

**Presque Isle Park & Recreation Committee**  
**Minutes – February 14, 2018 9:30am**  
**Town Hall/Community Building**

1. **Roll Call:** Meeting called to order by Co-Chair, Bob Barofsky @ 9:30 a.m. Other Committee members in attendance: Jorja Burke, Al Drum, Otto Novak, Barb Peck; also, Cathy Logan Weber/Town Board Liaison and Max Wallace/Parks Maintenance. Others in attendance: Wayne McDonald & John MacLean/PI Lions, Carl Schoenecker/Sno-Bunnies, Scott McPherson/Director, PI Chamber of Commerce (COC), Sarah Johnson/COC & Economic Development Committee (EDC).
  2. **Approval of Minutes:** 11.08.17 minutes approved as submitted with a motion by Bob, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al.
  3. **Correspondence:** Emails received by various Park Committee members from Merrill Horswill/TIS, Jeff Burke/TIS, Steve Garski/GLIFWC and Rod Sharka/volunteer-invasive plant control re control of invasive plants during 2018 (including garlic mustard, honeysuckle, yellow iris and buckthorn).
  4. **Administrative**
    - A. *Community Pavilion Project:* Bob outlined procedures to be followed. No sheet metal structures had been considered; \$10,000 has been budgeted and set aside thus far; as Bob initiated this project w/two contractors in 2017, he'll continue as lead on this project. Al advised we would not hire an architect but will advertise for contractors to submit proposals. No firm time frame has been set but, foremost, safety is an issue.
    - B. *Updates from Town Board:* Cathy Logan Weber/Liaison
      1. Invasive plants on town property: (info from Merrill/TIS and Steve Garski/GLIFWC). Honeysuckle on town property located by Ron Sharka/Cathy Weber. Steve found buckthorn on north pond along with some garlic mustard (GM). Jeff Burke/TIS will tag GM w/Steve Garski and then Lee Shambeau/4 Control will address in the Spring. Merrill wrote that the town needs to again send letters to property owners with GM, advising that Lee will treat their properties in Spring. She also advises that buckthorn is not on our town list of noxious weeds, so we may not be able to do anything more than educate the homeowner about that particular invasive plant.
      2. Vehicle Control Gates/Pipke Park: Project was initiated by Marshall Reckard/PI Town Chair in Fall 2017 who requested the Park Committee explore possibilities. Discussion ensued re several types of gates: bollard-style, removable post, swinging, etc. It was noted that some gates may make it difficult for the snowmobile groomer to make turns. Park Committee is to determine the most appropriate gate-type, suggest the placement and necessary signage and then make a recommendation to the Town Board. Gate area needs to be wide enough or removeable for maintenance. Question asked: Should gates/posts include some sort of reflective material? Timeline: Spring 2018 after snow-melt and an on-site visit.
      3. Winter entrance to Pipke Park: Some people have expressed concern for danger in our multi-use trails. Discussion ensued: It has been pointed out several times that communities similar to PI have utilized multi-use trails without incidents and that the approval of our grant application and monies awarded by the DNR to build the trail were dependent upon the multi-use concept. Signage is posted and care must be taken by all using the trail. Also, someone has suggested to Cathy they would like see vehicle access provided from Main Street, past the Lutheran Church and into the park. This route was investigated prior to park construction and, at that time, the Church stated they do not want vehicle access to the park through their property. In addition, per Al, his memory is that a prior study showed the vertical cliff owned by the town as too problematic for road construction. John MacLean offered that there is documentation showing the hill was given to the children of PI in perpetuity. He will provide a copy of that document. Residents of Church Street had also stated they are not in favor of this use because of increased traffic in the neighborhood. Someone else has suggested we look at the area next to the substation on Hwy B. This location would likely require wetland fill and will need permitting. Bob is not in favor of changing vehicle access to Pipke Park.
  - Otto advises that EDC has an initial walking/biking plan connecting Main Street to Pipke Park and suggests we wait until EDC comes back with a design plan for access from main street. Barb advises she favors looking at the big picture and the coordination of the various projects which are being suggested. The Committee agrees to wait for design as Otto suggests.
  - C. *Budget Expenditures through 01/24/18:* Numbers reflect current expenditures.
  - D. *Other Administrative:* None
5. **Parks and Landings**
  - A. *Pipke Park*
    1. Trail Update - Bob's been on the trail twice during the last couple days and the trail looks good. Max says all is well.
    2. PI Lions' proposals for Pipke Park - (specifically: enlarge parking area by 140'x60'; install flood lights at skating rink; build an addition to the pavilion, include upgrading interior electricity and expanding the serving area; and addressing the swimming area), were presented by Wayne McDonald and John MacLean. Bob advises that the Lions need to address the following in order for the Park Committee to make their recommendation to the Town Board: Cost of projects, the funding

sources, exterior lighting issues (type of lighting, type of poles, lighting ordinance compliance) for these projects. Also, determining the setback of the proposed addition from the Ordinary High Water Mark and then what permitting may be necessary would be best researched after a Spring on-site visit. It was noted that prior to receiving these proposals, other residents had requested space for playground equipment in this area. Wayne advises that the Lions have set a goal to raise up to \$10,000 to fund these projects and they will present their plans to the Park Committee when the requested specifics are formulated. Recommendations will be presented to the Town Board by Parks after the suggested Spring on-site visit.

Installation of flood lights was then discussed further: Is there a need? Cost factor of lighting? Is it a valued addition? Product types and cost of lighting will be compiled by Wayne/John, presented to the Park Committee, followed by a recommendation to the Town Board. John said he's a "minimalist" when it comes to lighting and would like to see unobtrusive posts/lights. Otto and Barb would like time limits placed on hours of operating the lights to be considered. Per Wayne, the Lions will put proposals together with dollar values for presentation.

Also, Wayne noted that one of the heating exhaust pipes in the pavilion is loose – Max will check on this.

Barb has volunteered (at Bob's request) as "coordinator for Pipke Park projects" which includes coordinating the Lion's proposals as outlined above, and the EDC plan for a walking/biking access trail connecting Main Street to Pipke Park (see 4B3 above). In addition, ideas/requests continue to be brought to the Park Committee, Barb will consolidate, keep track of and present them to the Park Committee for review and decisions on how to proceed. Barb was thanked for "volunteering." The Park Committee is in agreement that timing is good for consideration of these projects.

3. EDC Proposals: These items were passed to Barb for coordinating on-site suggestions (see paragraph above).
  - a. Improved fire pit – No decision made today, wait for the Spring on-site visit to determine best type/location.
  - b. Establishing a hockey club was not discussed.
  - c. Flooding/maintenance suggestions for ice skating area - Max addresses all rink issues and is satisfied with this winter's results.
4. Other: Bob reminded all that individual members of the Committee do not direct Max's work; instructions for Max's duties come from the town board.

#### *B. Community Park*

1. Painting of a mural on Pit Toilets: Barb and Cathy thought local school children may like to participate in painting. Cathy will be coordinator for project. Barb will contact Nate Breitholtz at NLS Art Department.

#### *C. Other Parks/Landings*

1. Main Street: Walking/Bike Path Access to Pipke Park from Main Street. Item to be addressed by Barb with the EDC when their proposals/plans are complete. (See 4B3 and 5A2 above.)

6. **Other:** None

7. **Public Comment:** Included within items listed above

8. **Next Meetings:** 03.14.18; 04.18.17 at 9:00 a.m.

9. **Adjournment:** Bob adjourned the meeting @ 11:10am with a motion by Barb and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jorja Burke, Secretary

**Unapproved Minutes**