



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

September 14, 2015

A meeting of the City of Petoskey Parks and Recreation Commission was held in the City Hall Community Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Monday, September 14, 2015. Roll was called at 7:00 P.M. and the following were:

Present: Roy Pulaski, Chairperson  
Amy McMullen, Vice Chairperson  
Jim Daunter  
William Hansen, Jr.  
Mike Morey  
Ken Turk

Staff: Al Hansen, Parks and Recreation Director

Other: Reg Smith, Downtown Management Board

Minutes of the Monday, May 11, 2015 meeting were read and approved. Motion for approval was made by William Hansen, Jr., seconded by Amy McMullen, with all members present voting aye.

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

NAYS: (0)

**Recreation Update**

At this time the Director informed Commission members that the flag football and fall soccer programs were up and operational for the fall season.

**Review of Downtown Greenway Corridor Workshop Summary**

The Director reviewed with Commission members the current Downtown Greenway Corridor Plan developed in 1999 and shared comments received from participants at the July 27 and July 28, 2015 workshops that also included the "Downtown Greenway Corridor Plan Workshop Summary" and Exhibit A with comments received on each segment.

The Commission, after careful review, reached a unanimous consensus regarding plan components and revisions that should be addressed in the new master plan update.

Reg Smith, Downtown Management Board member, was in attendance and commented that he believed the Downtown Management Board would agree to these recommendations and that they made sense.

A motion was made by William Hansen, Jr., seconded by Mike Morey, that the Downtown Greenway Corridor Plan be updated to include the following revisions and that the revisions be forwarded to City Council for their consideration:

- Sidewalk connection between Bay Street and Lake Street near the rail and the related bus drop-off access walk into the Elks Lot be completed. This was assigned as a priority item by the Parks and Recreation Commission as it provides a safe route for pedestrians exiting the lot and crossing through the park with crosswalks at Bay Street and Lake Street;
- Delete the stream feature from the plan;
- Delete the ice rink from the plan;
- Expand existing restroom and/or explore location for additional restrooms to service park and downtown in the central core area of the CBD;
- Retain Chamber of Commerce building for now but continue to explore long range options related to Pennsylvania Railroad Depot near Lewis Street;
- Leave railway in place, sever railroad connection at Emmet Street from main track, with no significant investment made to improve tracks at this time;
- Trolley Operation: more information is needed regarding the viability of the trolley and whether it is a good investment of public funds. Commissioners would like to see a test operation period with the trolley on the tracks prior to investing in trolley or sidings. Show improvement options as future plan;
- Continue to show parking expansion options at the Emmet Street end of the corridor and the Lewis Street end of the corridor in what is referred to as Quarry Park, in the plans;
- Improve signage at Bay Street and Greenway Corridor and the parking lot near Howard Street at Greenway Corridor to orient bicyclists as to locations of downtown businesses and facilities, alternate bicycle routes and bicycle racks;
- Widen Park Avenue sidewalk area near Lake Street entry to north Pennsylvania Park near the drinking fountain along park frontage of 411 East Lake Street to provide for two-way pedestrian foot traffic;
- Eliminate lower plaza area near alley in north Pennsylvania Park at Park Avenue. Show option of east/west sidewalk extending from Elks Lot bus drop-off to Park Avenue near alley to facility access to Park Avenue; and
- Incorporate proposed Hemmingway statue in north Pennsylvania Park. Commissioners favor the statue location near the upper sidewalk where the walkway from the Elks Lot bus drop-off zone is proposed and as a secondary site the Park Avenue location on the south side of Bay Street sidewalk.

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

NAYS: (0)

Commissioners were informed that this information would be shared with City Council and if approved would be furnished to Beckett and Raeder, Inc. for incorporation in the master plan draft revision. Once the draft revisions are returned, commission members will review.

### **Miscellaneous**

At this time Amy McMullen commented that the flag football field that was laid out at Lockwood Park was being well utilized by flag footballers.

Positive comments were also received from Commission members regarding the Petoskey Youth Soccer Association Soccer Tournament held the weekend of September 11, 12 and 13,

2015. The Director responded that the tournament was put on by the PYSA and that the City had limited involvement with the tournament other than minor logistical support and that it is a very positive event for the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M. Motion for adjournment was made by William Hansen, Jr., seconded by Ken Turk, with all members present voting aye.

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

NAYS: (0)

The next scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, October 12, 2015 at the City Hall Parkside Room.



Allen L. Hansen  
Director of Parks and Recreation