing a great job. It appears that the overall number of users might be down slightly but it could be attributed to the really cold temperatures and wind.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

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

Avalanche - Kuhn, who is working at the warming house, reported that the ice on the rink has been spectacular this winter and the DPW guys have been doing a great job with it. He agreed with Kovolski that the numbers may be down slightly but the weekends are still really busy. He continues to hear great comments about the place and people are appreciative of all we have to offer there.

Disc Golf

Disc Golf – Forest Omland, Jason McCarey and Rob Wiltjer presented a proposal to install a practice basket that would be separate from the course and trails. It would be used as a warm-up / practice area. They also inquired about basket replacements on the course. In order to be a sanctioned course, the baskets all need to be the same and of a certain specification. If these baskets are installed, it would allow for tournaments to be held there, bringing more people to the area and additional use and recognition for the course. The general consensus of the board was to have the club work with staff to look at options for everything discussed plus new tee pads. The board again thanked club members for their continued dedication in improving the disc golf experience at Avalanche.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Veterans Park Pavilion

Between comments received via facebook, comments that Kuhn has heard from users at Avalanche, etc. it seems that the building in concept 2 & 3 is the favored option. Kovolski still believes that the pitch of the roof should be lowered. The grant that was received from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation paid for the architectural services of the charette and concept drawings. There is remaining funds from the grant if we would like to move forward with the design phase. The grant is a 50% matching grant and the Main Street and Farmers Market has committed to the match but would like to see some of the investment come from the Parks and Recreation budget if possible.

Public Comment – Scott MacKenzie stated that he believes that the building as proposed in concept 2 & 3, in the right location, will not block anymore view than the current pavilion. It even opens up more view with the removal of the old pavilion.

Board Discussion: Sheean stated that there is a lot more discussion and research that would need to take place before there is anymore discussion regarding whether the pavilion should be relocated. The question before the board is which building design is the best for the use and aesthetics of the park, should we move forward with the design process and will put money towards matching the grant funds. Meeder asked if staff would have input towards tweaking the design for things such as the roof pitch. Kovolski stated he planned on being a part of the process. **Meeder moved, Bowman seconded, PASSED**

UNANIMOUSLY to move forward with design of the building shown in Concept 2 & 3 and allocate budget funds to assist with the match.

**MOTION

NEW BUSINESS

Dog Park Location Proposal

Members Scott MacKenzie and Michele Carter from the Dog Park committee gave a overview presentation of the committee structure and the background work they have been doing to come to the conclusion for what they feel is the best location. The proposed location includes two City owned parcels at North Boyne. After approval of the location, next steps will be grant writing, fund-raising and further research of

costs, regulations, landscape, materials, etc.

Board discussion: the general consensus of the board was that the volunteer committee has been working hard, have done their homework and presented an informative presentation. They did encourage the committee to continue to seek public input now that they have a recommended location. **Kuhn moved, Sheets Seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to recommend that the City Commission consider a proposed Dog Park at North Boyne including both City owned parcels to the north and south of Ridge St. including the potential of closing Ridge St. to through traffic.

****MOTION**

Trail Town Update

Sheean reported the Trail Town committee has met several times and at the last meeting they discussed possible locations for a downtown trailhead. Old City Park kept rising to the top; Pros are proximity to shopping, restaurants, parking, water access (kayak/canoe launch), a park setting (shade), drinking fountain and room for the future development of restrooms, kiosk and additional bike racks. Cons are no bathroom currently, water (river) access but no lake view, narrowing of the street/bridge on East St and Park St.

Board Discussion – Kovolski stated that he didn't think that it was necessary to designate a trail head at this time that "Trail Town" was more about coming up with a general blueprint for tying trails and economics together; not specifics of any one trail. Sheean explained that because we have proposed future trails that we can use this to plan for them and this experience and master plan as a guide for not only these trails but future trails. Kuhn added that Old City Park really seems to make sense with the tie in to the lake & river. He also added that most of the discussion is about how to get trail users into the downtown by signage, amenities and best route practices. **Meeder moved, Kuhn seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** to recommend the City Commission considers using Old City Park as a downtown trailhead.

2014 / 15 Budget Considerations

The board reviewed proposed projects listed in the current Recreation Plan and discussed the items that were either completed, ongoing or should be potential items for the FY 2014/15 budget. The list of projects they would like to potentially see in the upcoming budget are: pave Avalanche parking lot, removal of trees and slope stabilization on the face of Avalanche, disc golf baskets and tee box replacements, Veterans Park pavilion remodel, Tannery Beach storm water outfall, Old City Park concrete pads, Lower Lake site furnishings and Rotary Park safety nets at ball fields.

Good of the Order

Kuhn updated the board on the targets from the archery range. The repair kit was purchased; Mr. Fruge (who is storing the targets for the winter) refurbished 8 that will be able to be put back into use.

NEXT MEETING

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

**ADJOURNMENT
MOTION

The February 6, 2014 meeting of the Parks and Recreation board was adjourned at 8:09 p.m. **Moved by Bowman, seconded by Sheets, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Barb Brooks

Barb Brooks, Recording Secretary