

**MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2016
NEGAUNEE ICE ARENA**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gerry Corkin

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Thomas, Anna Mattson, Bill Carlson & Jeff Rogers

OTHERS PRESENT: Derek DuShane, Jeff Thornton & Don Gladwell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Red Earth Classic Bike race

Event organizers of the Red Earth Classic bike race have begun preparations for the 2016 event which will take place on July 16 & 17. The event will consist of a 12 mile, 20 mile, 32 mile & Enduro race. The event will again take place in the Jackson Mine park/Old Town area beginning at 8am and running to 9pm with food and beer tents opening at 11am. The Old Jackson park will be used as a rustic campground site on Friday and Saturday nights. Last year's event had 265 racers and 550 attendees to the festival. The organizers of the event will be responsible for obtaining the proper permits for road crossing, insurance, liquor and food license.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bernie Rivers Field Park Update

Marquette Fence Company has completed the fencing work to the backstop and 1st & 3rd base fence lines. A man gate has been added to the left field fence line to gain easier access to the batting cage area. The City will have to do some top soil and seed restoration work on the field to complete the project in the spring. City and Penchura staff continue to work with the state on the final specs for the parking area, basketball court and walking path. With the states approval these should be going out on bids soon.

Old Towne Pavilion Project Update

With this project being awarded \$70,000 from the Cliffs/Eagle fund in December the Old Towne Development committee meet to strategize on how to best move the project forward. The committee believes applying for a DNR grant and developing a fundraising campaign are the best options for obtaining the additional funds needed for the project. City staff along with CUPPAD will be working on the DNR grant which has an April 1, 2016 deadline. The Old Towne Development committee members will be working on a fundraising campaign and brochure for the project. Committee member Don Gladwell will act as the liaison to the parks board on this project.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm