

**City of Marquette
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes**

**Monday May 19, 2025
5:45pm
Citizen's Forum inside Lakeview Arena**

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held in The Citizen's Forum inside Lakeview Arena, Marquette, MI on Monday May 19, 2025. The meeting was convened at 5:45pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Amanda Gobert (chair), Todd Leigh (vice chair), Andrew Maciver (city liaison), Jamie Glenn, Andrew Tripp, John Steward, Lori Hauswirth, Christopher Jason, Michael Potts, Wendy Hill-Manson, Amy Maus, Jon Nebel

Absent: Carole Touchinski (unexcused), Daniel LaBar (unexcused)

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion: Moved by Todd Leigh, seconded by Jamie Glenn to approve the agenda of the May 19, 2025 meeting.
Motioned carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Edits to minutes requested: Under Old Business, adding notation that information provided by police captain in regard to definition of e-bike classifications was incorrect according to state regulation. Class 3 do not have a throttle, as was stated by police captain.

Motion: Moved by Jamie Glenn, seconded by Amy Maus to approve the minutes as edited of the April 21, 2025 meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements: None

Public Comments:

Emily Pechner-Granite Point

Expressed concern about dogs in parks, specifically playgrounds. Many children are afraid of dogs, and in the last month has encountered dogs who are not on leashes twice, and a dog somewhat blocking the entrance to the playground. I would like to see dogs kept away from the playground equipment.

Other Reports:

PRAB Director's report May 2025

a. Grants

- Staff are working on reimbursements for open grants as well as compliance review.

b. Project Update

- Kids Cove: Staff are working on the final reimbursement for the MDNR Trust Fund for \$300,000.
- The Tourist Park Day-Use Playground will be completed in June. Staff will submit for reimbursement from the MDNR Passport program for \$45,000.
- The Tourist Park Day-Use Access Road and Parking Area has been designed, and a bid request will be released before the end of May. Construction is expected to start in July, and this project will affect Hiawatha or GUTS.
- Presque Isle Bandshell - Fundraising for the new Peg Hirvonen Bandshell is underway. \$1,508,808 has been raised so far with a goal of reaching \$2.1 million. Miron Construction has been awarded the bid, and they will start in June.
- Cultural Trail/Center: Premeau Construction has been awarded the contract for the Cultural Center. They will begin work immediately.

c. Marinas:

- Both marinas and the mooring field are open for the season. Presque Isle Marina was delayed a week due to ice damage and inclement weather that prevented repairs.

d. Lakeview Arena:

- Staff are working on plans to extend the Olson ice through June 15th. The limiting factors are demanded to cover expenses, maintenance scheduling, the Zamboni's, and staffing.
- The KBIC Pow wow was April 18th-20th in the Russell Arena. We will also host the Circus on May 2nd and UP Pro Wrestling on May 17th.
- The City Commission will authorize an order to proceed with an appraisal of Lakeview Arena. The potential buyer will then be able to determine the feasibility to purchase the facility and develop a business plan.
- Events at Lakeview Arena:
 - Past events, KBIC Pow Wow, Cherry Creek Family Dance, Superiorland Ski Swap, and UPW Marquette Mania Wrestling.
 - Upcoming events: Juneteenth Celebration 6/19, UPCHS Community Resource Fair 6/26.

e. Tourist Park:

- The campground will open May 23rd. or May 19^h if work is completed early.
- Staff are working on cleaning up the park after the fall and winter. This included leaf pickup, tree trimming or removal, and dog waste clean-up from the seasonal dog park.

- DPW completed the new tent parking area.

f. Light House Park: No update.

g. Ballfields: The athletic fields are open for the season. No issues to report and Little League will continue work on their improvements at Kaufman.

h. Presque Isle: Many reports of hammocks, dogs, and bikes on unpaved trails. Police have increased patrol and encourage people to report violations. Recent public comments have been made about the state of Kawbawgams grave. This issue has been discussed in the past and the tribe has been consulted regarding the marker. Their recommendation is to not touch the site and let it return to its natural state.

An additional public comment was made about the stairs leading to the breakwater on the southeast corner of the park. These stairs have been routinely inspected, and no repairs are needed at this time. Patrons who use these stairs must assume the risk of using these stairs and to replace them it would not be feasible.

Unfinished Business:

Time Capsule

Items currently to be included are two items from Hockeyville, a Villa Capri menu, Bothwell Middle school yearbook.

The list below is of who will work to contact other organizations:

Amanda Gobert: Radio stations/History Center/Peter White Public Library/City Band/Sports/Rotary/Curling

Amy Maus: 906 Adventure team/Gluski park/Moosewood/Eagle Mine

Wendy Hill-Manson: newspaper/bottles from Black Rocks

Jaime Glenn: ODA/Guide to ACCESS/Hiawatha/Lion's Club

Lori Hauswirth: NTN trail maps

Sarah Bixby: Seeds/Superior Culture "menu"/Superior Strings Alliance/City - Emily Leach

Andrew Maciver: Flyers for events/Arts & Culture

Michael Potts: Superior Watershed Partnership

Mike Potts: Johnson's Printing

Christopher Jason/Todd Leigh: Ski patrol

Everyone: menu, takeout menu OR empty container from favorite eatery, brewery, your church

New Business: None

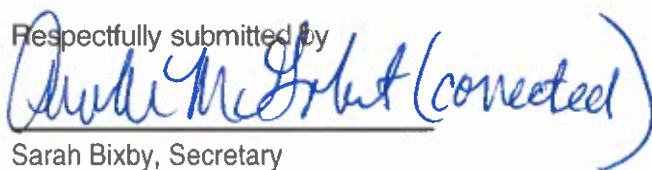
Public Comment: None

Member Comments:

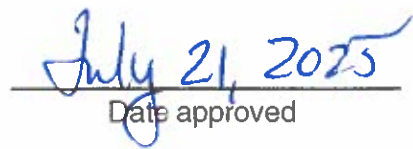
- Christopher Jason suggests Presque Isle discussion for next meeting
- Presque Isle Park Advisory Council (PIPAC) is still advocating for new signage.
- Per Amanda Gobert there is a form (paper trail) that states PRAB would like to support or not support actionable items to go to City Council because minutes are months behind
- Lori Hauswirth suggests someone is dedicated to Presque Isle (PI) patrol. New program "Respect Marquette" is trying to mediate a lack of respect for PI.
- Amy Maus stated it is worth sharing that Presque Isle Park was donated to preserve the natural area and we want to be intentional about not changing the island to meet the needs of the people but rather changing our/people's behavior to preserve the island.
- Todd Leigh asks about Kayak safety signs sitting in Andrew MacIver's office.
- Lori Hauswirth: NTN Trailhead off of Well Road, off Grove, is now open. Accesses Township and City.

Chair Comments: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:03pm

Respectfully submitted by
 (corrected)

Sarah Bixby, Secretary
PRAB


Date approved

(The person who took the meeting minutes should be the individual who signs the approved minutes)