

Cheboygan Parks and Recreation Commission
Wednesday, January 31st, 2024, 5:00 pm
City Council Chambers

Call to Order: 5:01

Roll Call: Dale Rieger, Darrin Deeter, David Martin, Lyndee Zeigler

Absent: Tony Eustice, Dick Cartmill, Mary Darling

Approval of Agenda: Martin/Zeigler: 4-0

Old Business:

1. Approval of Previous Minutes (November 8th, 2023): Dale Rieger added the clarification that Dan Sabolsky, the City Manager, said he isn't opposed to a Recreation Authority as a goal but believes it would be difficult to achieve.

David/Deeter: 4-0

New Business:

1. Introduction of New Commissioner:

- The commissioners welcomed the newest addition to the commission, Lyndee Zeigler

2. Update on Proposed Dog Park:

- Dale spoke about Jeff Lawson having offered, as an alternative location, the north east corner of the county fairgrounds as a possible location for the proposed dog park. Darrin asked if the RV and trails would impede with the park. Lawson said this would have to be a collaboration and grants would be needed for park to be a reality. The Humane Society has offered to act as the non-profit fiscal agent for any fundraising needed. A Gaylord newspaper reporter would like to do a report as this moves forward.

3. Committee Reports:

A. Majestic Pocket Park: Dale updated the commission on the Majestic Pocket Park. Connie and Dan met about landscaping and are soliciting bids for the work

B. Improved Communication: Darrin and David spoke on the lack of movement with the improved communications. However, Dan spoke of the City's electronic newsletter as being a possibility for being the information hub. Kourtney Hahn is the one running it. Zeigler suggested a quarterly newsletter. The three

commissioners present, minus Dale, will be looking to meet and discuss further if the newsletter could be a good start with communications.

C. Felix Merchant Park: David gave an update on the status of Felix Merchant Park. He and Dan met to create a survey meant to solicit neighborhood opinions regarding possible options for the park.

4. Discussion regarding the Parks and Recreation 5 Year Plan:

- The commission discussed the Five-Year Recreation Plan coming up for 2025. Review the DDA plan, solicit input, E-letter, survey/visit the existing parks and bring ideas back to next meeting, bringing in the medical communities for ideas, the plan does not need to be as large as previous one, not dreaming but practical, vested interest and not on cities dime only, bullet points/standards needed from Dan, and the city parks and rec needs a plan for any DNR grant.

Commissioners Comments:

- Deeter and Zeigler none.
- Martin spoke of recruitment for the vacant commission spot and welcomed the new member.
- Dale and Dan spoke of the possibility of obtaining the Water Trail Town status from the State, along with our current status of a Trails Town. Kayak rentals and places to launch are requirements. Coast Guard Drive near Walstrom's, the Ryba Marine area, and the water way campgrounds were mentioned as possible kayak launch locations.

Next Meeting: March 20th, 5:00 pm. Adjournment 6:30