

FACILITIES, CAPITAL & STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
DRAFT - MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 19, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.
Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room

Commissioners Present: Travis Konarzewski, (Chair)
Brenda Fournier
Bill LaHaie
John Kozlowski

Others Present: Jesse Osmer, County Administrator
Keri Bertrand, County Clerk
Burt Francisco, County Commissioner
Robin Lalonde, County Commissioner
Kim MacArthur, Board Assistant
Elaine Sommerfeld, Alpena County Plaza Pool
Kim Bolanowski, Alpena County Plaza Pool
Donna Hardies, Catholic Human Services/UP North Prevention
Chet Spencer, Catholic Human Services/UP North Prevention
Wes Wilder, Maintenance Superintendent
Steve Smigelski, Airport Manager
Joe Garber, Alpena County Library Board
Lauren Mantlo, Alpena County Library Board
Debra Greenacre, Alpena County Library Director
Jessica Luther, Alpena County Library Assistant Director
Dustin Budd, Alpena County Library Board
Michelle Cornish, Alpena County Library Board

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Travis Konarzewski called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ADOPT AGENDA

Chair Konarzewski presented the agenda for approval. Motion to approve agenda by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEM: Kim Bolanowski & Elaine Sommerfeld provided an update on pool operations. Elaine reported the pool is currently shut down for its annual maintenance and thanked the maintenance team along with the pool lifeguards for pitching in to clean, scrub, and paint. Pool memberships and rentals for the Wubit have increased and they are looking for ways to bring more people into the pool. The chloride tank has been replaced and is much safer than the old one.

Kim reported they would like to look at moving the annual maintenance to May rather than June as they have been losing a lot of rentals throughout the two weeks in June.

Since January there have been over 350 swim lesson instructions and Kim is looking to write a grant to improve lessons. The program is approximately \$1,500 per year and is all online. They are hoping to implement this program by September. Drop-in rates are \$64-\$80 per day and this year the pool is trending to have over 40,000 people. The Facebook page is doing well with 3,070 followers this month and they are reaching about 14,000 people with each post.

INFORMATION ITEM: Donna Hardies with Catholic Human Services/UP North Prevention updated the Committee on the prevention services they provide to the community and in the schools and reported that their organization holds the prevention contract for Alpena County. The prevention dollars statewide for counties are very low and to supplement funds, they can apply for liquor tax dollars at the local county level. Each county through liquor revenue has a certain fund. These funds are used for treatment, substance use disorder, and other types of outreach. The Local Prevention Specialist in Alpena County Chet Spencer presented the Committee with information and the application they are applying for through Northern Michigan Regional Entity (NMRE) in the amount of \$40,000. Donna and Chet provided this information for the Committee to review and to know what these liquor tax dollars are being used for to help the community.

INFORMATION ITEM: Airport Manager Steve Smigelski gave the Committee an update on the airport:

- The airport boarded 779 people in May this year which is up from 165 in May of last year. The lower number was due to confusion with SkyWest cancelling reservations because they knew the airport was going to be closed in June and July.
- The flight schedule has changed to accommodate connecting flights.
- Discussion on Fuel Sales which are doing extremely well. Steve reported one of the big reasons SkyWest fuel sales were down in May is due to bad weather. The FAA mandates that planes must fly 20 miles around storms, and they need that extra fuel which then decreases the amount of fuel they need to get in Alpena.
- The airport received one sealed bid for the two snowplow trucks.
- The FAA Annual Safety Certification Inspection went very well considering the construction.
- An auditor from SkyWest who was onsite for fuel operation inspection was very pleased with the way things are being handled.

INFORMATION ITEM: Maintenance Superintendent Wes Wilder updated the Committee on the following projects:

1. Merchants Building: Water bottle filling/drinking fountain has been installed. LED light fixtures were picked up on June 13, 2024, and will be installed as soon as possible. Windows have been ordered but have not come in yet.
2. Pool Shut Down: This is scheduled for June 17th thru June 28th.
3. Repairs to Bleachers: (Replace deteriorated lumber) is complete. Prior to the Blues Festival 13-14 boards were replaced.

4. HVAC at MDOT Building: Control Solutions has informed Wes that the County will need to hire an engineer to look at that system to determine the best course of action going forward. Wes is looking into the potential cost to get this taken care of.
5. 711 Building: Wes received a call from Leslie Davis from Omni regarding the A/C not coming on for certain areas of the building. Control Solutions is working on the issues.
6. Animal Control Shelter Roof: Permit has been pulled and roof work will begin after the 4th of July.

Discussion was made on moving the annual maintenance dates for the pool from June to May. If moved, Wes would rather have the maintenance done in late May as spring cleanup happens in early May.

Discussion was made on replacing some boards along the fence of the track. Wes reported they will get those replaced before the fair begins and Sheriff Smith may be able to provide 3 or 4 inmates or people that need community service to help paint the fences.

The new mower has not come in yet. They were waiting on cab mounts and the hard bagger, but it should be available soon.

INFORMATION ITEM: Commissioner Kozlowski reported recycling bins were moved to Northern Lights Arena and there is concern with the effect on the pavement and with the amount of trash being left behind. Commissioner Kozlowski will contact Jeremy Winterstein with Northern Lights Arena for further discussion.

INFORMATION ITEM: Chair Konarzewski presented the Recycling Monthly Reports for review. Motion was made by Commissioner LaHaie and supported by Commissioner Fournier to receive and file the monthly Recycling Reports as presented. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEM: County Administrator Jesse Osmer reported the Boys & Girls Club came to the County last year asking to turn the deed over to them in full. At that time the board had agreed for the Boys & Girls Club to put the property on the market and 25% of the profit from the sale would come back to the County and 75% to the Boys & Girls Club. Administrator Osmer reached out to the Boys & Girls Club and Director Brad Somers replied that they had not received any official communication from the County for them to begin the process. In the same communication with Mr. Somers, he had conveyed that the Boys & Girls Club felt there might be a need for gym space for local youth but right now the building is being used for storage. County Administrator Osmer reported when the initial approval was given for them to sell, the board had expected it to hit the market in a reasonable amount of time. Discussion was made on sending a letter to the Boys & Girls Club to consider a stepping scale of every 3-6 that more comes back to the County. There also could be a breach of contract as the building is being used for storage and not used to service the youth of Alpena. Administrator Osmer will create letters with different options and present them at the June Full Board meeting.

INFORMATION ITEM: Administrator Osmer reported there were a few notes made by the attorney on the Airport Lots Contract with Duane Jennings. Administrator Osmer will pinpoint the attorney recommendations and bring them to the June Full Board meeting for review.

INFORMATION ITEM: Library Board of Trustees Chairman Joe Garber reported that the Library Board had received some questions from the Commissioners and had submitted their answers ahead of today's meeting along with other materials such as the Collection Development Policy, Reconsideration of Library Material Form, information from the Library of Michigan, and letters from various library professionals. The board understands the Collection Development Policy has been in place for some time and needs to be brought up to more current standards and they are working diligently to do so. Joe reported the board does a lot of research and they take comments very seriously. Once a revised Collection Development Policy is ready and drafted the board intends to have public comment at an open meeting. Joe reported there are a number of books that are currently being focused on, but the library provides many more services to the community than just books. There is a millage coming due in August and if it's not passed, the library closes.

Discussion was made on age ranges and content of the explicit books. Joe reported the board is trying to do their best for everyone that utilizes the library and the board is open to listening to all points of view. Everyone has their opinions on the books, and the board needs to come up with a policy to best suit everyone.

Library Director Debra Greenacre, Library Board of Trustees Members' Lauren Mantlo, Michelle Cornish and Dustin Budd all contributed information on the library, the board and their policies to the Committee.

Chair Konarzewski suggested the Library Board hold special meetings to show the public the effort is being made to help reassure that their concerns are not falling on deaf ears.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Julie Byrnes of Alpena shared her concerns with the Library Board and books that are in the library.

Robin Lalonde of Alpena shared her concerns with the Library Board and the explicit books in the library.

Traci Collins of Wilson Township shared her concerns with the books that are in the library, particularly that are in the teen book club and summer reading program for the last several years.

Dorothy Boyd shared her concerns with the Library Board and the books that are in the library.

Bruce Heath of Ossineke shared his concerns with books that are in the library.

Don Gilmet of Alpena shared his concerns with books that are in the library.

Nonie Muller of Alpena shared sexual abuse statistics and provided a handout on Trauma: Childhood Sexual Abuse.

Brandon Ross of Alpena shared his thoughts and concerns on books.

Jacki Bourdeau of Presque Isle shared her concerns with the books that are in the library.

Chair Konarzewski thanked everyone for attending the meeting along with members from the library for their input and information and stressed how important the library is and that the community wants the library to stay.

***Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Howard Male Conference Room/Zoom Room**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner LaHaie. The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Travis Konarzewski, Chair

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