

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Chr. LaBar at 4:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present – Del Conley, Art Getzinger, Jackie Langlois, Mike Peltz, Ralph Stedman, Debbie Stiller, Rick Wagner, and Michelle LaBar.
Absent – Tom Sobeck.

Also present: City Mgr. Slown, DPW Supt. Bill Robin, and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Janet Nowak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Comm. Conley, seconded by Comm. Stiller, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 16, 2008.
Ayes – All, motion was carried.

CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE: None
REPORTS/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

REPORTS:

REPORTS FROM CITY STAFF

DPW Supt. Robin reported the ice rink is open. The DPW has been plowing the Huron Sunrise Trail to Forest Ave for walking and from Forest Ave to Shore Drive for both walking and snowshoeing.

City Mgr. Slown reported on the following:

- Included in the packet is information on grant opportunities and information on lifeguard survey. Chr. LaBar inquired if the Seagull Point boardwalk could be built using a grant and Slown replied it could. There was a brief discussion on applying for grants; however, grants usually require matching funds, and it would require time to put together a grant and time line is a factor.
- Slown, Mayor Hall and Chr. LaBar met with Tammy McCord about the Doors of Opportunity Project. Both Slown and LaBar explained what was discussed at the meeting and how the project could work in Rogers City.
- Slown spoke with Mike Miclette of Carmeuse (former O-N Minerals) about providing minerals that have fossils in it for the fossil park. The Commission will need to decide where the fossil park will be located.
- Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) has been sponsoring improvements on the trails throughout the nine counties in Northeast Michigan. A workshop and community input session to help identify future non-motorized trails, trail facilities, and trail connectors in Presque Isle County will be held in conjunction with MDOT. The meeting is scheduled for March 13th from 3pm to 7pm at the Presque Isle District Library. Slown encouraged everyone to attend.

TRAILS PROJECT – HOLLY WIRGAU AND MATT BARSON

Holly Wirgau, Rogers City Middle School Teacher, was in attendance to discuss the trails project. She introduced Kayla Allen, 6th grade student, who explained that the 6th grade class would like to continue the Interruptive Signage Program along the trails with information identifying animal foot prints. Wirgau further explained what they propose and that the current information along the trail has been there for two years and it is time for a change. She stated Matt Barson teaches the other half of the Sixth grade and his class is also willing to work on the project. The Interpretive Signage Program comprises a total of thirty signs which are split between Seagull Point and Herman Vogler Conservation Area including the kiosk. Discussion ensued on the durability of the signs and their stands. Wirgau stated the project will start around the second week of April following spring break. Chr. LaBar thanked both Wirgau and Allen.

ROGERS CITY PARKS & RECREATION GIFT PROGRAM

Chr. LaBar reported on the Rogers City Park & Recreation Gift Program. She contacted Dockside Printing on the cost for printing the gift program brochures. It would cost \$230 for 2000 brochures, \$429 for 5000, and \$585 for 7500 brochures. If the Commission would like to send the brochures with the City utility bills twice a year, then the 2008-09 budget request will need to be increased. In the past, the brochures were distributed with the City utility billing and at local funeral homes. Discussion ensued on other means of distributing the brochures. It was decided to use some of the funds that are currently available to purchase flowers for the parks. DPW Supt. Robin brought up some points about the position of memorial park benches along the Huron Sunrise Trail and City Mgr. Slown talked about art work being displayed along the trail.

February 20, 2008

COMMUNITY RECREATION PLAN

The Community Recreation Plan was updated in 2004 and will need to be updated for the City to apply for future grants for Park & Recreation improvements. Wade Trim was contracted to update the Plan in 2004. Due to the cost of hiring a consultant to update the plan, it was decided that the Park & Recreation Commission will review sections of the plan at each regular monthly meeting. The Plan was created in conjunction with the Rogers City Area Schools; it was suggested that a representative from the school be involved for the review for input. LaBar suggested sending letters to local groups and organizations for their input on future projects. Slown will provide LaBar with a list of groups and organizations to be contacted. Comm. Conley will write a letter to the editor in the *Presque Isle County Advance* to request community suggestions. At the next Park & Recreation meeting, the Commission will review page 37 of the Recreation Plan.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Swimming Instructor – Chr. LaBar talked with some individuals interested in the swimming instructor position, if the certificate training will be held in Alpena. Discussion ensued on how difficult it is and has been to find an instructor.

Comm. Peltz inquired why the City Council did not agree with the Park & Recreation Commission's recommendation to demolish the building at South Shore Park. DPW Supt. Robin responded to his inquiry.

Snow Sculpture Contest - City Mgr. Slown stated the Chamber of Commerce supports the Snow Sculpture Contest and is encouraging the merchants in Rogers City to become involved in the contest. Slown explained the rules of the contest.

City Mgr. Slown thanked Mike Peltz, a member of the Optimist Club, for their Christmas Tree Project at Westminster Park.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Michelle LaBar
Chairperson

Janet M. Nowak
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer