

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, March 11, 2020
10 AM
Minutes**

Chairman Craig Richardson called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., in the Council Chambers of the Iron River City Hall.

Roll Call: Keith Hamel, Dan Hinch, Phyllis Mangone, Terry Tarsi and Richardson.

Absent: None.

Also, present: City Manager David Thayer and City Clerk Rachel Andreski

Public in attendance:

Rick Commenator

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVE AGENDA

Tarsi moved, with support from Mangone, to approve the Agenda as presented. All were in favor; Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Richardson said he found a typo on Page 2 (strike \$40,000 and replace the period with a comma \$40,000). Tarsi moved, with support from Hinch, to approve the February 12, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended. All were in favor; Motion carried.

REPORTS

Manager's Report: Thayer said within the next 10-14 days a survey called SWOT will be released to assist the compilation of the Master Plan. The survey is a combination of an essay questions which discusses strengths and weaknesses of the City both internally and externally along with assets in the community to aid with economic development. The other component of the survey is evaluating statements ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree. Richardson asked who all will be participating in the survey. Thayer said ICECA, WUPPDR, DDA, City Council, Planning Commission and this Committee. He further explained this survey will be the basis for our April 18th joint meeting with our consultants, DDA, City Council, Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Committee from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Thayer requested the Committee recruit members to fill vacancies as there are currently 5 members present, however, authorized for up to seven. The vacancies can be filled with a student (16 years or older) and a citizen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Recreation Programs: Thayer requested the attendance of Rick Commenator, the City's representative on the Windsor Recreation Authority and Joint Public Building Restoration

Administrative Board be present to discuss programs offered at the Windsor Center. Commenator explained there are many programs offered for all ages. They have noticed, however, the absence of high school aged children as they choose to not get involved. He explained Dawn Pisoni has a great layout for the youth group and listed programs currently being offered.

Hamel asked if they are affiliated with the little league. Hinch said one team from Iron River, Caspian-Gaastra, Crystal Falls and Amasa will form a league. Hamel asked if the City would be able to donate funds to sponsor their own team. Hinch said the Little League franchise provides funding.

Thayer said there is a need for a community wide push for key people to have interest and to donate their time to programs such as the soccer association, little league, tee ball and more. Unfortunately, there is not enough funding available to do many programs so the key is to concentrate on nurturing the popular programs.

Tarsi requested a copy of the Authority's financials as if funding is an issue, maybe the Committee could be of financial assistance. He explained it's a facility we need to continue to fund and maintain for all they have to offer. Commenator said he will see about obtaining the financials and update the Authority with today's discussions.

NEW BUSINESS

CY21 CIP Projects: Thayer is seeking guidance on what projects the Committee would like to pursue for CY21. Hamel recalls it was previously discussed that the resurfacing of the tennis and basketball courts at Bachman Park was critical. Thayer wants a consensus and focus from the group as he is starting to put together the budget. Tarsi said we have many parks and facilities that require maintenance so he's unsure how much more we can spend for new projects. Richardson added playground safety or safe landing material.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mangone moved to adjourn at 11:01 a.m. Tarsi seconded. All in favor; Motion carried.



Rachel Andreski, City Clerk