



213 S. Marquette St. Ironwood, MI 49938
Memorial Building, Conference Room #1, 2nd Floor

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Recording of the Roll
3. Approval of the March 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on Items on the Agenda (Three-Minute Limit)
6. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit)
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration
 - a. Safe Routes to School
8. Project Updates
 - a. Master Trail Plan
 - b. Civic Center Bond
9. Other Business
10. Next Meeting: May 6, 2013
11. Adjournment



**Proceedings of the Parks and Recreation Committee
Monday March 4, 2013, 6:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee was held on Monday, March 4, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. in the Community Development Conference Room, Memorial Building, Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Call to Order:

Chair Davey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Recording of the Roll:

MEMBER	PRESENT		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Andresen, Will	X			
Burchell, Annette		X	x	
Davey, Sam – Chair	X			
Frank, Steve	X			
Kangas, Tom	X			
Shackelford, Monie, ex-officio, non-voting		X	X	
True, Marion	X			
Vuorenmaa, Bruce		X		X

Also present, Community Development Director Michael J.D. Brown and Will Corcoran from Festival Ironwood.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

Motion by Frank to accept the Minutes of February 4, 2013. **Second** by Andresen. **Motion Carried 5 – 0.**

4. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion by Andresen to approve the Agenda. **Second** by True. **Motion carried 5 - 0**

5. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on Items on the Agenda (Three-Minute Limit):

None

6. Citizens wishing to address the Committee on items not on the Agenda (Three-minute limit):

None.

7. Items for Discussion and Consideration:

a. Will Corcoran discussed Festival Ironwood:

Corcoran expressed that the Pavillion was not just built for Festival Ironwood and gave an update as to last year's large crowds and activities.

This year Festival Ironwood will still have a car show.

Parking is going to be brought up a lot from the vendors to patrons. This year the Festival is doing some very different things and will probably bring criticisms.

Davey stated that the weather could be a problem; however a tarp will be put on the Pavillion to extend it.

Discussion was had about sand volleyball courts. Frank was concerned that Manny's used to have volleyball courts but no longer. He stated that there is no interest in having volleyball courts and is not an efficient use of that space. He is more in favor of putting basketball hoops downtown.

True stated that he would rather see Norrie Park with the volleyball courts because of restroom space and picnic space. However, his first choice would be to have it at Don & GGi's restaurant.

Corcoran has basic prices to put in a volleyball court. Davey stated that there is no money in the Park's budget nor the cities. Davey doesn't think it would hurt to try this.

Davey stated that the Park will be finished before Festival Ironwood. Questions were had that if the volleyball court did not succeed, who is responsible to removing it? This is not an easy, reversible position per Frank.

Motion by Davey to approve the Volleyball Courts with no costs to the City to erect the courts, nor any costs to the City if this volleyball court should have to be removed. The **Motion** also includes a recommendation that this matter be sent to the City Commission. **Second** by Andresen. **Motion carried 4 to 1** with Frank dissenting.

Tom Kangas commented and commended Festival Ironwood for presenting a great program every year.

8. Items for Discussion and Consideration.

a. Longyear Park/Norrie School Site:

Davey stated that the older playground equipment from Longyear will move to Norrie School Site from Longyear. We have the grant for Longyear. No action needs to be taken tonight on the item. Frank stated that whatever we do, handicap accessibility (unified play) is a must. Director Brown stated that the Grant is due April 1, 2013 and would be presented to the City Commission on Monday, March 11, 2013. The issue of putting a City Park at the Norrie School Site still needs to be discussed with the School District. Parks and Recreation directed Director Brown to begin discussion with the School District about the site.

b. 2013 Budget Items:

Davey stated that the Committee cannot have an actual budget. The Committee would like to ask the City Commission for some small amount of money, say for putting up basketball hoops or other small projects. The Committee asked Director Brown to approach the City Commission regarding a small amount of money for this Committee.

c. US 2 South Side Sidewalk:

All of the sidewalks on the south side of US2 will be removed and if the City wants them reinstalled, they City will have to pay for it.

Motion by Andresen to instruct the City Staff to discuss with the State that the south sidewalk not be replaced and that the City maintain the North sidewalk all four seasons. No south side to be added in. **Second** by Frank. **Motion Carried 4 to 1** with True dissenting.

Question was had by Frank regarding reducing the speed limit. Discussion was had reducing the speed limit from 25mph or to 35mph.

Motion by Frank to instruct City Staff to strongly advocate to the State to reduce the speed to 25mph. **Second** by True. **Motion carried 5 to 0.**

9. Project Updates:

- a. Master Trail Plan: This plan is not done yet. Davey hopes to bring the preliminary plan to the next meeting for discussion regarding motorized and non-motorized trails.

10. Other Business: (Schackleford arrived 6:59 p.m.)

- a. Andresen stated that the Riverwalk project is moving ahead. Hurley, Kimball and Montreal are all getting on board with this project. Davey stated that the Ironwood Township Board is in agreement with this. A regional trail fund has been had with these towns and they seem to support this idea at this time.

11. Next Meeting:

April 1, 2013.

12. Adjournment:

Motion by True. **Second** Andresen. **Motion** Carried. Adjournment 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Sam Davey, Chair

Kim M. Coon, Community Development Assistant

Michael Brown

From: Ian Shackleford <ianks@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 1:41 AM
To: 'Ian Shackleford'; 'Monie Shackleford'; 'Robert Burchell'; 'Stewart Bentley'; 'Sam Davey'; 'John Lorensen'; 'John Lorensen'; 'Andrew DiGiorgio'; 'Jason Hofstede'
Cc: 'Zachary Strickler'; 'Michelle Kanipes'; Michael Brown; 'Tim Kolesar'; 'Carolyn Mieloszyk'; 'Candee Wiemer'; 'Jennifer Burla'; 'Phil Strong'; 'Kim Corcoran'
Subject: Safe Routes to School: Winter Walking Audit
Attachments: Winter Routes To School.pdf; School_Property_Assessment.pdf; Walking_Audit_What_To_Look_For.pdf

Hello!

Thanks to everyone that came to our first Safe Routes to School meeting March 4. Since then we've been working on registering the schools with the Michigan Safe Routes to School program.

One item that came up during our meeting was doing a **winter walking audit**. The standard sequence of events is register with Safe Routes to School, do a big student/parent survey, and then do a [walking/biking audit](#). And we will still do that, with a formal walking/biking audit this spring. But it might be good to collect some winter information before the snow melts.

A walking audit consists of walking a route to school, preferably while students are on their way to or from school, collecting some information on safety hazards, and answering some questions. According to the handbook it takes about an hour. Materials needed include a clip board, pencil, map, camera, the attached list of what to look for, and the attached school property assessment form (questions for around the school).

May I solicit volunteers to help with a winter audit within the next 1-2 weeks? I imagine we could have a discussion by email, volunteers could pick or be assigned a route or two, and they could do it at their convenience.

This leads to the question: what routes should we do? The attached map shows the schools, streets near the schools, and sidewalks that are being cleared this winter.

Lowell Street, Ayer Street, and Lake Street all have sidewalks cleared by the City. Would anyone like to volunteer to do any of those?

What else? Monie and I looked at the map this evening, and came up with these questions...

- How do students that live east of Sleight School walk to Sleight School? Do they walk west to Lowell and use the cleared sidewalk? Are any students walking to Sleight on Douglas Blvd (rather busy)?
- How do students in the Douglas/Greenbush neighborhood walk to Norrie/Wright? Do they walk west to Lowell (sidewalk cleared) or east to Curry (sidewalk not cleared)?
- How many students from the Aurora and Jesseville neighborhoods walk to Norrie/Wright? I imagine they take Frenchtown Road. Is that a route someone should audit?
- How many students from the Norrie neighborhood walk to Norrie/Wright? How do they get there in the winter? Is Burma Road a route someone should audit?
- How many students north of US 2 walk to Norrie/Wright in the winter? Where do they cross? How many of them walk Curry Street to school?

Please reply with your thoughts or questions! If you have time to do a winter walking audit, let me know and I'll share what routes get covered by whom.



Safe Routes

Walking Audit: What to Look For

As you walk your route, notice sidewalks/trails, street crossings, speed of traffic, school zone signs and other general barriers along the way. Write the problem on your map and take a picture of it. Number your observations so they correspond to your pictures. Include all hazards you observe.



EXAMPLES OF WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

Sidewalks/Trails

1. No sidewalk or trail
2. Too narrow
3. Too close to street
4. Too many driveways crossing sidewalk or trail
5. Blocked/cluttered (shrubs overgrown, car parked over it, etc.)
6. Not maintained (broken/cracked, ice/snow, puddles, trash/broken glass)
7. Not well lit

Street Crossings

1. Road too wide
2. Traffic volume too high
3. Too many lanes
4. No traffic signal to stop vehicles
5. No pedestrian signal
6. Timing of signals inadequate (too slow, too fast, doesn't work)
7. View of oncoming traffic is blocked (list by what...a car, trees, etc.)
8. Poorly designed curb ramps (need repair or widening, etc.)
9. Need curb ramps
10. Not well lit
11. Drivers don't yield to pedestrians

Speed

1. Posted speed limit is too fast for pedestrian traffic
2. Speed limit is not being obeyed

School Zone

1. No advance signs indicating driver is approaching a school zone
2. No signs indicating driver has entered a school zone
3. No signs indicating crosswalks
4. No signs indicating school zone speed limit
5. Existing signage is discolored, faded, damage/vandalized or outdated (e.g., wrong color)
6. Posted speed limit is too fast for school zone

Other Barriers

1. Driver's sightline is limited/small children walking or biking are blocked from view.
2. Abandoned car(s)
3. Abandoned/boarded up building(s)
4. Area of known (or suspected) crime (drug dealers, drug houses, gangs. etc.)
5. Loose dog(s)
6. Dark corners, hiding places, or no other people present



Safe Routes

School Property Assessment

Observe the areas around entrances of buildings, the drop-off/loading areas, biking facilities, etc. Consider the following and note what you observe and suggest for each.



On CD

1. Students exiting/entering cars are protected from other vehicles.

Yes No NOTES:

For example:

- Students step onto a raised sidewalk
- Students don't exit from the car onto a street
- Students don't have to cross through a parking lot
- Students don't have to walk between other vehicles

2. Students exiting/entering buses are protected from other vehicles.

Yes No NOTES:

For example:

- Students step onto a raised sidewalk
- Students don't have to cross through a parking lot
- Students don't have to walk between other vehicles

3. Students who walk or bike have safe routes off the road while on school grounds.

Yes No NOTES:

For example:

- There are sidewalks and/or separated pathways
- The grounds are free of conflicting driveways

4. Students who walk or bike are protected from vehicles as they approach/leave the school entrance.

Yes No NOTES:

For example:

- Walkers and bikers have a separate entrance
- Walkers and bikers don't have to cross through cars to enter or exit
- Walkers and bikers have a separate dismissal time

5. Sidewalks, driveways and pathways on school property are properly maintained in all seasons.

Yes No NOTES:

For example:

- The sidewalks, driveways and pathways are not cracked or broken
- Leaves and snow are removed regularly
- The sidewalks, driveways and pathways are swept regularly



Safe Routes

School Property Assessment, cont.

6. Traffic flows smoothly and efficiently in and out of the driveway.

Yes No NOTES:

For example:

- Congested or not congested

7. All drivers have an unobstructed view of pedestrians and bicyclists around the entrances and the school building.

Yes No NOTES:

For example:

- There are no blind driveways
- They are no visible barriers such as signage, walls or other impediments

8. The school property is well-lit.

Yes No NOTES:

9. There are bicycle-parking facilities on the school grounds.

Yes No NOTES:

10. There are enough spaces in which to park bikes.

Yes No NOTES:

11. The location of the bike parking structure (bike rack, shed, etc.) is within reasonable proximity to entrances/exits.

Yes No NOTES:

12. The bike parking structure can be viewed for security purposes from within the building.

Yes No NOTES:

13. Students can properly secure their bicycles to the bike parking structure.

Yes No NOTES:

14. The bike parking facilities are covered to protect bicycles from weather.

Yes No NOTES:

15. Any other observations: