

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, February 13, 2019
10 AM
Minutes**

Vice-Chair Phyllis Mangone called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., in the Council Chambers of the Iron River City Hall.

Roll Call: Keith Hamel, Dan Hinch, Rick Sheltrou, Craig Richardson (10:11 am) and Mangone.

Absent: Terry Tarsi and Tyler Upperstrom.

Also present: City Manager David Thayer and City Clerk Rachel Andreski.

Public in attendance:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVE AGENDA

Hinch moved, with support from Richardson, to approve the Agenda as written. All were in favor; Motion carried. Absent: Tarsi and Upperstrom.

APPROVE MINUTES

Hamel moved, with support from Hinch, to approve the January 9, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as written. All were in favor; Motion carried. Absent: Tarsi and Upperstrom.

REPORTS

Manager's Report:

Thayer has been narrowing down the scope of duties for the planning consultant to assist us with the writing of the new Community Recreation Plan. He has also been interviewing prospects to perform the work, and is receptive to OHM out of Hancock. The Committee will perform the legwork, and when the consultant attends our meeting in April, our existing expired plan will be updated. The consultant will write the Plan and be present for the two public hearings. After the Committee approves the Plan, it will be presented to the City Council for their adoption, and then forwarded to the State for filing. Thayer has allocated \$5,000 to complete these tasks, but is confident the cost will be \$3,000-\$5,000. He stresses input by the Committee is very important.

Thayer is still working on the conversion issue with the State of Michigan regarding the MDNR Grant for Ice Lake Park. He is currently compiling a CDBG Grant Application for a pocket park on Genesee Street, and is hopeful the project will satisfy the conversion issue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Recreation Plan:

Mark-up 2011-2016 Community Recreation Plan (add/amend):

At the last regular meeting, Thayer requested the group continue reading the old Plan and be prepared to make recommendations at the next regular meeting. His tentative schedule is to have a consultant present at the April meeting, leaving February and March for review. Thayer strongly urges the group to bring their marked up copy to the next regular meeting.

Richardson asked if we should include the Windsor Center as they are eligible for MDNR Grants on their own. Thayer agreed they should be listed as a community asset. Richardson has language already drafted as he participated in composing Stambaugh Township's Plan.

Richardson explained that this Plan is a wish list so keep that in mind when performing the review. Thayer added that items to possibly include are a dog park, soccer complex and pickle ball courts. Thayer has been meeting with the Iron River Soccer Association regarding the City owned 33 acres on Coolidge/Kofmehl Road. The Association received a preliminary plan that included eight soccer fields, concessions, multipurpose building, storage garage, perimeter fence and parking lot. The major expense is ground leveling. The current cost estimate is \$1M.

Thayer considered constructing a bike path on Spruce Street from M-189 to Washington Avenue. Unfortunately, the bridge isn't wide enough. His current plan is to install sidewalk on Washington Avenue from Genesee to Adams Street (by McDonalds). Thayer also considered the installation of pilings 20-25 feet in depth in the wet areas on the boardwalk of Apple Blossom Trail. Because it was constructed on a bog, it's a very expensive fix. Instead, a full inventory will be taken and improvements done to for \$5,000-\$6,000.

Another possibility is to improve the Iron River by Subway for a picnic area, kayak and canoe launch. Richardson reminded the group that the more we expand, the more maintenance is required. For the sake of the plan, it these items should be incorporated because it has to be included in the event there is available funding. Richardson added he attended the Soccer Association's meeting and it was discussed they would be responsible for maintaining the park.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mangone moved to adjourn at 10:36 a.m. Hinch seconded. All in favor; Motion carried. Absent: Tarsi and Upperstrom.



Rachel Andreski, City Clerk