

**SAULT STE. MARIE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

3RD FLOOR COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
225 E. Portage Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
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**MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 6:00 pm

Present: Chair, Jason McLeod, Vice Chair, Fred Williams, Kim Smith, Stephanie Petrow, Dani Filipek, Heidi Wilson, Lindsay Koskenoja, Public Services Director -Tyler Perron, Recreation Coordinator -Trisha Kiczenski

Absent: Tim McKee Jr., Stephen Minta, Commissioner Jody Bosbous-Rath

**CALL TO ORDER.** The meeting was called to order by Jason McLeod at 6:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL.** Attendance was taken as noted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** on Scheduled Agenda Items: Any person may reserve time to speak on any agenda item not to exceed five (5) minutes per person.

**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Acceptance of the 1/30/24 minutes passed unanimously.

**2. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

- a. The ice is being taken off at the Pullar Stadium this week.
- b. Kaine's Rink is being used by SAHS Lacross teams for practices.
- c. The City is reviewing options for security cameras for Sault Seal Recreation Area, Kaines Rink, Malcolm Park, and possibly Harvey Marina. Sherman Park may be included in camera coverage from the Water Treatment Building.
- d. Removal of item b. from the agenda: Harvey Marina Kayak Storage Lockers. The proposal was pulled by Dennis Dougherty.

**3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS**

- a. Sault Area High School's putt-putt golf holes donation proposal.
  - i. Becky Arbic speaks on behalf of Sault Area High School.
  - ii. The Sault High Geometry in Construction class has built 10 mobile putt-putt golf holes for use within the City.
  - iii. Tyler advises that the donation is being accepted administratively and that the Parks & Recreation Board can discuss the best locations to place the remaining putting holes.
  - iv. Becky states that three will be going to Soo Locks Boat Tours.
  - v. Tyler says that the City has been in discussions with Linda Hoath of the CVB to use their mobile app to promote the locations.
  - vi. The Parks and Recreation board suggests Rotary Park, and Brady Park, with Harvey Marina and Sherman Park already proposed locations.
  - vii. The Corp of Engineers will need to approve the golf holes being placed at Brady Park.
- b. Sherman Park Kayak Storage Lockers
  - i. Calvin Aldrich is out of town and not in attendance. Tyler Perron describes the proposal to the board.
  - ii. Calvin is an Eagle Scout. He and the scout group would like to build the storage locker at Sherman Park. They chose this location due to the smaller size storage unit that they were comfortable building, and due to the ease of use at this site.

- iii. He is asking for \$2500.00 in Seal Funding. The total project is \$6500.00.
  - iv. The City will set the fee schedule for the locker rentals.
  - v. Jason McLeod expresses disapproval of the use of Seal Funds. He states that OUT House Consortium already had raised the funds for the project.
  - vi. Dani Filipek questions the fee amount that the City will charge for renting kayak storage, and if the funds will be used in Parks and Recreation.
  - vii. Tyler advised that the Parks and Recreation Board can discuss the user fees, and that revenue from the lockers will go into the City's general fund.
  - viii. Tyler added that the project was included in this meeting due to the schedule for an anticipated completion date of July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
  - ix. Tyler Perron brings the project to the board as a recommendation and advises the board members to take a vote.
  - x. The board voted against a recommendation to the City Commission for the use of Seal funds for this project at this time. (3 Yes / 4 No).
    - 1. Jason McLeod – No
    - 2. Lindasy Koskenoja – No
    - 3. Dani Filipek- Yes
    - 4. Fred Williams – Yes
    - 5. Stephanie Petrow – No
    - 6. Heidi Wilson – No
    - 7. Kim Smith - Yes
- c. City Pickleball Court Discussion
- i. The City has been approached by the community with a lot of interest in City Pickleball courts.
  - ii. Four nets, 16 paddles, 24 balls, floor tape, and utility cart can be purchased for \$1521.93. All four courts fit into Kaines rink.
  - iii. Sabrina Neveu speaks as part of the Pickleball community. She states concerns about having to rent the building and pick up a key. She states that open drop-in times would work better.
  - iv. Sabrina Neveu expresses that they would ultimately like outdoor courts.
  - v. Jason McLeod asks the group if they have outdoor locations in mind.
    - 1. Michael Furr states that for tourism, the downtown area is best.
    - 2. Sabrina lists, open lot next to the Palace Saloon, Lynn Auto Parts building, and the lot next to Bird's Eye Outfitters.
    - 3. Michael Furr mentions the Lower Coast Guard Park old tennis court's location.
    - 4. Dani Filipek suggests talks with Lake Superior State University for use of outdoor tennis courts. Jason McLeod and Fred Williams agree that LSSU tennis courts are a good option.
  - vi. Tyler agrees that it is possible for Kaine's to be opened to the public once we get security cameras in place.
  - vii. The use of \$1521.93 of Seal Funds was supported by Stephanie Petrow and second by Fred Williams.

**1. MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC: (COMMENTS MAY NOT EXCEED FIVE MINUTES PER PERSON)**

a. None

**2. MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE MEMBERS**

None

**ADJOURN** Jason McLeod motions to adjourn, Fred Williams supports. The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.