



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

January 28, 2015

A special meeting of the City of Petoskey Parks and Recreation Commission was held in the City Hall Community Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Wednesday, January 28, 2015. Roll was called at 7:00 P.M. and the following were:

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

Absent: John Hoffman

Staff: Al Hansen, Parks and Recreation Director
Chris Flynn, Parks and Grounds Specialist
Jon Hummel, Parks and Grounds Specialist

Minutes of the Monday, January 12, 2015, meeting were read and approved. Motion for approval was made by Bill Hansen, Jr., seconded by Amy McMullen, with all members present voting aye.

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen, Morey, Pulaski (6)
NAYS: (0)

Public Hearing

At this time, Chairman Pulaski opened the Parks and Recreation Commission to a public hearing process, to take comment on the proposed Bayfront Park Municipal Marina Plan Amendment for inclusion in the 2013-2017 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, as required by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Parks and Recreation Division.

The Director advised commission members that the draft plan amendment was publicly advertised and made available to the general public for review from January 14 through January 27, 2015, a period of 14 days, at the following locations:

City of Petoskey
City of Petoskey Website
City of Petoskey Public Library

101 East Lake Street
www.petoskey.us
500 East Mitchell Street

The Commission was also reminded that the initial draft plan was presented at their January 12, 2015 meeting and at the Planning Commission meeting on January 15, 2015 for review and comment. Legal notices were posted in the Petoskey News Review on January 14, 2015 advertising both the public review period and the public hearing process and their associated dates.

The Director advised the Commission that the Planning Commission approved the plan amendment with the following recommendations for inclusion:

1. Construct a non-motorized boat storage area or rack system; and
2. Provide ADA accessible boat slip (flush dock or lift).

At this time, there being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Plan Amendment Review, Modification and Approval

The Parks and Recreation Commission again reviewed the draft amendment for the Bayfront Park Municipal Marina Facility and considered the Planning Commission's comments regarding the plan and discussed each item.

Review:

Construct a non-motorized boat storage area rack system.

Commissioner Hansen asked if there was a need for the storage racks. Chairman Pulaski responded that he had heard several people from the community mention the idea. Chris Flynn, Parks and Grounds Specialist, who oversees Marina operations commented that had also heard several comments about kayak racks but that it was not a pressing or immediate need. Director Hansen advised that he was not opposed to kayak racks, if the need is validated. The Director further commented that due to limited parking for boat trailers and vehicular parking at the marina other areas at Bayfront Park or perhaps Magnus Park would be better suited locations for these storage racks and that these racks should be situated as not to interfere with vistas to the lake.

Provide ADA accessible boat slips (flush dock or lift).

The Director commented that the marina currently meets the American's with Disabilities Act. The marina has designated ADA boat slips and the boat launch is also ADA compliant. The Director further commented that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, in 2012, funded several pilot projects to design transfer devices capable of moving mobility challenged individuals from a public boat slip to a private watercraft. Adaptive pool lifts and davit cranes of several types were explored as well as a floating dock lift and gang planks. Challenges were encountered with each of these devices, including the safety of conveying individuals on the transfer device, liability issues related to staff improperly operating a device and causing injury to a client, lifting and reach limitations of the devices due to changing water levels and variations of boat designs, styles and access points all pose problems to a universal design that could service the safe transfer of ADA patrons. Currently boaters, like vehicle owners, must equip their boats to meet their individual limitations and needs. The Director recommends postponing the addition of this ADA item until a safer, more universally designed transfer device can be developed.

Modification: Frank Lamberti made a motion that the planned improvement section of the final Bayfront Park Municipal Marina Facility amendment include the following plan element:

1. Explore the feasibility and potential locations for kayak storage racks within Bayfront Park or Magnus Park that will not impact views to Lake Michigan and will not compete with existing marina boat trailer and vehicular parking.
2. That the Planning Commission's recommendations for providing an ADA accessible boat slip (flush dock or lift) not be included in the plan at this time.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hansen, with all members present voting aye.

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

NAYS: (0)

Resolution to Approve

At this time Commissioner Lamberti made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Morey, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Waterway Grant Program for 2015 requires that Public Marina Facilities be included in the municipalities 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan in order to qualify for grant funding; and

WHEREAS, a plan amendment for the Petoskey Bayfront Municipal Marina must be added to the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2013-2017; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission, at its January 12, 2015 meeting, reviewed and commented on a draft plan amendment for the Marina and directed staff to initiate the required 14-day public review period commencing on January 14, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the City of Petoskey Planning Commission, at its January 15, 2015 meeting, reviewed and commented on the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission conducted a formal public hearing on January 28, 2015 to receive comments on the draft plan amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission, after reviewing the plan and hearing public comment, took the following action:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Petoskey Parks and Recreation Commission does and hereby adopts the final plan amendment for the Bayfront Park Municipal Marina for inclusion in the City's current Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2013-2017 and further recommends that City Council consider endorsing the plan and approving its submittal to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Said resolution was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen, Morey, Pulaski (6)
NAYS: (0)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M. Motion for adjournment was made by Bill Hansen, Jr., seconded by Jim Daunter, with all members present voting aye.

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen, Morey, Pulaski (6)
NAYS: (0)

The next scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, February 9, 2015 at the City Hall Parkside Room.



Allen L. Hansen
Director of Parks and Recreation