

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 16, 2020 PARKS & RECREATION MEETING

Call to order 6:05pm

Roll Call: Dale Rieger, Christy Stempky, Mike Lalonde, Bill Clouser (present but connect issues), Kate Schulz, Tony Eustice (absent)

Approval of Agenda

- The agenda provided as email attachment was not built on the previous agenda from October; only new business items were listed. Christy had the October agenda, so commissioners worked off of that previous agenda.
- Motion to approve previous minutes - minutes from the September meeting are not available due to minutes have not been posted on city Website. Christy offered to typed minutes and has a template, but would like to listen to minutes to add detail and ensure accuracy. Since September we have only these informal minutes available to us. No Motion.

Old Business

- Survey of Major City Park - Commissioners Rieger and Lalonde are of the impression that the survey is being done. No one has heard that the survey has been completed. Kate stated that the survey is especially important if we are to work toward making a better, more comprehensive plan for the park.
- DNR Water Trail Application: The trail committee continues to work on the water trail application.

New Business

- Safe Routes Application for \$12,500 planning grant was submitted December 18, 2020. Thank you, Tom Eustice for submitting the application, and Thanks to the Community Foundation for acting as fiduciary.
- Dog Park: Dale has put a lot of work into a proposal for a dog park within Major City Park. The park would go in the grassy area across the driveway from the Men's Fastpitch field. The proposal is in response to feedback from many community members stating this would be an excellent addition to Cheboygan. Dale has also spoken with neighboring communities that have put in dog parks and are very happy with the parks and community satisfaction with parks. Kate stated that this is a great idea and would like to see it happen but there are so many things that need to happen in Major City Park, it would be best maybe to have a plan for the whole area so that the park doesn't go in and later wish that it could be moved to accommodate other park features. The Michigan Main Street group is looking at applying for the Michigan State Sustainably Built Environment Initiative which could provide such a plan. Dale does not want planning to take so long the park never comes to fruition and agreed to pursue SBEI program and revisit dog park construction as soon as possible no later than June 2021. Christy would like to see this go into Felix Merchant Park. Kate will go through the list of grants from HUD to see if there are any that fund pet-specific projects such as a dog park.

- Appointment of New Commissioner, David Martin. MOTION from Rieger support from Stempky Roll Call: Clouser, not audible; Lalonde, aye; Rieger, aye; Schulz, aye; Stempky, aye. David Martin will be recommended for appointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission.
- Celebrate Receipt of DNR Land Trust Funding for additional fishing piers!

Director Report

- He's all for the dog park
- Everything at the rec center is still closed due to Covid

Action Items:

Create list of amenities to go in Major City Park for potential SBEI application
Push for plan and SBEI program

Motion to adjourn from Lalonde with support from Rieger and all in favor

Next Meeting January 20, 2021

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve was made on the regular commission meeting on (date) _____ by Commissioner _____ and support from Commissioner _____ with () Commissioners in favor and () Commissioners opposed.

These minutes were approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission on 2/16/2022. Some board members that attended the 12/16/2020 meeting are no longer serving on the Parks and Recreation Commission