

City Of Marquette

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Monday February 10, 2025 5:45pm

Citizens Forum at Lakeview Arena 401 E. Fair Ave

1. Call to Order at 5:46pm
2. Roll Call: Present—Amanda Gobert (chair), Andrew MacIver (city liaison), Todd Leigh (vice chair), Jamie Glenn, Jon Nebel, Andrew Tripp, Christopher Jason, Michael Potts, Wendy Hill-Manson, Amy Maus; Not present—Wallace Pearson, Carole Touchinski, Sarah Bixby, John Stewart (excused), Lori Hauswirth (excused), Daniel LaBar (excused)
3. Approval of Agenda:
 - a. Motion to approve agenda made by Todd Leigh, seconded by Jamie Glenn; motion approved unanimously
4. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Requests for edits to December 16, 2024 meeting minutes
 - i. Update Amy Maus absence to excused
 - b. Motion to approve minutes with amendments made by Todd Leigh, seconded by Jamie Glenn; motion passes
5. Announcements:
 - a. No announcements
6. Public Comment:
 - a. Mary Rule—408 W. Park Street
 - i. Concerned about the Lions Park sign removal and the naming of Lions Lakeside Park with the Cultural Center going into the building on the premises.
 - ii. Lions have maintained the park and there are financial implications for them in losing their naming rights, per an agreement from 2019.
 - b. Elmer Moisisio
 - i. Lions Club member for 40 years. Club is over 100 years old and the Club in Marquette was founded right in the area of the park.
 - ii. Looking to maintain the name due to the long history of the Lions Club in our area.
7. Presentation
 - a. Cultural Trail and Center Update
 - i. Tina Morin gave a presentation about the plans for the building at is currently vacant and is slated to become the new Cultural Center.
 1. The building will include offices, open space for gathering, walkthrough space and a room available for rent. It will connect the current segments of trails and parks.
 2. Parking will not change at current location, but many City parking lots are within walking distance.
 3. Accessibility has been evaluated and will be a part of the overall plan
 4. Plan is to open in June 2026
8. Old Business
 - a. Time Capsule
 - i. PRAB members offered additions to the list of ideas presented to include in a new time capsule.
 1. Ideas include current area maps, items from the Covid pandemic, photos of buildings/shorelines at current state, snack food/drink packaging, grocery receipts, restaurant menus, cost chart of common items

2. Suggested including both digital and printed media due to possible degradation and what options for restoration may be available and time of reopening.
3. Get local youth involved—talk to school system about including items in the capsule
- ii. Todd Leigh will head a sub-committee to work out logistics, reach out to schools, coordinate other activities
- iii. Local media and the public will be invited to next meeting to offer additional insight. Amanda Gobert will work with local media after March meeting to gain airtime to put work out to public.
- iv. Donations to time capsule will be solicited from the public and will be able to be dropped off at the Parks office in Lakeview Arena.

9. New Business:

- a. None.

10. Director's Report

a. Grants

- i. Staff are prioritizing current grant funded projects and the Cinder Pond Marina Waterways Grant application in 2025

b. Project Update

- i. Kids Cove: The last signs that were required for the grant will be installed and staff will submit for the final reimbursement from the MDNR.
- ii. The Tourist Park Day-Use Playground is nearly complete. Staff have started the reimbursement process and a ribbon cutting will be held in the spring.
- iii. Presque Isle Bandshell—Fundraising for the new Peg Hirvonen Bandshell is underway. \$1,255,076 has been raised so far with a goal of reaching \$2.1 million.
- iv. Cultural Trail/Center: The Land Use Plan for the Cultural Trail and bid package for the new Cultural Center is nearly complete.
- v. The Tourist Park Day-Use Access Road and Parking Area are currently being designed by City Engineers. Staff are hopeful to start construction in the summer of 2025.

c. Marinas

- i. Both marinas have iced over, and there's some minor separation from thermal expansion. Staff will continue to monitor ice damage and deploy ice mitigation as needed

d. Lakeview Arena

- i. More Zamboni breakdowns and staffing issues have caused issues with operations, primarily ice maintenance.

e. Tourist Park

- i. Reservations for the 2025 camping season started on January 2nd. Revenue from the first day was approximately \$125,000, which is similar to previous seasons.

f. Light House Park

- i. Staff will begin working on prioritizing capital improvement projects in City parks as well as potential grant opportunities. The Light House Park has a few high priority projects that staff may try to pursue in 2026, if possible.

g. Ballfields

- i. The fields are closed for the season

h. Presque Isle

- i. No issues to report at this time. Staff would like to remind everyone that no ice is safe ice and the shore around the island develops "shelf ice." This can be particularly dangerous this time of year when it first starts to form and may not be stable enough to hold any weight.

11. Public Comment

- a. Mary and Elmer spoke in regard to their concerns with potentially losing the name of Lions Lakeside Park once the Cultural Center moves in
- b. Maureen Jensen expressed that Lions Park is an area to welcome Lions from all over the world and has done so several times.

12. Board Member Comment

- a. Board members' consensus on naming of the parks is that there is room for everyone at the site of the Lions Park and the new Cultural Center and Trail, and that it is a goal to ensure that can happen.

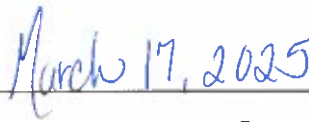
13. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn made at 6:58 by Jamie Glenn; seconded by Michael Potts. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by Amanda Gobert



Amanda Gobert



Date of Approval