

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

**Monday February 9, 2026
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 February 9, 2026. The meeting was convened at 5:47pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Amanda Gobert (chair), Andrew MacIver (city liaison), Jamie Glenn, Jon Nebel, Sarah Bixby (late arrival), Wendy Hill Manson, Andrew Tripp, Michael Potts, John Stewart, Amy Maus, Christopher Jason, Todd Leigh, Carol Touchinski

Absent: Lori Hauswirth (excused)

Approval of the Agenda:

Request to add under New Business, Dog Park discussion

Motion: Motion made by Carol Touchinski, seconded by Amy Maus to approve the amended agenda of the February 9, 2026 meeting.

Motioned carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Edits to January 12, 2026 minutes to correct duplicate first name under motion to approve minutes. Correct to state "Amy Maus"—remove Lori.

Motion: Motion made by Jamie Glenn, seconded by Todd Leigh to approve January 12, 2026 minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements:

None

Public Comments:

None

Other Reports:

Directors Report February 2026

a. Grants

- Staff are updating the Waterways Grant application to replace the piers at Cinder Pond Marina. This application is due April 1, 2026.
- Staff are evaluating funding options for a new restroom at Presque Isle Park. This restroom is required by code for the new Bandshell.

b. Project Update

- Construction on the Tourist Park Day-Use Access Road and Parking Area is on hold until the spring. Only a few punch list items remain.
- Presque Isle Bandshell – Construction and fundraising for the new Peg Hirvonen Bandshell is underway. The Marquette City Band has been leading the fundraising campaign, which is nearly complete. Estimated completion of the Bandshell is July 2026.

- Cultural Trail/Center: This project is running slightly behind schedule, but additional funding has been raised to offset the deficit as well as adding items that were initially cut.

c. Marinas:

- Staff are monitoring ice conditions and damage has been reported at Cinder Pond and Founders Landing. Presque Isle seems to be holding for now.

d. Lakeview Arena:

- Zamboni issues continue to be major concern with numerous breakdowns threatening operations. One machine has been repaired to a "reliable" state but still has significant oil leaks. Staff are working on acquiring a rental Zamboni to get through the season.
- Staff are working on the ice and event scheduled through May. The extension of the ice season will be based on demand for ice, a reliable Zamboni, and staffing.
- No updates on the potential sale of Lakeview Arena.

e. Tourist Park:

- Camping reservations opened in early January. Reservations are tracking similarly to previous seasons.

f. Light House Park: No update.

g. Ballfields: No update.

h. Presque Isle:

- Staff would like to remind the community that the ice along the shorelines is not safe and should not be walked on. Additionally, the cliffs along the shoreline are covered in ice and one individual was already rescued after slipping over a cliff last month

Unfinished Business:

a. Marina Fiscal policy

- i. Todd is willing to take finances and show parameters to reach financial goals to use as a basis for discussion. Hopefully, we can look at this next month to help the committee with recommendations.
- ii. DNR Waterways grant is the sole grant providing funding for marina upgrades. Monies from other grants would compromise stipulations in the Waterways grant. The city of Marquette is expected to match 50%.

New Business:

a. Commission Presentation

- i. Amanda Gobert will give a presentation on PRAB accomplishments, 2025 to the City Commission 23 February. We looked over the slides and discussed the presentation. Motion to accept presentation with edits suggested and with pending edits after discussion with Andrew and John Swenson before the meeting made by Carole Touchinski, seconded by Amy Maus. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Dog Park

1. Discussion on Dog Park within City of Marquette. City Commission provided PRAB with a location for a proposed dog park.
2. Support for the concept of a dog park was discussed. Location of the park considered is in the overflow/ second course parking of the disc golf park off CR 550. The cost of the dog park is estimated to be \$250,000. A private group would raise the funds. The city would not be funding this dog park but would be maintaining it as a summer dog park. Changing garbage by the city would be covered by dog licenses. Also, Marquette PD would check to make sure dogs using the park have licenses. Tags are \$15 at the clerk's office to be purchased annually. The new park would be a summer park and Tourist park as a winter dog park. Carol Touchinski made a motion to approve the idea of a dog park in Marquette and Jamie Glenn

seconded. The committee unanimously approved the idea of a park. A suggestion was to make sure an environmental study was part of the plan.

Public Comment:

None

Member Comments:

- a. Members would like to discuss the task force roles (e bike) in the next PRAB meeting after taking the time to allow all PRAB to review the city commission's last meeting.
- b. Jamie Glenn attended the e-bike presentation to the city. She also expressed accessibility features to be considered for the dog park.
- c. Carol Touchinski talked to the director of the lighthouse about the lighthouse's plans for creating a children's book about the light house keepers.

Chair Comments:

1. Thank you to those that served on the Ebike committee and all the work that was put in was appreciated.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by



Wendy Hill-Manson

PRAB

3/23/26

Date approved