

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

**Monday March 23, 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 March 23, 2026. The meeting was convened at 5:46pm.

Roll Call:

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

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion: Moved by Jamie Glen, seconded by Christopher Jason to approve the agenda of the March 23, 2026 meeting.
Motioned carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Moved by Jamie Glenn, seconded by Amy Maus to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2026 meeting.
Motion carried unanimously

Announcements:

1. Dog Park— Amanda Gobert gave an update after attending a Friends of Dog Park meeting. The Friends will meet again 4/6, 4/20 and 5/4/2026 to plan, fundraise, discuss sponsorship. Under discussion are fundraisers, sponsorships and details including how to police entry, visitor policy, water for the park - possibly a tank as a water source is not possible. The Friends are developing a narrative to “sell” the dog park to an overseer. Possible long-term overseers include Rotary and Kiwanis. Incentive is that these entities could claim the park as a tax deduction. Other forms of funding include Marquette Community Foundation which has a maintenance fund that, if secured, could pay for city employees.

Public Comments:

None

Other Reports:

PRAB March 2026 Directors Report

a. Grants

- Staff are preparing to submit a grant to Waterways to replace the piers at Cinder Pond Marina. The application deadline is April 1st
- 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 will resume when the weather allows. Only a few punch list items remain,
- Presque Isle Bandshell – Construction and fundraising for the new Peg Hirvonen Bandshell is nearly complete. Some minor exterior work and site work will begin when the weather allows.
- Cultural Trail/Center: Additional scope items, such as a deck, garden, and signage has been added with generous donations from community members. Arts & Culture staff are hopeful of being in the new space in June or July.

c. Marinas:

- Minimal ice damage has occurred. At Cinder Pond, Pier 3 has separated from the gangway and a few posts were broken. Presque Isle Marina has no visible damage as of this report. The floating piers at Founders will need new anchors.

d. Lakeview Arena:

- The 1995 Zamboni has been operating fine with only a few issues. The majority of the hockey season is complete, but the ice will remain until the end of May.
- The Pigs-n-Heat Charity Hockey Game is March 20th.

e. Tourist Park:

- Staff are preparing to hire staff and start opening procedures for the campground. Due to the extensive damage from the blizzard around the holidays, crews will need to close the park on May 1st to begin cleanup.

f. Light House Park: No update.

g. Ballfields: No update.

h. Presque Isle:

- The road closure for the salamander migration will begin March 15th and run through May 15th.
- Moosewood is experiencing significant roof leaks due to the heavy snow and recent snow melt. Staff are working with a contractor and the tenants to mitigate further damage.

Unfinished Business:

Marina Fiscal Policy--Todd Leigh and Andrew MacIver provided a spreadsheet for the Board to review with a "sandbox" component so that the Board could play with proposed rate structures. The Board discussed at length the benefits and impacts of three rate structures

- a. a 34% rate increase over 4 years, with a 6% rate increase each year after
- b. a 15% rate increase for 3 years, with an 8% rate increase each year after
- c. a 21% rate increase for 4 years, with a 6% rate increase each year after

Discussion surrounding each option was presented. The board agreed that option (a) was not an option they wanted to consider.

A request to survey user group at the end of season to attempt to determine reasons for renewal/nonrenewal of slip rental.

Motion: Wendy Hill Manson motioned to propose option (b) to the city commission, with PRAB review ANNUALLY to determine if adjustments should be made at that time. Seconded by Sarah Bixby. Motion passed with a 6-3 vote and will be forwarded in writing to City manager

New Business:

Marina Waterways Grant Application—Information provided that grant was being applied for, but at this time, it is uncertain as to what exactly funds would be used for, as there is significant damage to the Cinder Pond marina due to the winter storms. Insurance claim is being filed as well

Motion: Todd Leigh motioned for PRAB to support the filing of the grant application. Seconded by Andrew Tripp. Motion carried unanimously

Public Comment:

None

Member Comments:

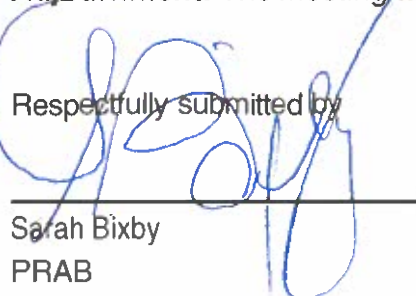
None

Chair Comments:

None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm

Respectfully submitted by



Sarah Bixby
PRAB

4/20/2026

Date approved