

**Proceedings of the Park & Recreation Committee  
September 6, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation (P&R) Committee was held on Thursday, September 6, 2012 at 6:00 PM in Conference Room #1, 2nd Floor, Memorial Building, Ironwood, Michigan.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by Chairman Sam Davey.

2. Recording of the Roll

PRESENT: Sam Davey (Chair), Will Andresen, Steve Frank, Tom Kangas, Marion True, Annette Burchell, Ex-Officio Commissioner Monie Shackelford, Community Development Director Michael J.D. Brown, City Manager Scott Erickson

3. Approval of the August 6, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

*Motion by Andresen, seconded by Kangas, & carried to accept the Aug 6, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes.*

4. Approval of the Agenda

*Motion by True, seconded by Kangas, and carried to accept the agenda with amendments.*

5. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on Items on the Agenda. (Three-Minute Limit.) *None.*

6. Discuss and Consider Approving Bids for Bike Racks.

*Motion by Frank, seconded by True, and carried to recommend purchasing three of the 5-bike capacity Plastisol Coated bike racks (\$310 each), four of the 9-bike capacity (\$425 each), placing 2 large racks at LLWright School, 1 large rack at-Sleight School, 1 large rack at Library, 1 smaller rack at Memorial Building, 1 smaller rack at Skate Park, 1 smaller rack at Lake & Ayer Park. When possible, black PVC recommended.*

7. Project Updates

- Monthly Report from Park & Recreation Department. Report was not available for the meeting packet, but will be emailed to the committee.
- Railroad Grade Technical Working Group. Will Andresen, Monie Shackelford, Tom Kangas, Sam Davey, Annette Burchell and Scott Erickson offered to work on Trust Fund and Recreation Passport Grant applications to try and boost the preliminary scores.
- River Walk Trails. Will Andresen noted that Ironwood Township should be included in the River Walk Trail committee, along with the municipalities of Hurley, Ironwood, and Kimball. Ironwood Township has asked for 2 representatives to be involved on this committee.
- Highway 2. MDOT is working on the design. The City will have to apply for an enhancement grant, probably in October. MDOT representative to talk about corridor access and major road crossings. Crossings at Luxmore, Curry, Lake, Douglas, and Broadway were recommended, as well as one near the Montreal River bridge. Sam Davey to work with Scott Erickson and MDOT representative.
- Washout behind Old Colonial. Scott Erickson to have Bob Richards inspect the wash out for grading.
- Drinking Fountains. Adding drinking fountains to Longyear Park, Hiawatha Rotary Skatepark and Patterson Tennis Courts will be addressed in the future as road work is done near those areas.

8A. Discuss and consider Mt. Zion mountain bike trails. Davey reported that a mountain bike group, coordinated through Hobby Wheel, is exploring the installation of mountain bike trails at Mt. Zion. GCC is in support of the trails intersecting the ski trails. Bike trails will be linked to other trail systems.

8B. SISU reroute near Penokee Road. SISU SkiFest Committee requested that the race route near Penokee Rd. be moved to the upper railroad grade.

- *Motion by Andresen, seconded by Kangas, and carried to allow the SISU SkiFest Committee to reroute the race route to the upper grade.*

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- *Motion by Andresen, seconded by Kangas, and carried to recommend the approval for the City to initiate a quiet title process to determine ownership of the entire railroad grade belt line from Penokee Road to Norrie Park Road.*

8C. FMMHP permission to use herbicides for invasive weeds in the MMHP.

Shackleford reported that there is poison ivy on the Pabst Loop of the Miners Memorial Heritage Park (MMHP), and the Friends of the MMHP would like to treat the poison ivy, as well as exotic species of honeysuckle bushes and common / glossy buckthorn sites as appropriate once per year. Poison ivy is indigenous.

- *Motion by Frank, seconded by True, and carried to approve herbicidal use annually to remove buckthorn, honeysuckle and poison ivy in the MMHP.*

8D. Old Gas Plant. The EPA is remediating the area near the old gas plant on the Montreal River. Input is needed in the next 2 weeks as to how to return that area. The area needs to be considered in long-term 20 year plan for River Walk loop potential.

8E. Bike paths on Hemlock. Frank noted that it seemed odd that no on-street parking was available on the redone Hemlock Street. It was noted that there never was on-street parking on Hemlock. The new bike lanes did not affect the on-street parking; on-street parking was not previously available.

9. Discuss and consider upgrades to Longyear Park. Davey mentioned that an anonymous gift (between \$20K-\$30K) was donated specifically for Longyear Park. The committee is asked to brainstorm park improvement ideas, and ponder using that donation as matching funds for greater improvements to Longyear Park.

10. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on items not on the Agenda. (Three-minute limit). *None.*

11. Other Business. (Three-minute limit)

- Davey noted that the committee should look at Junell Road (an unbuilt city road) trail development to connect the main trail corridor to Ayer St and the MMHP.
- Andresen noted the need for a city-wide comprehensive trail plan.
- Frank noted the desire for a big city map or a big screen tv with a computer connected for committee member reference. Davey to talk to Scott Erickson on this request.

12. Adjourn. *Motion by Burchell to adjourn at 7:34pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Burchell  
Acting Secretary

Sam Davey  
Committee Chairperson