



City Hall
208 North First Avenue
Alpena, Michigan 49707
www.alpena.mi.us

AGENDA

City of Alpena Recreation Board Meeting

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.

Alpena, Michigan

This meeting will be in person at City Hall in the Council Chambers as well as the option to join virtually.

The public is welcome to alternately join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/612921149>

You can also dial in using your phone.

Access Code:

612-921-149

United States:

[+1 \(408\) 650-3123](tel:+14086503123)

CALL TO ORDER:

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 11, 2023

COMMUNICATIONS:

CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss Skatepark
 - Review CIP Items
 - Manager/Engineer Comments
 - Open Discussion/Direction



2. Discuss Mich-e-ke-wis Park
 - Review CIP item
 - Manager/Engineer Comments
 - Open Discussion/Direction
3. Future Recreation Planning update from City Manager
4. Select 2 new parks to focus on for the May meeting

MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

NEXT MEETING: May 10, 2023

ADJOURNMENT:

MINUTES

City of Alpena Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
January 11, 2023
Alpena, Michigan

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Dave Kuznicki, Recreation Advisory Board Chair.

ROLL CALL: RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Present: Kuznicki, Lee, Saddler, Pattison, Barr, McCumber, Melville-Hall

Absent: None

Staff: Steve Shultz (City Engineer), Rachel Smolinski (City Manager), Charlie Kendziorski, Cassie Stone (Recording Secretary).

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (October 19, 2022) Motion made by Pattison, Seconded by Saddler, motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss Culligan Plaza – Rachel stated we received over 1700 responses from the survey and about 1,000 comments. The city met with the Culligan Plaza committee and discussed the comments received. The city has been working with Drost Landscaping which is a Petoskey based firm. The First Federal Legacy Foundation hired Drost to present a more professional and polished plan. The committee has seen a number of different designs and those were sent back with some comments that came out of the survey comments. Expecting a design to come back later this month and will meet with the Culligan Plaza committee on January 30th and hope to have that design ready to be presented to council in February. We would then have a few weeks after to receive public comment and hope to have an approved design by the end of February. Any questions or comments the Recreation Board Members have can be emailed to Steve. The City will then have to see how much more money is needed to raise to follow through with the proposed design.

2. NOAA Design Plan for Waterfront Development – Steve showed a proposed design to the members of the board. The drawing showed a shipwreck play structure, fireplaces, and pavilions. They are proposing a huge public area for public enjoyment including a lot of learning areas. There is some money for some areas and looking at raising money for other areas. What is really needed to secure some of this money is some buy in from the city because it will have to eventually be public land or an easement across it to be public land. It is in the beginning stages right now, but a lot of the vegetation has been cleared out already. Rachel added that the City would have to have some sort of a formal agreement in place with the property owner, Jeff Konczak, to secure who is in charge of the maintenance of the equipment and lawn mowing, etc. which would be a lot of extra work for the City to manage and maintain but would provide a huge benefit for the community by providing a connection from NOAA property and the skatepark.
3. Discuss Water Tower/Skate Park and Access to NOAA Development – Have received some parts for the skatepark and should be up and running for this spring. Rachel stated for the March meeting we can pull up a map and find a good location for the skatepark at Mich-e-ke-wis. There will also be a vote for the location change for the concrete park. Will have more discussion about the skatepark at the next meeting.
4. Vote for Two Park Sign Replacement Priority – Hoping to get a request for proposals out in the spring to be able to hire a design company to come up with a few new designs that would complement all new signs going forward. Our current design worked at the time but is now outdated and something new is needed. Lee suggested Mich-e-ke-wis sign to be replaced first as there is a lot of traffic around that area as well as Starlite. Rachel would like to see Thomson sign also because of the poor quality of the sign if there was enough money available at the time. Motion made by Saddler, seconded by Lee to vote for Mich-e-ke-wis and Starlite Beach sign priority replaced and if enough money left, Thomson Park. Motion carried.
5. Two parks to discuss at March Meeting - Skatepark and Mich-e-ke-wis Park
6. Approve 2023 Meeting Schedule – Motion made by Pattison, seconded by McCumber, motion carried.

MEMBERS COMMENTS:

Kuznicki stated that the biggest complaint putting Culligan Plaza in the parking lot which used to be a car dealership who's roof collapsed during a snowstorm so the city bought that and the drug store and the bar next to the drug store. The lack of tax revenue was figured out, what it was going to cost to build those buildings and tear them down and how much would be made off each parking meter and found out it would have been a loss to the city even if every parking space was filled. That was the mindset when Culligan Plaza first came in there.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Melville-Hall, seconded by McCumber to adjourn the meeting, motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 by Chair Kuznicki.

Capital Projects Request Form

City Of Alpena

Project Title:
Status:
Rank:

Fund:
Category:
Department:

Project Location:

Project Description:

Date Prepared:
Preparer:
Inception Date:
☐ Connected to Master Plan

Account No.:

Expenditure Schedule by Fiscal Year

2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	Long Range	Total
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="\$1,000,000"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="\$1,000,000"/>

Funding Source

General Fund <input type="text"/>	Equipment Fund <input type="text"/>	Special Assessment <input type="text"/>	Bond <input type="text"/>
Sewer Fund <input type="text"/>	Major Street Fund <input type="text"/>	Grant <input type="text" value="\$1,000,000"/>	Grant Source <input type="text" value="Spark Grant"/>
Water Fund <input type="text"/>	Local Street Fund <input type="text"/>	Other <input type="text"/>	Specify Source <input type="text"/>
IT Fund <input type="text"/>	Total		<input type="text" value="\$1,000,000"/>

Explanation/Justification/Connection to Master Plan

The current skate park has begun to deteriorate to the point it has become dangerous. In 2022, ARPA funds were used to make temporary repairs to the facility, however, members of the community have requested that a new permanent concrete structure be installed.

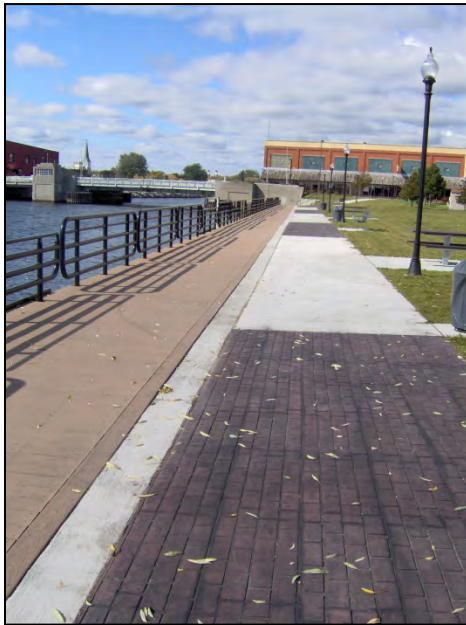
-
- 16. North Riverfront Park** located off Fletcher Street near the mouth of the Thunder Bay River within the City's downtown area, behind the Post Office. This park has 570 feet of river frontage. A parking lot and boat launch is provided on this site. A section of the park is also fenced and dedicated as the Thomas Safford Dog Park.

In 2007-2008, the City implemented a number of improvements at North Riverfront Park aided by a grant from the MDNR. The improvements include the installation of a cantilevered walkway with barrier free access and rail sections allowing fishing for all parties. The improvements also included flower, shrub, and tree plantings and the installation of an irrigation system to ensure the livelihood of plant material and reduce runoff to the river. Amenities were also installed in the park including benches, picnic tables, walkways, water and power access and a drinking fountain. These improvements have opened up this previously unimproved park for expanded and enhanced activities. The project, due to available funding, had to be curtailed and elements originally planned for were deleted from the project with hopes of being able to fund them in the future. These include the resurfacing and restriping of the parking lot, parking lot lighting, and installation of water and power access points throughout the park.

Type: Special Use Park

Service Area: City of Alpena; boat launch serves wider area.

Barrier Free Accessibility = 4. This facility is barrier-free.



-
- 17. Riverside Skate Park/Water Tower Park** is located on Ninth Avenue near the Ninth Avenue Bridge. A collaborative effort between a skateboarding/in-line skating group, concerned citizens, and the City resulted in the development of this community recreational skateboarding park. The project began in 1997 by a group of area youth involved in Get Excited And Rally (GEAR), with the help of many community supporters. As the proposal gained recognition, committees were formed and public information sessions were held. In the spring of 1998, this well-planned project resulted in the selection of Water Tower Park on Ninth Avenue as the location for the skateboarding facility. With youth and adults working together, the central location of Water

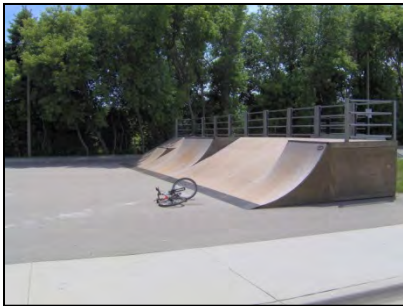
Tower Park provides recreational opportunities for skateboarding and in-line skating. Stunt bikes are not allowed at the facility. Although the park is youth-oriented, it provides all residents of the City of Alpena with the opportunity to participate in this popular activity in a safe and user-friendly environment. A second mini-skate park for beginners was constructed in 2006.

In 2006, with the assistance of a grant from the MDEQ, improvements to Water Tower Park were installed. A 10' wide section of lighted Bi-Path was extended across the park from Ninth Avenue (which connected to a section of the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail that extends to Second Avenue). Additional park improvements undertaken during this project included the construction of a barrier free fishing pier along the waters edge, the installation of an irrigation system and terraced rain garden (to control runoff to the river), landscaping upgrades, and the installation of new picnic tables.

Type: Special Use Park

Service Area: City of Alpena

Barrier Free Accessibility = 4. This facility is barrier-free.



-
- 18. Rotary Island Mill Park** is located in the Thunder Bay River between Sixth and Seventh Streets. Owned by the Rotary Club of Alpena, this park was developed for recreational use with fishing sites and pathways. In 2007, a pedestrian bridge linking the island to the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail was installed. This bridge established a connected, non-motorized pathway to both sides of the Thunder Bay River. It also effectively integrated the island into the City park system. In 2008, the Rotary Club signed a maintenance agreement with the City of Alpena whereas the City will maintain specified improvements on the island in exchange for a public access easement across the island.

Type: Mini-Park (Private Park with Granted Public Access)

Service Area: City of Alpena

Barrier Free Accessibility = 4. This facility is barrier-free.

MAP 21: RIVERSIDE SKATE PARK/WATERTOWER PARK



Capital Projects Request Form

City Of Alpena

Project Title:
Status:
Rank:

Fund:
Category:
Department:

Project Location:

Project Description:

Date Prepared:
Preparer:
Inception Date:
☐ Connected to Master Plan

Account No.:

Expenditure Schedule by Fiscal Year

2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	Long Range	Total
<input type="text" value="\$330,505"/>	<input type="text" value="\$150,000"/>	<input type="text" value="\$450,000"/>	<input type="text" value="\$450,000"/>	<input type="text" value="\$300,000"/>	<input type="text" value="\$300,000"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="\$1,980,505"/>

Funding Source

General Fund	<input type="text" value="\$580,505"/>	Equipment Fund	<input type="text"/>	Special Assessment	<input type="text"/>	Bond	<input type="text"/>
Sewer Fund	<input type="text"/>	Major Street Fund	<input type="text"/>	Grant	<input type="text" value="\$1,300,000"/>	Grant Source	<input type="text" value="MDNR"/>
Water Fund	<input type="text"/>	Local Street Fund	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="text" value="\$100,000"/>	Specify Source	<input type="text" value="Volleyball"/>
IT Fund	<input type="text"/>					Total	<input type="text" value="\$1,980,505"/>

Explanation/Justification/Connection to Master Plan

The project will include the following: relocation of the volleyball courts, installation of horseshoe pits, pump track, and a play structure, development of a bike path throughout the park with amenities, paving of the drive and parking areas, and construction of 1-2 pavilion structures for the community activities. The cost estimates are very rough at this time and will be refined as the project design develops. Part of the Comprehensive Plan 1.3.A 2023-24 will include new volleyball court construction and a portion of green infrastructure if grants are awarded. This also includes the dune restoration project with Huron Pines.



Mich-e-kis-wis Park Existing and Future Facilities 2021-2025

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS
 Refer to Mich-e-kis-wis Park
 Master Plan for more details on
 planned improvements.

15. Mich-e-ke-wis Park is an approximately 20-acre park located on Lake Huron along State Avenue, between Thunder Bay Avenue and Mason Street. The park includes two youth/women's ball fields, playground equipment, a BMX bike park (designed for younger riders), volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, a beach area, picnic area, an enclosed warming/general park shelter building, and off street parking. The park is revered for the natural beauty of its shoreline and scenic views of Lake Huron. Sections of the City's Bi-Path rung through the park along the Lake Huron Shoreline. The warming shelter has been leased to a private business offering fitness programs and recreational equipment rentals.

In 2020 the City of Alpena completed the development of a Mich-e-ke-wis Park Master Plan. The plan was developed with thorough public input and makes recommendations for many park improvements. Some of the new improvements identified include: A multi-use pavilion, quiet area with pedestrian pathway, additional volleyball courts, and a bike pump-track. The plan also calls for rearranged and paved parking areas, upgraded playground equipment, and improved amenities such as picnic tables, benches, bike racks, and site lighting and landscaping. The Mich-e-ke-wis Park Master Plan can be seen in **Appendix D**.

Type: Community Park

Service Area: Alpena County

Barrier Free Accessibility = 2. Some of this facility is barrier free. The parking areas are not paved and there are no barrier free pathways leading to park features.



