

**Marquette Township Recreation Committee
Tuesday, August 19, 2014 – 5:30 p.m.
Marquette Township Community Center
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Springer called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Wiegand, Mike Springer, Pete LaRue, Paula Liimitta

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dan Adamini (Excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Jason McCarthy, Planner and Zoning Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: William Truscott

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: *To approve the agenda without amendment*

LaRue, Moved / Wiegand, Supported **Carried: Unanimously**

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: July 15, 2014

MOTION: To approve July 15th minutes without amendment

Wiegand, Moved / LaRue, Supported **Carried: Unanimously**

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

OLD BUSINESS:

Wiegand noted the warming building and Erie Street closure have both been approved by the Board. On behalf of the Committee, Wiegand requested that the Board representative LaRue help the Lions Field renovation move forward in order to start work this season. A timeline is needed. Do not remove the road until the area is ready to be graded and the warming building is ready to be built.

McCarthy provided MNRTF and Passport grant coordinator, Christie Bayus, a tour of Lions Field and Schwemwood Parks. The existing Land Water Conservation Fund sign was located and the additional recently purchased logo was installed at Lions Field.

Springer noted the importance of supporting the proposed road millage. Noting that Complete Streets and non-motorized transportation are a component of some of the projects the millage would support. The update to the Road Facilities Plan includes a title change to better illustrate the inclusion of the non-motorized component of a Transportation Plan.

Two panels of the Schwemwood Park/Iron Ore Heritage Trailhead have been installed. Four remain. The Committee has questions regarding possible content of the remaining panels.

Action Item: McCarthy will contact Carol Fulsher and get back to the Committee.

Springer provided a copy of the proposed August 22 mail merge letter to the 44 financial contributors toward the 2010 MNRTF Iron Ore Heritage Trailhead property. The plan is to recognize these donors on a more permanent sign. The letter offers one last check before any new signs are ordered.

Action Item: Springer will work with Jason and Andra Ziems to get the letters mailed out by Friday.

NEW BUSINESS:

McCarthy forwarded an e-mail from Christie Bayus (08/06) regarding changes the Township may want to consider making to the two MNRTF grant applications. Springer was under the impression that almost all under \$50,000 requests have historically been awarded.

Action Item: Springer will contact grant coordinator Christie Bayus.

INFORMATION/REPORTS:

Springer e-mailed Pages 5 and 9 from IC1905 (Rev. 01/09/2014) MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND 2014 APPLICATION GUIDELINES to Committee members. This information, along with what he has consistently heard at MNRTF grant application workshops, leads him to believe that the current small grant should not be increased to a larger amount.

Springer received a June 5, CUPPAD letter of support from Bonnie Strem, Federal Review Coordinator. Letters of support were received from Powell Township and Negaunee Township.

Action Item: Springer get the letter to Jason McCarthy to be added as supporting documentation to our two MNRTF development applications.

The Recreation Authority Feasibility Committee's Report and future directions were discussed in length. Currently the report and its recommendations lie dead at the feet of Marquette City Commissioners. On behalf of the Recreation Committee and as chair of the R. A. Feasibility Committee, McCarthy offered to write a letter to the City. He also is considering addressing the City Commission regarding their lack of interest in following the recommendations of the report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT:

The city does not seem to be interested in anything that does not directly benefit the city. Their interest in mutual cooperation is not existent. Right from the early meetings of the RAFC Marquette City had their own agenda in getting financial support from Chocolay and Marquette Townships.

Concerns over trail use in 'well head' property and the South Marquette Trails were discussed at length. Incidents from rudeness to brandishing a gun were noted. There is a need for divided trails for dog walking, hiking and bicycling. Working with Noquemanon Trail Network is encouraged. NTN South Trails will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

MOTION: *To adjourn at 6:25 pm*

Liimatta, Moved / LaRue, Supported

Carried: Unanimously

Next Meeting: Tuesday, **September 23** @ 5:30 pm

Meeting minutes submitted by Wiegand and Springer