

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 14, 2019
10:30 AM
Minutes**

Chairman Craig Richardson called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m., in the Council Chambers of the Iron River City Hall.

Roll Call: Keith Hamel, Dan Hinch, Phyllis Mangone, Rick Sheltraw, Terry Tarsi and Richardson.

Absent: None.

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

Public in attendance:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVE AGENDA

Tarsi moved, with support from Hinch, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Mangone moved, with support from Sheltraw, to approve the June 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as written. All were in favor; Motion carried.

REPORTS

Manager's Report: Thayer said today's task to accomplish is to reach a consensus for the public input process of our draft Community Recreation Plan. We need to perform extensive outreach for public comment of what is needed in our community. Thayer also would like to finalize the draft Plan of the Goals and Objectives and approve the format that it's been submitted. This document will be a source for people to review/comment.

Thayer would like to hold a public hearing to receive comments at the next regular meeting, which is September 11th. Also at that meeting, Thayer would like to approve the draft document, including comments, which will be posted for 30 days. Thayer expects the finalized document from OHM by October 1st. Another public hearing will be scheduled before the November 6th Regular Meeting to receive public comment on the draft plan. The Committee can approve the Plan at this meeting. Thayer explained the same day, Council will have a hearing to receive comments on the Plan and approve, which will then be sent to the State for approval. Thayer said notices of the public hearings will be in the newspaper, on the City's website and Facebook page. Richardson suggested advertising on telephone time.

Hamel asked when the last time the city received a MDNR grant. Richardson stated the Nelson Field ADA Accessibility Project. He added we submitted for improvements to Ice Lake Park, and we ran into the conversion issue. Thayer stated this issue will be resolved.

Tarsi moved, Hamel seconded, to approve the City Manager's Report. All were in favor; Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Community Recreation Plan Approval Process/Plan: Richardson asked how the Goals and Objectives document was composed. Thayer said Vanessa Warren of OHM used our list as a template, spent three hours touring each park and compiled a draft. Thayer reviewed this draft, edited it and changes were incorporated, and this is Draft 2.

Thayer added that maintenance issues were not incorporated into the Plan. Those items will be addressed separately and perhaps expedited.

Tarsi asked if the plan was still to combine the three parks and form one in Mineral Hills. Thayer said after discussion with residents in the James location, that park receives little use as well as the Homer Park. He said Forbes Park has public housing on both sides and far more children in that area and would like to improve this one. Tarsi asked if we will move the equipment from the other two parks to this location. Thayer said no, that the unsafe equipment will be removed, but leave the rest and continue to maintain. If grant monies are available, then we will apply and see if we can replace. Mangone disagreed with Thayer about the use of the James Location Park and said there are more children that use it than you think. Tarsi agrees as he drove through there.

Mangone was asked if trees could be planted between the pickle ball court and tennis courts at Nelson Field as there's no shade. Sheltrou said there is storm and sanitary sewer running along there. Thayer responded that a concrete pad with gazebo would be a better idea as it may take 20 years to get shade from trees, and he will add it to the draft Plan.

Hamel asked if a meeting has been scheduled with the school to see if common goals can be reached. Tarsi said our agreement states we are to meet yearly and he doesn't know when the last time that has been done.

Thayer noticed the Dog Park was eliminated from the Plan and will add it back in.

Mangone left 11:18 a.m.

Hamel would like to publicize and host an inflatable water park at Ice Lake like Van Riper has, perhaps it could be rented for a week. He also suggested organizing a volunteer clean-up day as it may be a way to spark interest of involvement.

Tarsi moved, Hinch seconded to approve the Draft Goals and Objectives of the City's Five-Year Plan as amended. Absent: Mangone.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Tarsi requested filling our student position on the board. Thayer said he has had discussion with a school representative, and he is looking to find someone to fill the vacancy.

ADJOURNMENT

Tarsi moved to adjourn at 11:28 a.m. Hinch seconded. All in favor; Motion carried. Absent: Mangone.



Rachel Andreski, City Clerk