

ONTONAGON RECREATION COMMISSION

HELD AT 5:10 PM ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2017

AT 315 QUARTZ STREET, ONTONAGON, MI

PRESENT: Jill Johnson – Chairperson, **Members:** Dawn Miller, Arnie Bolo, Tony Smydra, Sarah Wagner, Sue Kempen, **Manager,** Joe Erickson, **Guests:** Robert Rotundo, and Gunnard Kyllonen.

ABSENT:

CALL TO ORDER:

At 5:10 pm the meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA:

A motion was made by Miller, second by Bolo, (CARRIED) to approve the agenda with the additions of Item C-Change time of Meeting; Item D – update on RICC Park and Item E- Old Elementary School.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Miller, second by Kempen, (CARRIED) to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2017 Recreation Commission

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR: None

BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. RECREATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The 5 year Recreation Plan goals and objectives need to be put on the 5 year action plan including the Marina. The coverage should be from 2018-2022.

Brainstorming items and goal completion years were discussed:

- Signage at Parks – possible grant for 1 year and project for 4 years.
- Bathroom and signage at Rose Island – anything else left to be completed after this year should be done in 2018.
- Park signage.
- Benches at Lakeshore and James K. Paul Park.
- Picnic tables at the Parks and Marina.
- Sidewalk on East Pier – lighting has been fixed – this could be a grant opportunity – goal of 2019 or 2020.
- Access from beach to the pier – options of private funding or trust fund grant.
- Beach access along Lakeshore.
- Additions to RICC Park – adopt a bench or landscaping.
- Move one of the floating docks from the Marina side to the Island side.
- Rail Yard – work with the State of Michigan, Village, Recreation Committee and MiTRALE for green space area. Also build a deck over the railroad bridge for ORV use. Goal of 2020 and 2021.
- Rail Yard landscaping goal to be completed by 2019.

- Safety of school playground equipment – we will need to repairs the equipment if the Village takes over the building.
- Jim Michel talked about safe biking trails, roads and walking areas. He has suggested a media/education champagne to educate the public. This is part of the Complete Streets Program.

B. HOUGHTON STREET PROJECT – SIDEWALKS, TREES

The commission talked about the 6’ pathway along the Houghton Street for walkway and biking along the west side. They discussed removal of old trees and replant with new trees between the road and private property. Manager will put a letter together for the property owners.

C. CHANGE OF MEETING TIME:

A motion was made by Smydra, second by Miller, (CARRIED) to set the time of the Recreation Meeting to 5:00 p.m. and revisit in 3 months if it needs to be changed.

D. UPDATE ON RICC PARK

- Tony Smydra and Joe Erickson will be working with the Hospital on a few items for the contract.
- Bricks have been ordered at the price of .44 cents per brick. When they come in we will need help from the RICC Group.
- The sign will state in cooperation with Aspirus Hospital.
- We will need top soil
- Finalize the benches and picnic tables of the recycled material
- The RICC Group has requested the park to be a Non-Smoking Park – it will have all handicap accessible picnic tables.

E. OLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Old elementary School is on the tax abandoned property list in town. It has all the asbestos removed from the building and it has an elevator that goes to the 2nd floor. The boilers are reasonable new. The building was built by a women architect in 1938.

Thursday, May 25, 2017 there will be a Town Hall Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Gogebic Ontonagon Community Action Agency. The meeting topic is “Should the Village acquire the Old Elementary School.”

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURN:

At 6:30 p.m. a motion was made by Michel, second by Kempen, (CARRIED) to adjourn.

Marcia Aho-Black, Village Clerk

Date approved