

CITY OF HANCOCK
Minutes of the Recreation Commission Meeting
Tuesday, September 14, 2021
6:00 PM Council Chambers

1. Call to order by Chairperson Deb Mann at 6:04 PM, Roll Call
Present: Deb Mann, John Diebel, Bill Marlor, Craig Pellizzaro, Amanda Jackson, Michael Lancour
Also Present: Mary Babcock, Rick Freeman, Jerry Parker, Nancy Crowell, Joe DeForge, Chris DeForge, Christine Lystila, Marlin Lystila, Mark Van Tassel, Angie Van Tassel, Julie Carlton, Joy Ziemnick, Matt Bryan
Absent: Dave Dow, John Haeussler

2. Member Diebel moved and Member Pellizzaro seconded the motion to approve the agenda with the addition of i) Softball Fields under the Updates.
Aye: All
No: None
Motion Carried

3. Member Diebel moved and Member Pellizzaro seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 22, 2021
Aye: All
No: None
Motion Carried

4. Public Comments:

Jerry Parker speaking on behalf of Pickleball Players at Lourn-Grove regarding the numbers of players and the needs of a more permanent option for players. Mr. Parker and Mr. Freeman spoke of the physical and mental health benefits of the game and that numbers are growing. Mr. Parker spoke of their interest in working together for funding at least 4 courts at Lourn-Grove, noting that the tennis courts need to be redone.

Matt Bryan requested that some minor changes be made to the south backboard at Lourn-Grove to improve usage of the present facilities. Mr. Bryan was informed that this item is on the DPW list of projects to be completed and will be done by the spring of 2022.

5. Old Business/ Updates
 - a) Dog Park Funding updates: \$20,000 budgeted in 2022 Recreation Plan. MEDC Patronicity funding - goal was reached for \$20,000 with match of \$20,000 from MEDC

Public Spaces- Community Places. 1501 votes shy of top five places in PetSafe Bark for Your Park grant for \$25,000, finishing in 6th place. Largest expense will be the fencing (\$34,000) and we can begin that process this fall.

b) Budget – clarification that 2 sheds are needed for ballfields – one new and one replacement

c) Dog Park Budget – fencing and general landscaping first, water installation priority next, additional amenities will be reviewed for approval. Three dog waste stations have been donated to the Dog Park via Northland Vet Clinic product contractor. Old fire hydrant from DPW will be placed in the park.

-Concern raised by ball teams about foul balls being hit into the Dog Park and danger to dogs, kids and people discussed – look into extension netting to deflect balls. – come out of budget for Dog Park

d) Trail with exercise equipment – wanting to move forward with the portion of the trail between the beach and the campground with ADA access and exercise stations

e) Evaluate cost and options for permanent at least 4 Pickleball courts for Lurn Grove – consider grants through Portage Health Foundation, other grants, donations from users, Millage funds

-strong contingent of users (80 to 100 players)

f) Consider additional amenities for Klondike Park – gazebo over concrete slab, small swing set – Contact with Wood working class at Hancock High School for Community Project

g) Issue with streamlining signage for City Parks, Dog Park, Bike and Pedestrian Maps and kiosks – IG knows our cities requirements for colors and construction

h) Backboards at Lurn-Grove – see above in Public Comments

i) Softball Fields – Concern about foul balls into the Dog Park – will work on solution using containment netting

- Keweenaw Chevrolet would sponsor the placement of a scoreboard like the one that is existing at Klemett Field. Electrical power and support beams would have to be DPW responsibility.

- A grant to the Booster Club from PHF has been received to construct a 30 x 60 slab at Givens Field for a batting cage

- Craig Pellizzaro has resigned his position for ballfield maintenance – requires dragging the field 3-4 times per week to diminish weeds

6. New Business

- i) Motion made by Member Pellizzaro and seconded by Member Lancour to recommend to City Council, withdrawal of funds from the Keweenaw Community Foundation and be used toward replacing the basketball court at Terrace Park

Aye: All

No: None

Motion Carried

ii) Motion made by Member Jackson and seconded by Member Diebel to purchase 4 new grills for Hancock Beach.

Aye: All

No: None

Motion Carried

iii) Create subcommittee to work on signage and kiosks for City Parks, Dog Park, maps for Bike and Pedestrian information – Member Jackson volunteered to head that subcommittee

7. Other Business

i) Houghton County Arena – City of Hancock is looking to acquire the Houghton County Arena from Portage Lake Multi Educational Services Inc. – In excellent condition with upgrades completed/ MSU Extension will be relocating in 2023 will free up three offices/ next major expense is a Zamboni

8. Adjournment

Motion made by Member Pellizzaro and seconded by Member Jackson to adjourn at 7:18 pm

Aye: All

No: None

Motion Carried

***** NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 9, 2021 at 6:00 PM *****

Respectfully Submitted



Deborah Mann September 14, 2021