

CITY OF CHEBOYGAN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
AGENDA MAY 2021 MEETING (hybrid)

Wednesday, MAY 19, 2021 at 6pm in Cheboygan City Council Chambers OR Join Zoom

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Call to Order

Roll Call: Clouser, absent; Eustice, present; Lalonde, present; Martin, present Schulz, present; Stempky, present; Rieger, present.

Also present: City Manager Tom Eustice, Parks and Recreation Director Scott Hancock

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was presented ahead of the meeting. Stempky made motion to approve the agenda with support from Lalonde. Consensus vote called. All present voted in favor with none opposed. The agenda is approved.

Committee Reports

1. Maintenance & Development (Commissioner Schulz): Accessibility of parks and rec facilities is lacking. There is only one bathroom that is accessible (Water Street). This was brought to the attention of the trail committee by ODA Kate asked about the beavers near the Children's Trail, they continue to work and need to be relocated. The dam is still in place but the trail is not flooded anymore. Dale and Connie have worked hard to drain the areas affected by the dam. Felix Merchant park project has
2. Program Coordination & Common Registration Platform (Commissioner Eustice). No report on this.
3. Trail Town Master Plan. Commissioner D. Rieger volunteered to lead this up.
4. Recreation Authority (Leadership TBD)

Old Business

1. Approval of Previous Minutes. Minutes were presented for review ahead of the meeting. There was no discussion. Clouser made a motion to approve with support from Lalonde. All in favor with none opposed. The minutes of the April meeting are approved.
2. DNR Land Trust Fishing Piers Project. RFP did not go out at the end of April, but will still go out this month. Target start date is by September 1. Commissioner Rieger asked if there is concern about lumber prices affecting the project; City Manager Eustice stated that is a concern and we will now be 30% over the original estimate.

3. Recreation Passport Application (submitted March 31, 2021, updated May 15, 2021). Reviewed April discussion and DNR response to application stating items that need to be corrected. Tom reported that the trail will need to be built to MDOT specifications with a gravel base before it can be paved, in addition to site lines and slopes we are already aware of. The project will be more costly than what we have estimated. We will not get funded unless the MDOT specifications are followed 100%. Dale does not see barrier with the grade. The scope will be change. Baseball will need a committee to address ball fields; Committee members for ball fields are Lalonde, Eustice, and Schulz. Recapped discussion on rebuilding with existing footprint or rebuild new due to drainage and other issues.
4. City Council Liaison

New Business

1. Recreation Authority Presentation. As of 2018 there were 16 recreation authorities in the state. New since then are Holland, Traverse City/Garfield Township. Recreation Authorities are a political subdivision with a sole purpose specific to a stated recreational goal that is decided by the authority which is representative of all local units of government involved. The Recreation Authority would be a huge benefit to the city because most of the recreation assets are in the city. Millage is optional but would be very helpful. The authority operates on its own as a political subdivision with an odd number; 2 representatives from each local unit of government with an at large member. That board would have the authority to levy a milage and manage the money. City Manager Eustice calculated 4 units of government at 1 mil it would bring in .5 million dollars to support recreation.
 - a. Questions. Townships will ask 'what will this cost us?' aside from levying a milage. We are asking for 2 appointed members from each township, no money.
 - b. Address items in planning document (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats, and partnership). Strengths 1) would be shared responsibility for recreational assets 2) engaging families and kids. 3) you have money to be used as matching funds for anything in any of the participating jurisdictions. Threats: Townships will see that all the money is going to the City of Cheboygan. The board will be representative of all townships NOT just the city. Being representative of the school district is very important to support district parents/families.
 - c. To do. Economic impact, making sure there are nice facilities for everyone, and that these are shared facilities. Impact on businesses allowing them to stay open year-round. There are also many of things/recreational assets that people without kids can enjoy. Christy added that no one pays for parking in the City of Cheboygan.

Next Steps:

Presentation

Plan

Mock presentation with members playing skeptics at June meeting

Need Resolution Template (Tom)

Handout format

Get Cheboygan County Directory from Karen Brewster

Kate will get documents together, David offered to go to township meetings and school board meetings once council approves the effort.

Staff Report: Beavers have been trapped. Dale and Connie have done amazing work taking dam apart and draining areas of the Children's Trail that were flooded. Boys and girls night were cancelled because no one was coming in. Men's night has had a lot of attendance with participation from far away coming in to play basketball. Staff will keep men's night open as long as people keep coming. Pickleball is still 5 days per week. Cutting grass at ball fields and all parks. Short of help with the jail program, and one full time and one part time person, another part time person will be hired soon. Tom Chastain is donating 321 South Main to the city to be turned into a pocket park. Scott, Connie Rieger, and Tom Eustice met today to discuss. The city owns a portion of the bank. Mr. Chastain would like the pocket park to be named 'Majestic Park' after his family. Joe Kurtz owns the rental property next door, he is going to put a privacy fence up with a mural to be installed by Cheboygan Area Arts Council on the park side of the fence. The park will be maintained by city parks and rec. The art that has been donated and is at Cheboygan Cement is going to be installed in Washington Park with lights pointed on it, some shrubs will need to be removed. Car show that is usually on Main Street the weekend of June 19 is moving to Gordon Turner Park.

Commissioner Comments: Lalonde commented that there was a lot of vulgar language in the skate park during little league games earlier this week, and asked if there is a sign. Scott answered that there is a sign there, and if it is an ongoing problem. Schulz commented on the MEDC training she participated in during the MSHDA building communities conference. Rieger reported that there is an event on the Children's Trail on June 5, Stacy Sheldon, who is from Cheboygan will be on the trail reading a children's book that she authored. There has been a lot of work bringing in wood chips with help from DPW, there will be

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn 7:42pm

Next meeting will be June 16, 2021.

Approval of the minutes

Minutes presented for approval on date: _____

With motion from Commissioner _____

Support given by Commissioner _____

With () votes in favor and () votes opposed.

These minutes were approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission on 2/16/2022. Some board members that attended the 5/19/2021 meeting are no longer serving on the Parks and Recreation Commission

*There was no

o meet