

**Minutes
Village of Elk Rapids
Parks and Recreation Commission
August 5, 2021**

Present: Charlie Pryde, Gordon Stewart, Ryan Paxon, Melissa West, Paula Moyer, James Dake

Excused: Mike Conrad

Staff: Village Manager Brian Gruesbeck

West calls meeting to order

Motion to approve agenda by Moyer. Second by Pryde. **Motion Carried**

Motion to approve last meeting minutes by Dake. Second by Pryde. **Motion Carried**

Citizen Comments: n/a

New Business:

Ice Rink-Location discussion – Discussion postponed to September meeting with Lewis Cooper in attendance

Unfinished Business:

CommUNITY event – Saturday, September 18, 12:00-3:00 pm in Veterans Memorial Park. Jen Wilson, event planner joined the meeting via Zoom. West presented the name of the event and two logo options; Wilson will make changes that were suggested combining the two. Wilson has reached out to several community partners to participate in the event (Norte, Art Rapids, ERHS Marching Band, TART and Bodywise); several more will be contacted including Fire and Police Departments. The Paddle Antrim Festival afterparty will be held at Shorts Pull barn at 3:00 which can serve as an end to the CommUNITY event. A mailer will be sent to all homes in the Elk Rapids area 10-12 days prior to the event with details and the schedule of events.

Gruesbeck will post the event on the Village Website. Wilson will create a media alert/press list for the Elk Rapids News and Record Eagle. Discussed activity ideas for Commission members to interact with the community such as a pet costume contest and handing out ice cream. Wilson will make a presentation to the Village Council at the next meeting and encourage attendance.

Budget Discussion – Postponed until the September meeting when Marcus Evans, DPW Superintendent, can be in attendance. There has been positive feedback regarding floating docks on Ames street.

Nakwema Update – no update available.

Norte Update – Slow Roll was happening during the Commission meeting. Discussion to move the Norte Shed to the west side of HI way 31; a decision will be made during the Parks Evaluation meeting and after consulting with Lauren Dake, Outreach Coordinator.

Swim Lessons in the lake – West reported Charlevoix and Petoskey do not have open water swim lessons and Gruesbeck reported the Village lawyer recommended hiring a certified instructor as a part-time seasonal Village employee with a financial agreement and list of expectations to be paid from Parks and Recreation budget. Discussed the pros and cons of launching a program in August at Memorial Park and the consensus was complete support of offering lessons but wait until the summer of 2022 to have more time to find an instructor, create a lesson schedule, partner with Elk Rapids schools and sign-up swimmers.

Trail Town update – The Trail Town Committee is planning on submitting the application in early September. Moyer wrote a letter of support from the Parks and Recreation Commission that will be included with the application, along with other local letters.

Council Update – Pryde distributed copies of the Strategic Goals and Objectives flyer. The Council will review the status of one goal each meeting; Monday's discussion centered on Goal 2: Improve Ames Street Corridor. Pryde also gave updates on Powerhome Solar, a public hearing concerning the Rehabilitation facility on Ames St. and the purchase and installation of cameras near the police department headquarters.

Correspondence: n/a

Next meeting Thursday September 2 at 7:00 pm at Government Center.

Motion by Stewart to Adjourn. Second by Dake. Meeting adjourned.