

**City of Marquette**  
**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Monday, February 14, 2022 5:30 p.m.**  
**Citizens Forum at Lakeview Arena**

1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Ellen Weingarten at 5:35 p.m.
2. Roll Call –Jim Susorney, Ellen Weingarten (Chair), Andrew MacIver (Asst. Director of Community Services), Tara Laase-McKinney, Nathan Larsh, Sarah Bixby. Not present: Alex Tiseo
3. Approval of Agenda – On a motion from Tara Laase-McKinney and second from Jim Susorney, the agenda was approved unanimously as revised.
4. Approval of Minutes –On a motion from Jim Susorney and second from Sarah Bixby, the minutes of the January 10, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously with corrections.
5. Announcements
  - a. Meijer State Games of Michigan – Meijer is bringing the winter edition of the State Games of Michigan to Marquette Mountain at the end of February. Various winter sport events will be taking place. It is possible the event will be held locally in future years as well.
6. Presentations
  - a. Marquette Arts and Culture Updates and Projects - Tiina Morin, City of Marquette Arts and Culture Director, presented two new projects upcoming. Request for proposal for two \$1000.00 stipends for artists to create month-long art presentations within the parks in the community. Targeting Lighthouse Park. On a motion by Sarah Bixby and second by Matt Luce to recommend project to the Public Art Commission, the recommendation was approved unanimously.  
Tiina Morin also presented on Art Week 2022 (last full week of June), which will focus on the bike path, with cultural trail interpretation. Focuses on different sections of path each day of art week, collaboration with Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and Superior Watershed Partnership. A proposed project discussed included one to purchase and decorate 24 Adirondack chairs to place first at Mattson Lower Harbor Park along the bulkhead, but then possibly move them around along the lakeshore. On a motion by Sarah Bixby and second by Matt Luce to support the Adirondack chair project, the motion passed unanimously.
7. Public Comment
  - a. John Sutton, Superiorland Pickleball Club, presented on behalf of the club. Superiorland Pickleball Club has 150 active members and are applying for 501c3 non-profit status. Currently play mostly at Sands Township Park,

which has tennis courts that are permanently lined for pickleball. Also utilize Baraga gym in the winter and Olson Arena in the summer, NMU courts, Lions Park in Marquette Township, and the YMCA. Requesting the City Parks and Recreation Department to support pickleball by building and maintaining a pickleball court complex within the city park system. PRAB recommended the club organize and develop a plan for what they are proposing and bring it to the city in conjunction with the city's next master plan development.

8. Old Business

a. Recreation Vendors on Public Grounds – Tabled

9. New Business - None

10. Directors Report

a. Grants

- Marquette Playgrounds for All has begun fundraising for the Kids Cove project. Project and donation information is on the website - [www.kidscovemqt.com](http://www.kidscovemqt.com)
  - Since the last meeting, 3 - \$100k donations have been made to the fund. These donations came from the ME Davenport Foundation (\$100k), Reynolds Foundation & Frazier Fund (\$100k), and an anonymous donor (\$104,000).
  - Design is still ongoing with anticipated construction in summer 2023.
- The MDNR Waterways grant agreement for the Presque Isle Marina Phase III was signed and the City will solicit engineering services later this winter.
- Staff are working with the Lions Club to submit a grant for the Lions Lakeside Park Renovations through the MDNR Recreation Passport Program.
- Staff are working on a grant application for the Tourist Park Day Use Access Road and Parking through the MDNR Land & Water Conservation Fund.

b. Project Update

- Founders: Construction is on hold until the spring. Anticipated completion is early summer 2022.
- The Tourist Park Day Use Playground is in design and construction is expected to start in the spring.
- Hurley Playground: The playground and paving are complete. Site remediation and planting will take place in the spring.
- Williams Park: Construction is complete aside from grass planting in the spring. A ribbon cutting will take place in the spring.

d. Lakeview Arena- Staff are working on gathering information and getting commitments from users to justify keeping ice into the spring. Additionally, staff are scheduling special events and weddings for the 2022 dry floor season.

e. Tourist Park - The campground is closed for the season. Online reservations for the 2022 camping season opened with the new reservation software. There have been some issues with the roll out of the new software and staff have been very busy assisting patrons with their camping reservations.

f. Light House Park - No new updates currently.

h. ORV- The State has sent the agreement back with more edits. No timeline on when this will go to the Commission.

i. Ballfields- No report. Closed for the season.

11. Adjournment – There being no further business, on a motion by Jim Susorney and second by Sarah Bixby, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.

The next PRAB meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2022 at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Weingarten:

  
Ellen Weingarten

  
Date