

Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2021

Call to order—The regular meeting of the Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Committee was called to order by Chair, Barb Peck, at 1:02 P.M. April 27, 2021, in the Presque Isle town office large meeting room. Also present were committee members Al Drum, Eric Benn, Liaison Cathy Weber (remote), Brian Luetzow and Rich Schmalzer.

Item 1-Approval of the minutes of March 17, 2021- Eric moved to approve the 03/17/2021 minutes, seconded by Brian. Motion carried.

Item 2-Public Comment—None

Item 3-Correspondence---Rich mentioned the Sensenbrenner dock repairs, for which money has been allocated in the P & R budget. Cathy suggested that the materials can be purchased and the bill sent to the Town.

Town Cleanup is May 22.

Item 4-Old Business

Item a. Maintenance Projects-Eric addressed the subject of new kiosk construction; Eric has consulted with Bob Barofsky regarding replacing the Annabelle Lake kiosk, employing designs Bob used previously. Perhaps we can find grants. Wildcat Lake was also mentioned. (Bob reported that he and others produced four town kiosks and four DNR landing kiosks.) A disappearing sign at Annabelle Lake was mentioned.

Regarding the community upper campus trails, Eric reported that *markers* on those trails have been rejuvenated. He proposed that we not proceed with acquiring and installing *trail map signs* for these trails until the dog park initiative is firmed up, and include the new feature on our trail maps when we are confident it will come to fruition.

At Cathy's request, Eric will send to her the latest versions of upper campus trail mapping.

Item b. Main Street improvements-A path from Main Street to Pipke Park was briefly addressed. Also of concern was the question of traveling around the upcoming Highway B closure for the large culvert replacement. Is there a place for a small temporary roadway? 1) Possibly behind the Outpost restaurant; 2) Or, perhaps on the snowmobile trail behind the Yacht Club.

Eric addressed the walkaround on a previous day examining locations for the band shelter and for the proposed dog park. He noted that town property extends up to the paved Outpost parking lot; also, the Yacht Club property is very near the town property on the south pond trail. Barb asked for comments pertaining to the path to Pipke Park. Rich suggested that an automobile access could be event-driven only, not an everyday access. Eric added he's not in favor of a permanent car access to the park. Discussion followed regarding an access alongside the church; this region may be too steep and narrow. Barb expressed support for the event-driven access concept. The Committee seemed in agreement that an event-driven car access should be pursued, but that it's too early to specify exact locations. The Committee decided to remain in session following the indoor meeting and do a field examination of possible access routes to Pipke Park, prior to adjournment.

Item c. North Pond Trail Fix-Eric discussed the proposed bypass trail that would allow walkers to circumvent the muddy portion of the north pond trail. Town Chair John Maclean is on board with this. Eric and Al will contact John to examine a trail he has constructed. Tony Martinez, the trail boss for Northern Highlands, American Legion State Forest, walked the proposed trail route and would

return at our request to mark a suitable trail route in detail. Cathy will have the bypass trail on the May 4 Town Board agenda. Eric will distribute mapping he produced illustrating the bypass. Barb will write a description.

Item d. Log Pavilion Reconstruction-Al reported that construction began on April 8. All twelve pedestals had been poured by April 26. The Natural Weathered Fieldstone arrived on site on April 26. The work remaining is forming the concrete splash caps, probably finishing on April 29, and the installation of fieldstone, likely to be done by May 14.

The five electric 120 volt outlets will be replaced with surface-mounted conduit and outlets by Williams Electric. The outlets will be installed at a height of 48 inches above the floor on the outside face of the five easterly columns. Members asked to check if a 50 amp, 240 volt circuit could be included in the work with a 240 volt outlet mounted on the existing breaker box or its supporting post. Al will ask Williams.

Item e. Little Horsehead Lake Landing Update-Rich received a letter from the DNR, pointing out that an approval is needed to proceed with construction. The work cannot physically begin without the approval. Completion must occur by the end of March, 2022. Coleman Engineering will claim officially that they are the project manager. We're waiting for the approval. Coleman has not at this time offered an expected completion date.

Item f. Joint Meeting with Organizations/Committees-Barb pointed out that there will be more joint meetings. Eric suggested that the pros and cons of both the band shelter and the dog park initiatives looked promising. Rich pointed out that the band shelter will be a Lions project.

Specific locations were discussed. Eric favored the Orchard Trail location downhill from the town garden, as did other members. For the band shell, members favored two possible positions by the Pipke Park pavilion: 1) Quonset location; 2) Above and near the original Pipke Park parking area.

Electric outlets in the vicinity of the Pipke Park pavilion were discussed at length. Cathy felt that the entire Town Board needed to hear the details concerning shortage of electric power at the Pipke pavilion. Lions may be willing to help significantly to pay for these improvements. The electrical upgrades at the ball diamonds should be considered also on the Town Board agenda.

The dog park may be influenced by previous DNR improvement grants.

Barb asked that written proposals be written for presentation to the Board.

Item 5-New Business

Item a. Urban Fishing Pond-Mentioned in the Conservation Congress voting session-Pipke Park ponds-Duly noted

Item b. Park Rules and Regulations-Will be taken up on a future agenda

Item c. Next meeting is May 19, 2021, 1:00 P.M.

Members representing a quorum then visited the lands above and below the Lutheran Church location looking for a suitable location for a driveable, even-driven route to Pipke Park.

Item 6-Adjournment-Meeting adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Drum
Secretary, Presque Isle Parks and Recreation Committee
Transcribed May 17, 2021

