

# MINUTES

City of Alpena Recreation Advisory Board  
Regular Meeting  
May 10, 2023  
Alpena, Michigan

## CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Dave Kuznicki, Recreation Advisory Board Chair.

## ROLL CALL: RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Present: Melville-Hall, McCumber, Barr, Saddler, Lee (Left at 6:00), Kuznicki

Absent: Pattison

Staff: Charlie Kendziorski (Assistant City Engineer), Rachel Smolinski (City Manager) Left at 5:40, Shannon Smolinski (Engineering Assistant), Cassie Stone (Recording Secretary).

Staff Absent: Steve Shultz (City Engineer)

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Kuznicki requested members receive all members email addresses for contact purposes.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: *Motion made by Melville-Hall, Seconded by Lee, motion carried.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (January 11, 2023, March 8, 2023) *Motion made by Saddler, Seconded by Melville-Hall, motion carried.*

COMMUNICATIONS: None

CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD: None

## NEW BUSINESS:

### 1. Future Recreation Planning Update from City Manager

- Liaison for county wide planning and kick-off – Rachel stated she has been coordinating with the County Administrator on taking a more comprehensive approach to recreation planning in the area. Although it's a year early, it was decided to update the 5-year Recreation Plan, so we are all part of the same planning process. Rachel requested a liaison(s) from the board that can help participate in the planning process. Rachel added the date is unknown currently but there will be a kick-off meeting sometime May/June. The time commitment for involvement is also unknown. Griffin volunteered; Kuznicki will help if Griffin is unavailable. McCumber would also be interested, and once dates are decided Lee might also be interested. Rachel will have more information over the next

week and will report back to the board when she has more information on the planning process for the county wide recreation planning.

- Plaza Pool Update – Rachel stated the Plaza Pool is over fifty years old and located at the high school. There has been a lot of maintenance that has gone into that pool this year. There is an effort at the county level as well as some backing in the community to pursue a new pool. A request for proposals was recently sent out for having someone design the new pool and getting community feedback from a survey. There were six firms that applied; ranging in price from \$60,000 - \$140,000. Rachel added at the last meeting the proposals were scored and will be interviewing firms on May 17<sup>th</sup>. The new pool is proposed to be out at the APLEX location. Rachel will find out how the interviewing goes and exactly what amount needs to be fundraised for the pool design portion of it.

## 2. Mich-e-ke-wis Park Planning

- Farmers Market Feedback – Rachel stated she was contacted a few months ago from the Farmers Market group and they held a strategic planning session to decide what they wanted to do down at that location. The main discussion was the pavilion structure not being big enough but if there was a bigger structure down there it would block the view to the lake. Although the Farmers market has grown over the years the building down there is not solely for the use of that group and is a community pavilion. There are currently no plans or funding right now to put a pavilion down there. There was also talk of possibly putting in some bathrooms at the existing warming shelter in the old locker rooms on the backside of the building since there is water and sewer there already. Rachel added there was also discussion of maybe it would be more appropriate to put in several mini pavilions that would be more user friendly for the community.
- 2023 – 2024 Projects (Volleyball Courts) – Shannon stated they were unavailable to be funded for this budget year but will be in for 2024-2025 budget year. It will give the volleyball teams a little more time to fundraise. Shannon added that we will also be taking some of the unrecycled glass in the area, crush it up with a roller and then it will go through the asphalt machine and will be laid down only on the base course. Rachel stated we can locally source this out as well. Every ton will use 20-30 pounds of glass. A competitive bid will need to be sent out to award the project to a contractor.
- Discuss Playground Equipment Options – Shannon stated the slides can be salvaged at the playground, but we need to replace the worn out slide and monkey bars that are a safety hazard. Shannon added we are looking for something that you are able to climb on and with a slide. Three different options of playground equipment were previewed from Gametime (who is a state purchasing partner) to the board to decide on what would be best. The Rotarians and volleyball people have volunteered to help put the equipment together with some assistance with the employee that comes from Gametime which also saves us a lot of money and the Rotarians have helped with the other playgrounds previously, so they already have experience with assembling. After some discussion of the options presented, members decided to select model 11924 which includes a rock climber and slides. Hoping to have the playground equipment installed this summer.

3. 2023 Skate Park Update – Contractor has started working on putting new boards on the ramps. It's been hit and miss with the weather lately and is hoping to be back working on it. Shannon stated we did not get the last spark grant for the concrete, but their rounds are opening back up again. There is a meeting coming up on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to help the City strengthen their application for the grant so it can be scored in a higher tier than what it previously did on the last grant. Shannon added that they received 471 applications for the grant and only funded 17 of those.
4. Sign update – Still needs to go out for bids. Rachel has suppliers and designers in mind that she has previously worked with. Corbin, Industrial Image and Omega all do great work as well.
5. Next park to focus on for the July meeting will be McRae Park. Will need to get a lions update for the next meeting since they have adopted it.

MEMBERS COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Saddler, seconded by Melville-Hall to adjourn the meeting, motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 by Chair Kuznicki.