

City of Marquette Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

**Monday June 15, 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 June 15, 2026. The meeting was convened at 5:45pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Amanda Gobert (chair), Andrew MacIver (city liaison), Jamie Glenn, Amy Maus, Andrew Tripp, Christopher Jason, Carol Touchinski, Michael Potts, Todd Leigh (vice chair)
Absent: Wendy Hill Manson (excused), John Stewart (unexcused), Sara Bixby (excused)

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion: Moved by Todd Leigh, seconded by Jamie Glen to approve the agenda of the June 15, 2026 meeting.

Motioned carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Correct minutes to reflect Andrew Tripp's absence. Also include copy of Todd Leigh's email in regard to Rowing Club Lease Extension

Motion: Moved by Christopher Jason, seconded by Michael Potts to approve the minutes, as amended, for the April 20, 2026 meeting. Motion passed, with Amy Maus, Todd Leigh, and Andrew Tripp abstaining.

Announcements: None

Presentations: None

Public Comments:

Zach Young - Marquette resident

Brought up issue of open burn on Presque Isle. Also expressed concern about the condition of the grills at the park and stated that they really should be replaced.

Other Reports:

PRAB Director's June 2026

a. Grants

- The Waterways Grant to replace the piers at Cinder Pond Marina was successful. Staff are working on securing financing for the match.
- 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 nearly complete. Staff will start the reimbursement process.
- Presque Isle Bandshell Construction is complete, and the ribbon cutting is June 25th. PRAB members are invited to attend the ribbon cutting as well as the City Band concert that evening.
- Cultural Trail/Center: Construction is moving along and Arts & Culture staff are hoping to be in the space in July.

c. Marinas:

- Cinder Pond Marina reopened on May 16th. Refunds were given to boaters for the days missed. Insurance will cover costs of repairs as well as lost revenue.

d. Lakeview Arena:

- The ice was removed June 2nd, and staff are busy with dry floor events. Critical maintenance on the ice plant has already started as well as plans for repairs on the Zambonis for the next season. The new Zamboni will hopefully be ready by October.

e. Tourist Park:

- The campground opened, as scheduled, on May 22nd thanks to coordinated efforts between City Staff, forestry contractor, and Fullers Outdoors Maintenance. This was an unprecedented year for clean up after the blizzards caused significant damage to the trees on the property.

f. Light House Park: No update.

g. Ballfields: All athletic fields are open, except for soccer field 3 at Kaufman Sports Complex. This field is being releveled and seeded, and it should be ready by July.

h. Presque Isle:

- City Staff are working on removing downed trees from the storms as time and traffic allows.
- Staff are being made aware of numerous weddings being held at Blackrocks or the cove on the island this summer.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Unpermitted Private Events:

- Discussion on how to deal with this, particularly at the Blackrocks and Cove area of Presque Isle Park
- Parks staff have been indirectly made aware of unauthorized weddings happening every weekend in the month of June
- Current ordinance states that gatherings can be no more than 12 people, with no equipment or sound projection.

- Board agreed that we can't just suggest an outright ban on all events until we educate the public on the ordinance and give them a chance to prove they can abide by it. This educational piece would include use of social media (a combined effort by city, police department, Travel Marquette). It would also include signage in the area to state the ordinance. Increased enforcement would also need to happen. It was agreed that, although no officer wants to be the one to break up a wedding in progress (or other type of event), if the event is in violation of the ordinance, it needs to be stopped.
- This initial plan of ordinance enforcement prior to an outright ban was made by Michael Potts, seconded by Jamie Glenn. Motion passed, with Carole Touchinski objecting.

Public Comment: None

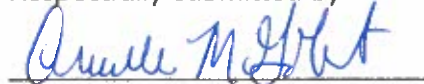
Member Comments:

- Todd Leigh mentioned that the shade coverings were currently missing from Kids Cove at this time. Andrew stated that they are on the list of city projects to get them put back up for the summer season.
- Jamie Glenn asked about a couple of accessibility issues, including the status of beach mat replacement to allow wheelchair access. She also questioned the status of mowing parks, as grass is often long enough to make it difficult to wheelchair and other mobility device traversing
- Andrew Tripp inquired about the return of the lion fountain to Presque Isle. It is going to be put back there soon.
- Amy Maus inquired about the handicapped kayak launch
- Carole Touchinski asked about the priority level of accessibility issues
- Christopher Jason pointed out that many of our discussion items revolve around city staffing and funding.

Chair Comments: Non

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm

Respectfully submitted by



Amanda Gobert, Chair
PRAB



Date approved