



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

February 16, 2016

A special meeting of the City of Petoskey Parks and Recreation Commission was held in the City Hall Public Safety Training Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Tuesday, February 16, 2016. Roll was called at 7:00 P.M. and the following were:

Present: Roy Pulaski, Chairperson
Amy McMullen, Vice Chairperson
William Hansen, Jr.
Mike Morey

Absent: Jim Daunter
Ken Turk

Staff: Al Hansen, Parks and Recreation Director

Minutes of the Monday, February 8, 2016, meeting were read and approved. Motion for approval was made by Amy McMullen, seconded by Mike Morey, with all members present voting aye.

YEAS: Hansen, McMullen, Morey, Pulaski (4)
NAYS: (0)

Endorsement of Downtown Greenway Corridor Master Plan Update

At this time the Director gave a brief history of what happened at the joint Planning Commission/Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on February 8, 2016. At that joint meeting the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission and City staff were presented the Downtown Greenway Corridor for consideration. After a lengthy discussion the Planning Commission made and passed a motion to postpone the recommendation of the plan pending further information.

At its regular scheduled meeting, which followed the joint meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission made and passed a motion to postpone its decision on approval of the Downtown Greenway Corridor Master Plan updates until the Downtown Management Board met and commented on the plan.

Downtown Management Board. City staff presented the Downtown Greenway Corridor Master Plan updates to the Downtown Management Board on Wednesday, February 10, 2016. Based on comments received at the joint Planning Commission meeting, the Downtown Management Board was furnished with an updated Downtown Greenway Corridor Master Plan that included reconfigurations of the crosswalks at Michigan Street and State Street to allow bicyclists to cross the railroad tracks at right angles and also the removal of several trees at the State Street intersection that had been inadvertently left in the drawings that interfered with the trail. The board was also shown a revised drawing showing a downsized parking area between Grove Street and Emmet Street, a draft business plan for trolley operations that was prepared by staff to assist state and federal regulators in their reviews, a cost estimate was also shared, including costs associated with the trolley option, and trolley/train options.

After review and discussion the Downtown Management Board approved the Downtown Greenway Corridor Master Plan updates that included revisions to the Michigan Street and State Street crossings, keeping the 34 car trail head parking area, and the removal of the tracks between Emmet Street and Grove Street. The board also recommended that a Request for Proposals be drafted to secure a consulting firm familiar with state and federal railroad regulations to assist staff in determining the state and federal requirements and licensure that will be needed to operate the proposed trolley system.

The Director also reviewed comments made at the Monday, February 15 meeting of City Council where the plan was also reviewed. Council made comments that they would like to see the proposed parking lot site shown at the quarry removed from the plan and also commented on the war memorials and potentially either consolidating them on one side of the complex or moving the memorials to a different location at a future date and asked to consider making a decision on the parking lot at the Emmet Street/Grove Street site so that staff could continue to prepare cost estimates for the potential grant cycle for April 1, 2016. Council made no other recommendations other than agreeing to consider the downsized lot at Grove Street and Emmet Street.

At this time the Parks and Recreation Commission was furnished with the revised drawings that were shown to City Council and the Downtown Management Board followed by a brief discussion.

A motion was made by Mike Morey, seconded by Amy McMullen, for the Parks and Recreation Commission to adopt the revised Downtown Greenway Corridor drawings that were presented at the February 16 meeting with the following exceptions:

1. Eliminate the proposed parking lot in the quarry area from the drawings;
2. Recommend constructing the one-half parking area between Grove Street and Emmet Street and that it be designed so that it could be expanded in the future; and
3. Make corrections to the crossings at Michigan Street and State Street as shown on the plans.

And further recommended that City Council consider the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendations.

YEAS: Hansen, McMullen, Morey, Pulaski (4)

NAYS: (0)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M. Motion for adjournment was made by William Hansen, Jr., seconded by Mike Morey, with all members present voting aye.

YEAS: Hansen, McMullen, Morey, Pulaski (4)

NAYS: (0)

A next regular scheduled meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, March 14, 2016.



Allen L. Hansen
Director of Parks and Recreation