



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

February 10, 2014

A meeting of the City of Petoskey Parks and Recreation Commission was held in the City Hall Parkside Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Monday, February 10, 2014. Roll was called at 7:00 P.M. and the following were:

Present: Roy Pulaski, Chairperson
Jim Daunter
William Hansen, Jr.
Frank Lamberti
Amy McMullen
Mike Morey

Absent: John Hoffman

Staff: Al Hansen, Parks and Recreation Director

Minutes of the Monday, January 13, 2014, meeting were read and approved. Motion for approval was made by Bill Hansen, seconded by Frank Lamberti, with all members present voting aye.

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen, Morey, Pulaski (6)

NAYS: (0)

Winter Carnival Update

Commission members were informed that the Annual Petoskey Winter Carnival will take place on Saturday, February 15, 2014 and that this year's carnival has multiple events scheduled throughout the day, including the International Bumpjumping Competition with registration starting at 10:00 A.M. and the race starting at noon.

Commission members were given an itinerary of events and sponsors for the Winter Carnival in their packet and were encouraged to attend a portion of the event.

Project Status Renovation of the Lighted Tennis Courts

Commission members were informed that the Petoskey Community Court Committee had been meeting regularly over the past two months and that at its February 4, 2014 meeting Stefan J. Scholl, P.C., prepared Articles of Incorporation for Use by Domestic Non-profit Corporation to allow the group to act as a non-profit corporation pursuant to provision of Act 162, Public Acts of 1982. After reviewing the documents the group asked Stefan Scholl to file these documents with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. This filing was an important step in creating the Community Courts Fundraising Committee and now allows them to be able to request and receive funding for the designated tennis court project.

The Director also advised the Commission that a Michigan Recreation Passport Grant is being prepared for partial funding of the tennis courts in the amount of \$45,000 and that they will be reviewing the grant in March of 2014.

Chairman Pulaski stated that he originally understood that the courts were going to be constructed in 2014. The Director advised that that had been the initial assumption, however, the Committee had asked to have their fundraising efforts extended to 2015 to allow more time to raise funds for the reconstruction of the tennis court facilities.

Tax Administration Fee Update

The Director informed Commission members that, at its February 3, 2014 meeting, City Council reinstated the 1% Tax Administration Fee for 2014 to help with the General Fund shortfalls to assist in funding one Public Safety position that had not been filled due to retirement and to fund several needed maintenance items on City buildings. The fee is expected to generate approximately \$200,000. Reinstatement of this fee was a short term stop gap measure which will allow City Council and the community to study options for a stable funding source to support Department of Public Safety needs, including equipment purchases, and to allow for major building and park facility maintenance items that have been postponed as a result of the decline in property values that occurred as the result of the economic downturn of the last several years.

At this time, a brief discussion occurred regarding the loss of General Fund dollars due to declining property values that made this move necessary.

Miscellaneous

The Director informed Commission members that he had had a conversation with the Little Traverse Land Conservancy regarding a potential property acquisition in the Skyline Municipal Forest area and that the Conservancy was working to fund majority of this potential acquisition. At this time the Conservancy will be exploring the options further and will be reporting back to the City.

Frank Lamberti asked what was involved with the Downtown Greenway Corridor Project and commented that he was not very familiar with the project.

At this time, the Director reviewed the scope of the project with Commission members and informed them that the primary focus of the first phase of the Downtown Greenway Corridor will be the development of a non-motorized, concrete trail that will extend from MacDonald Drive to Bay Street, which will also function as a sidewalk servicing the northeastern area of the City.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M. Motion for adjournment was made by Amy McMullen, seconded by Jim Daunter, with all members present voting aye.

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen, Morey, Pulaski (6)

NAYS: (0)

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, March 10, 2014 at the City Hall Parkside Room.

Allen L. Hansen
Director of Parks and Recreation