



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

March 9, 2015

A meeting of the City of Petoskey Parks and Recreation Commission was held in the City Hall Community Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Monday, March 9, 2015. Roll was called at 7:00 P.M. and the following were:

Present: Amy McMullen, Vice Chairperson
Jim Daunter
William Hansen, Jr.
Frank Lamberti

Absent: John Hoffman (vacant seat)
Mike Morey
Roy Pulaski

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

Minutes of the Monday, February 9, 2015 meeting were read and approved. Motion for approval was made by William Hansen, Jr., seconded by Frank Lamberti, with all members present voting aye.

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen (4)
NAYS: (0)

Young Hemingway Statue

Commission members were informed that City Council, at its March 2, 2015 meeting, heard a presentation by George Colburn on behalf of Robert Dau requesting that City Council consider acceptance of a future gift to the City of a statue of young Ernest Hemingway. Council accepted the proposed gift but a site location for the statue was not determined. Council then asked staff to explore locations where the statue could be placed. Mr. Dau has indicated that he will commission an artist/sculptor to carve and cast the statue but it is important that a place be approved so that the sculptor can orient and pose the statue correctly to fit its surroundings.

The Director reviewed eight potential sites for the statue and the pros and cons for each site.

Comments were received from the public for and against the Carnegie Library, Little Traverse Historical Museum and Pennsylvania Park sites.

Mr. George Colburn, representing Mr. Dau, informed Commission members that Mr. Dau is 84 years of age and in declining health and hopes a decision can be made regarding location so that Mr. Dau could interview, select and commission a sculptor to start the statue. Mr. Dau also wanted the Commission to know that he considers himself a native son of Petoskey and identifies this community as his home and wants to gift the statue to the City to commemorate young Hemingway's historical ties to Petoskey. Mr. Colburn further advised that it is Mr. Dau's strong

belief that the statue needs to be highly visible and in close proximity to the railway in the downtown Petoskey area. Mr. Dau is not in favor of the Carnegie Library or the Historical Museum sites as he feels they are too far from the City's downtown core area and would inhibit discovery by and daily interaction with downtown visitors.

The Director shared that he had received two phone calls from Petoskey residents suggesting that the statue be located at the museum at Bayfront Park. The Director also shared a letter from City Councilmember Grant Ditmar.

At this time, Vice Chairperson McMullen asked Commission members for their opinions on the proposed locations.

Commissioner Lamberti commented that he only saw two viable sites, one at the sidewalk area at the corner of Park Avenue and Bay Street near the Watershed Council building and the other by North Country Cycle Shop near the railway on Howard Street. He stated that he believed that these sites were highly visible and met the criteria that Mr. Dau considered important for locating his gift of the statue. Commissioner Hansen and Commissioner Daunter also felt these two locations were most viable.

At this time, a motion was made by Commissioner Lamberti, seconded by Commissioner Hansen, that the Parks and Recreation Commission, upon reviewing the eight potential sites and based upon the criteria given and Mr. Dau's suggestions, select the two following locations for the placement of the statue:

1. Public sidewalk area on Bay Street at Park Avenue, across from Lewis Street.
2. Howard Street location at railway and sidewalk area near North Country Cycle Shop, near the sidewalk tree planter area.

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen (4)

NAYS: (0)

The Director advised that City Council would be informed of the Parks and Recreation Commission's suggested site locations for the young Hemingway statue.

Marina Grant Submission

The Director advised the Parks and Recreation Commission that the City is preparing to submit an application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Waterways Commission for an infrastructure grant to replace the wood decking and substructure on Pier B in the marina. Much of the decking on this pier is in need of replacement and is part of the original marina that was constructed in 1968 and 1970. Also, as part of this grant the existing dock house would be removed and replaced with a new, larger dock office space. The City has set aside \$150,000 towards the matching of a Michigan Waterways Grant and the City has retained the firm of Beckett and Raeder, Inc. to perform a preliminary cost estimate so that a complete grant application can be submitted by the April 1, 2015 deadline.

The Director asked that Commission members endorse this potential grant application with the understanding that the City's commitment would not exceed \$150,000.

At this time, a motion was made by Commissioner Lamberti, seconded by Commissioner Hansen, that the Parks and Recreation Commission hereby endorses submission of a grant application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Waterways Commission for this infrastructure improvement to Pier B.

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen (4)
NAYS: (0)

Miscellaneous

Vice Chairperson McMullen asked if there was any other business that the Commission members needed to discuss prior to the closing of the meeting.

Commissioner Hansen asked if spring sign-ups were taking place for spring and summer programs. The Director advised that registration has been opened for a number of spring sports, registration for the summer day camp program will be open soon and that information regarding these programs is available for review by the general public on the City's website.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M. Motion for adjournment was made by Commissioner Hansen, seconded by Commissioner Lamberti, with all members present voting aye.

YEAS: Daunter, Hansen, Lamberti, McMullen (4)
NAYS: (0)

The next scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, April 13, 2015 at the City Hall Parkside Room.



Allen L. Hansen
Director of Parks and Recreation