

Proceedings of the Park & Recreation Committee
October 1, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation (P&R) Committee was held on Monday, October 1, 2012 at 6:00 PM in Conference Room #1, 2nd Floor, Memorial Building, Ironwood, Michigan.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by Chairman Sam Davey.

2. Recording of the Roll

PRESENT: Sam Davey (Chair), Will Andresen, Steve Frank, Tom Kangas, Marion True, Annette Burchell, Ex-Officio Commissioner Monie Shackelford, Community Development Director Michael J.D. Brown

AUDIENCE: Kim Kolesar

3. Approval of the September 6, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Andresen, seconded by Kangas, and carried to accept the September 6, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by True, seconded by Kangas, and carried to accept the agenda with addition of item 6A: Shade Trees at Hiawatha.

5. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on Items on the Agenda. (Three-Minute Limit.)

Kim Kolesar asked to speak on Item 8.

6. City Centre Proposal

Annette Burchell, representing the Downtown Art Place (DAP) committee, presented a draft resolution for consideration, to develop the City Centre building into a downtown art center.

Motion by Frank, seconded by True, and carried (with Burchell abstaining), to fully endorse the plan as presented by the Downtown Art Place group.

Motion by True, seconded by Andresen, and carried (with Burchell abstaining), to recommend that the City Commission establish a sinking fund for City Centre Building capital improvements.

6A. Shade Trees at Hiawatha

Brown received a call from a Hiawatha area resident to request shade trees be installed near Hiawatha park. The committee concurred that it is not yet ready to address this in the short term, but will keep this request in mind for future considerations as the Hiawatha Park plan is designed.

7. Discuss and consider Mt. Zion Mountain Bike Trails

The committee is in general support of the development of a "flow" mountain bike trail near Mt. Zion. As the mountain bike trails group designs a more specific bike trail for approval, that group should GPS their proposed trail and map it for future committee review.

8. Discuss and consider approval of Trail from the regional spine trail to the Miners Memorial Heritage Park (MMHP).

Davey spoke to Keweenaw Land, who said they would offer a yearly easement to use their land for part of this junction trail, but would prefer selling the land to the City for a reasonable price.

Kim Kolesar questioned the location of the junction trail and requested a copy of the map.

Motion by Frank, seconded by Kangas, and carried to approve this Junell Road junction trail.

Proceedings of the Park & Recreation Committee
October 1, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

7. Project Updates

- Monthly Report from Park & Recreation Department. Submitted.
- Bike Racks. Bike racks have been ordered & invoice sent to the grantor: Western U.P. Health Dept.
- Railroad Grade Technical Working Group. Acquisition of non-motorized grade nearing completion.
- River Walk Trails. Andresen noted that another walk-through is scheduled for Tuesday, October 2 at 8am, meeting at the Western U.P. Visitors & Convention Bureau office (west of the fairgrounds).
- Highway 2. MDOT is working on the design. Davey met with an MDOT representative re. road crossings. 5 lanes are planned at the Lake St. & Douglas Blvd intersections. Other P&R committee recommendations were relayed to MDOT. MDOT noted that there is a company wanting to test a pedestrian bridge. Davey mentioned that the Committee would support being a test bed for such a bridge across the Montreal River.
- Washout behind Old Colonial. No update. Davey to follow-up.
- Longyear Park (LP) Donations. Committee to brainstorm possible LP improvements and use the \$22.5K gift as a match for a grant application to procure more funds for improvements.
- Big Screen TV & Moving Meetings to City Commission Room. Davey reported that he is working with the City Staff on this. Shackelford to bring projector to the next meeting.
- Gas Plant. Shackelford updated that she spoke with the EPA rep, who will use landscaping money in the spring. Shackelford suggested purchasing plants from the Conservation District or the Ottawa National Forestry nursery. Shackelford to research Conservation District grant opportunities.

10. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on items not on the Agenda. (Three-minute limit)

- Kim Kolesar requested that committee agenda and minutes be on the city website. Michael Brown stated that he is in the process of learning how to manage the website and plans to have all committees' agendas and minutes up on the website in the future.
- Kim Kolesar reported that the Western U.P. Trail Association (WUPTA) ORV club conducted a safety class and noted that 17 young people participated. WUPTA plans to do 2 safety classes per year.

11. Other Business. (Three-minute limit)

- Frank noted that Norrie Park Recreation Passport Grant work is in progress.
- Kangas noted Hiawatha (50 y. old in 2014), Mt. Zion & Tot Park plans should be designed/reviewed. Frank noted that Hiawatha improvement plans should be in partnership with City, FMMHP and DIDA. Burchell suggested reviewing our 5 year Parks and Recreation Plan.
- Frank questioned whether Burma Road and the side road next to Hiawatha is getting re-ground.

12. Adjourn. *Motion by True, seconded by Kangas to adjourn at 7:24pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Burchell
Acting Secretary

Sam Davey
Committee Chairperson