

# PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

9:00 A.M.

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Present: Steve VanHouse  
Shane Hoff  
Nathan Stadler  
Tracy Tiboni  
Dick Stern  
Gene LaFond

Excused- Jenny Bjerken

Bryan Carpenter, Parks and Recreation Department  
Karen & Dan Bzdok  
Lana Fralich, City Administrator

VanHouse called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M.

**Agenda** – Motion by Tiboni, second LeFond to approve the Agenda as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Minutes** – Motion by Stern, second Tiboni to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2022 Regular meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**COMMUNICATIONS** – None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Arena Update** – There was discussion on the County completing the concrete work on the exterior beam supports and noted that the underground concrete is still in good condition. There was further discussion on the heaters being gradually replaced inside the building, the County is looking into weather-resistant material for the exterior ends of the building, and that replacement of the Zamboni batteries will cost of approximately \$12,000.

**Marina Update** – There will be a review of the season at an October meeting with the DNR. There was discussion on the large increase due to transient slips being able to be used for seasonal slips (per DNR approval), increase in transient boaters, increase in fuel sales/costs, minimal complaints from boaters, and improvements made to restrooms and gazebo. There was additional discussion on improving communication with slip holders and ideas for next season.

**Black Beach Campground Update** – 2022 occupancy rates are down (78%) compared to 2021 (81%). Closure of ATV trails have had a slight impact this year, 2022 revenue numbers are good so far, currently \$283,535.00 for year. Firewood sales (1500 bundles projected) are down from 2020 (2700 bundles) but increase from 2021 (1200 bundles), a firewood vending machine has been put in budget for next season to increase sales by having firewood available 24 hours instead of when staff is available. Plans are to also have an ice cooler and look into stickers for sale in office to promote Black Beach Campground. Discussion on ATV trail status and the closures impact on the City.

**Fall Programs-** Fall programs have started with strong participation in Pony League football, slightly less in Flag football. Discussion on doubles tennis league and condition of tennis courts.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Multi-Modal Trailhead Center-** The City of Silver Bay has been awarded, by LCCMR, an additional \$1,970,000 for the Multi-Modal Trailhead Center, securing \$4.6 million in grants of the \$4.9 million project cost estimate. There are funding requests from Federal Scenic Byway and bonding still pending, with additional grants intended to be applied for that will cover total project costs. There will be a Trailhead Committee that will begin designing details. The committee will include Councilor Hoff who serves on the Parks & Rec Board, the EDA, and Council, along with Councilor DeRosier who serves on the Planning & Zoning Commission and Council to serve on Trailhead Committee. The remaining Committee would consist of representatives of Parks & Rec, Streets, PUC, EDA, and Planning & Zoning, along with Lake County, ATV/Snowmobile Club, Gitchi-Gami Bike Trail, and Scenic Byway representatives.

**Karen Bzdok-Dog Park-** Karen would like a liaison from Parks & Rec to talk to her about having a dog park in Silver Bay. She doesn't feel the new Multi-Modal Trailhead Center area is a good fit for a dog park but would like to see one in the wooded area behind the Mary Mac building. She was advised to contact a few other communities such as Hibbing and Grand Marais for more information and bring it back to the board. Discussion followed regarding having a city run dog park versus a private park.

Motion by Tiboni, second Stadler to adjourn at 9:56 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lisa Christenson