



# AGENDA NOTICE

City of Traverse City Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting  
6:30 p.m.  
March 3, 2016

**CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 400 Boardman Ave.  
Traverse City, Michigan 49684

Posted: 2 - 29 - 2016

Information and minutes are available from the Parks & Recreation Superintendent, D.P.S. Building, 625 Woodmere Avenue, Traverse City, MI, 49686, (231) 922-4910.

The Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are recorded. If you would like an audio copy of a particular meeting's proceedings, please contact the Parks and Recreation Superintendent Lauren Vaughn at (231) 922-4910.

If you are planning to attend and are handicapped requiring any special assistance, please notify the Parks and Recreation Superintendent as soon as possible.

## AGENDA

Chairperson Margaret Szajner Presiding

### 1. CONSENT CALENDAR

The purpose of the consent calendar is to expedite business by grouping non-controversial items together to be dealt with by one Commission motion without discussion. Any member of the Commission, staff or the public may ask that any item on the consent calendar be removed therefrom and placed elsewhere on the agenda for full discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected.

- a. Consideration of minutes of the February 4, 2016 Regular Meeting.

### 2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Welcome to new Commissioner Sabrina Newton

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion of future planning possibilities for Sunset and American Legion parks
- b. Update on Clinch Park repairs
- c. Discussion of Jupiter Gardens Park grant for gardens
- d. Update on Hickory Hills design, grant and fundraising process

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**5. COMMISSION REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Superintendent's Report
- b. Schedule of Upcoming Events

The City of Traverse City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Penny Hill, Assistant City Manager, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, 49684, 922-4440, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the ADA Coordinator.

If you are planning to attend and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting and/or if you have any concerns, please immediately notify the ADA Coordinator.



## MINUTES

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016 AT 6:30 P.M.  
IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, 400 BOARDMAN AVENUE  
TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN 49684**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Brook DiGiacomo (left at 8:00 p.m.), Matthew Ross, William Dorrier,  
Michelle Schuett

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** John Gessner, Danielle Rearick

**ALSO PRESENT:** Lauren Vaughn

Chairperson Margaret Szajner Presiding

**1. ITEM ON THE AGENDA BEING CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. Consideration of minutes of the January 7, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Motion by DiGiacomo seconded by Ross, that the following action as recommended on the Consent Calendar portion of the Agenda be approved.

**CARRIED 5 – 0**

**2. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. A presentation was given by Cara Colburn, David Egli and Donald Piche, President of the Traverse City Curling Club.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

- b. Maureen Madion of Preserve Hickory spoke regarding the “Preserve Hickory Donor Gift Acceptance, Donor Recognition and Naming Policy”.

Motion by Dorrier, seconded by DiGiacomo to recommend adoption of the Preserve Hickory Donor Gift Acceptance, Donor Recognition and Naming Policy to the City Commission.

**CARRIED 5 – 0**

- c. Consideration of adopting a resolution to recommend adoption of the 2016-2021 Parks and Recreation Plan. Discussion ensued.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

T. Michael Jackson, 217 Sixth St., T.C.

Motion by DiGiacomo, seconded by Schuett to adopt the resolution to recommend adoption of the 2016 – 2021 Parks and Recreation Plan to the City Commission.

**CARRIED 5 – 0**

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Superintendent Vaughn, spoke regarding planning possibilities for Hannah and Huron Hills parks. Discussion ensued.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

T. Michael Jackson, 217 Sixth St., T.C.

- b. Superintendent Vaughn gave an update on Clinch Park repairs.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Schuett spoke regarding Jonathan Aylward receiving a grant for plantings in Jupiter Gardens.

**5. COMMISSION REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Superintendent's Report
- c. Schedule of Upcoming Events

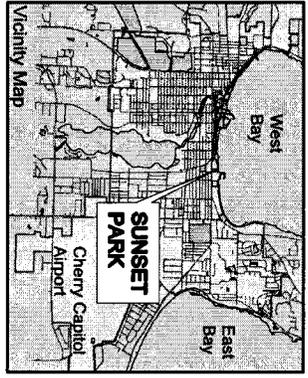
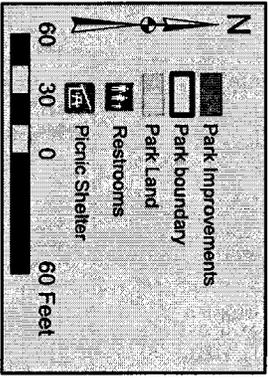
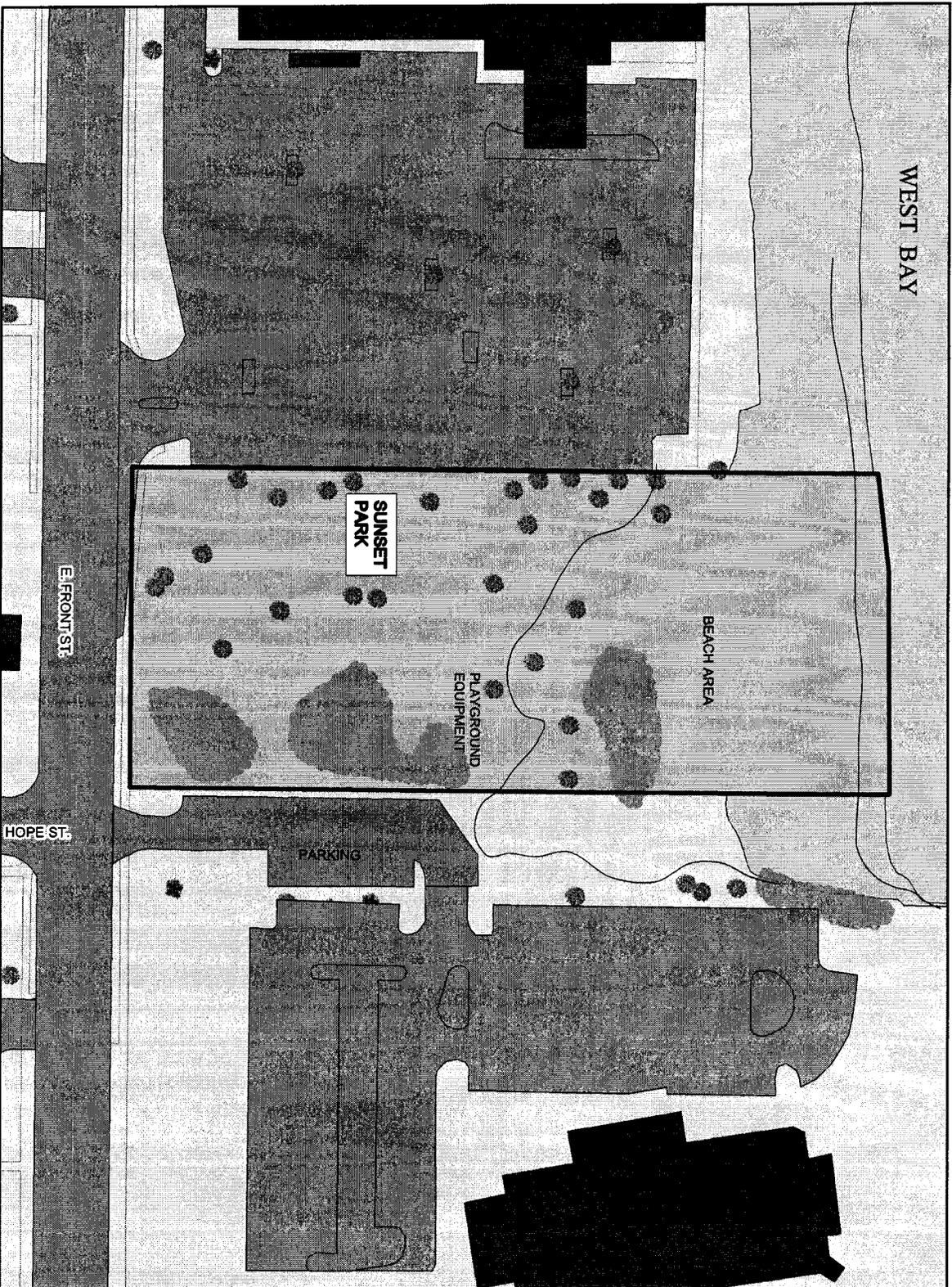
There being no objection, Chairperson Szajner declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission approved: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ on March 3, 2016

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Lauren A. Vaughn  
Parks and Recreation Superintendent

# SUNSET PARK



City of  
**TRAVERSE CITY**

GROUP NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENT DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

DATE REQUESTED: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

# Silver Splinters

OCTOBER 7, 1989



Sunset Park. A magic word. What a wonderful place it was. Swings, teeter totters, slides and a gazebo type bandstand, where the best music in the world was played by Traverse City musicians, every Fourth of July. Green grass, beautiful flower beds and the tallest oak trees you ever saw, shading the picnic tables.

There was a long bath house with a candy counter at the entrance that was supervised by the ever present caretaker. This beautiful garden playground was enclosed on both sides by a long hedge of huge, thick spiraea bushes.

It was hard to decide whether you wanted to stay on the beach, plunge into the white caps or play in the park. So of course you would be completely worn out when it was time to go home.

All of this, only a half block from my grandparents home. Front Street was only two lanes wide and very little automobile traffic to watch for.

In the Nineteen Twenties and Thirties, we were truly,  
The Heart of Natures Playground.

*Clayton K. Sporne*

## OUR PENINSULA

1997

CHERRIES AND BERRIES ON THE ROLLING HILLS,  
NO LONGER BLOOM WITH THE DAFFODILS.

THE EVER BUSY HONEY BEES,  
ARE NO LONGER BUZZING IN THE MORNING BREEZE.

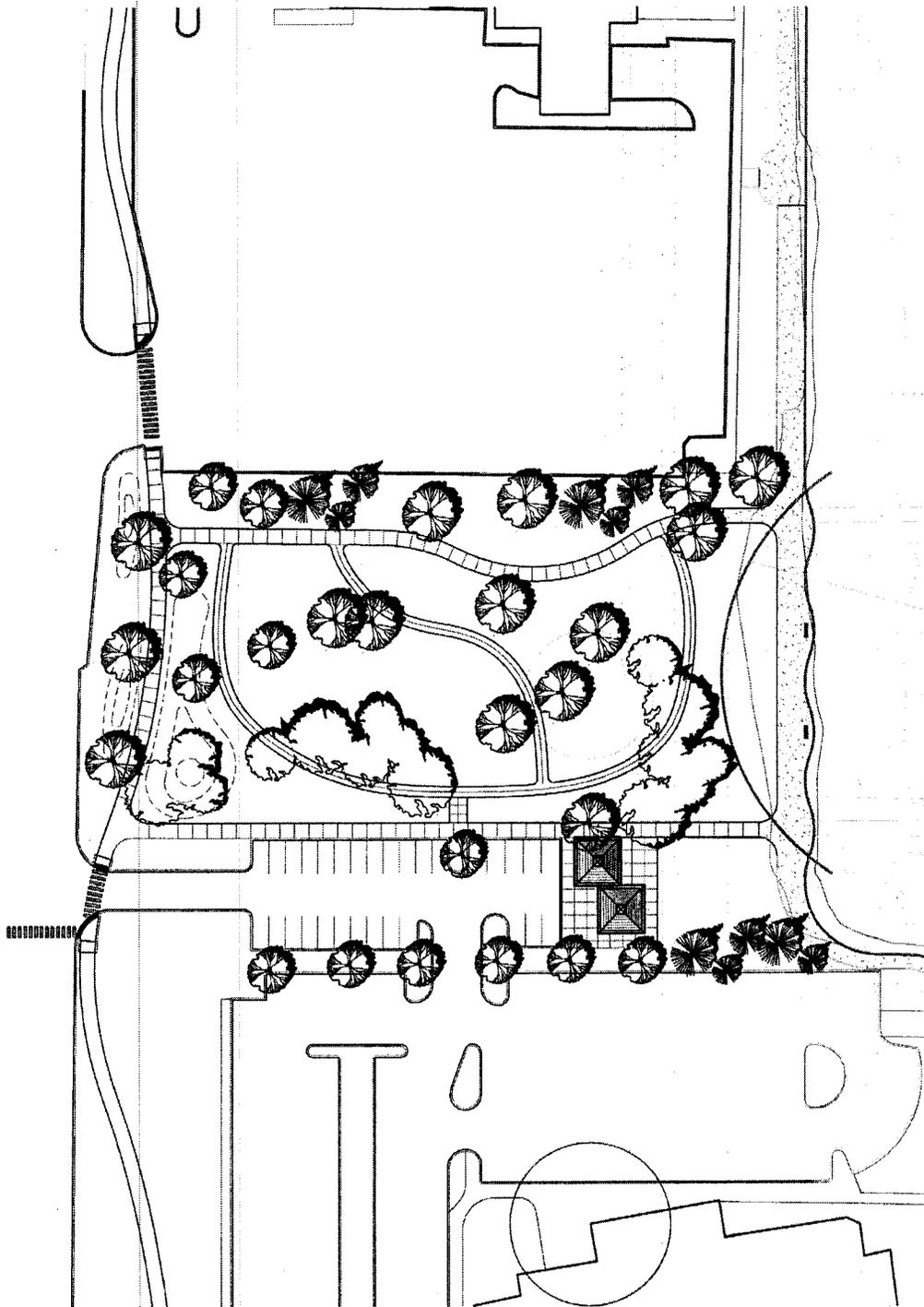
THE ROBINS, THE SANDPIPERS AND BLUEBIRDS ON HIGH,  
SOARING, SOARING IN THE FRIENDLY SKY.

SWEET MELODY IS IN THEIR SONG,  
WHILE NATURE HINTS OF SOMETHING WRONG.

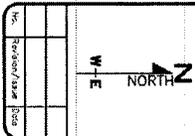
INCH BY INCH, YARD BY YARD,  
CONCRETE SMOTHERS WHILE WE ARE OFF GUARD.

IT MOVES IN SILENT MYSTERIOUS WAYS,  
WHILE BEAUTY DISAPPEARS BETWEEN THE BAYS.

*Clayton K. Sporne*



Project	SUNSET PARK
Date	8/22/15
Scale	1" = 30'

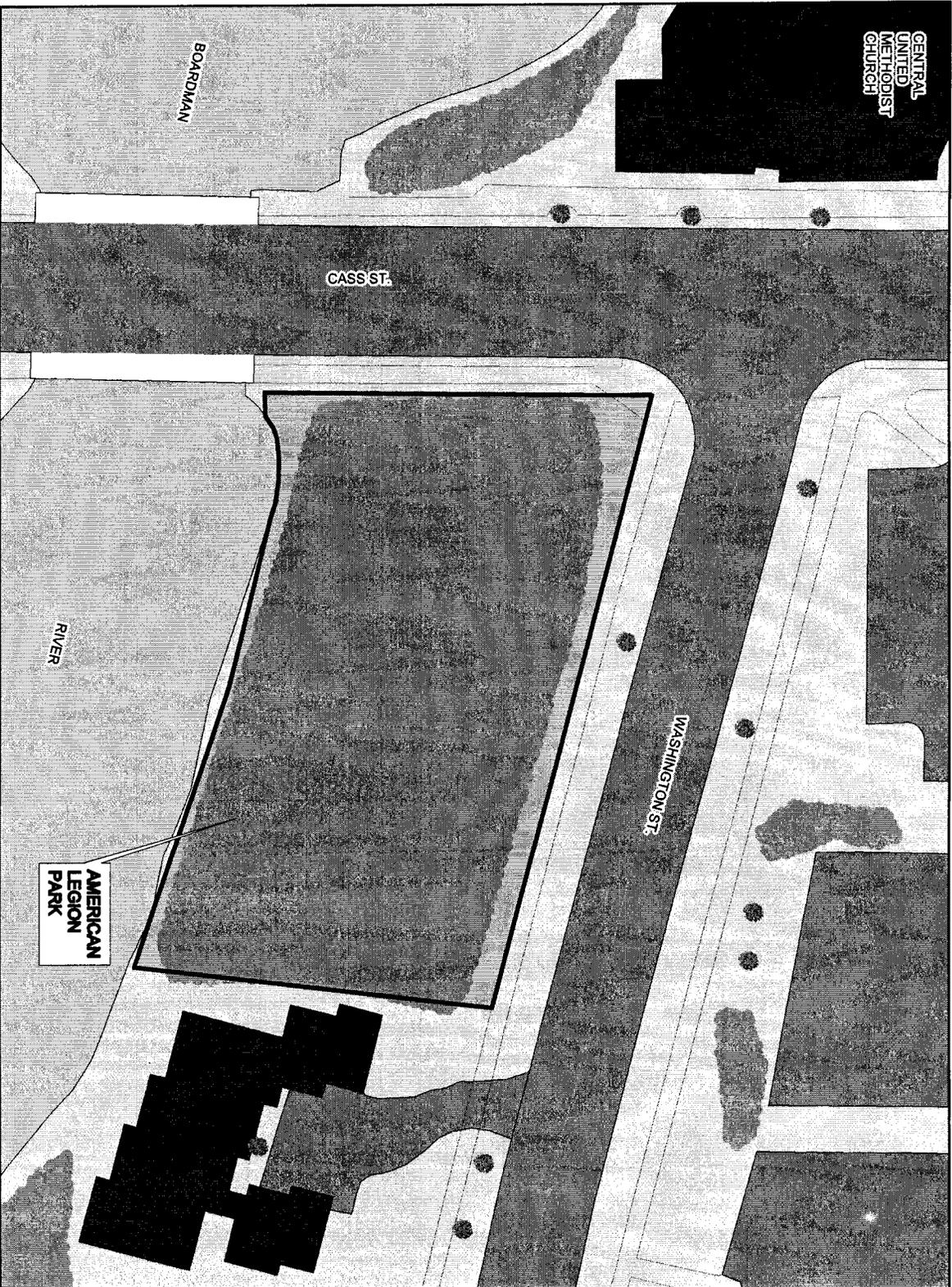


**SUNSET PARK  
CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY  
CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN**



The City of Traverse City  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
Governmental Center  
400 Boardman Avenue  
Traverse City, Michigan  
49601

# AMERICAN LEGION PARK

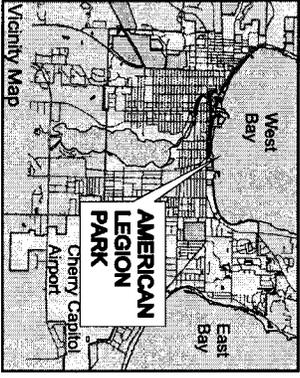


AMERICAN LEGION PARK

N

30 15 0 30 Feet

- Park Improvements
- Park boundary
- Park Land
- Restrooms
- Picnic Shelter



GROUP NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENT DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE REQUESTED: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

# AMERICAN LEGION PARK

**DEDICATION:** Usage

**HISTORY:** This Park located at the southeast corner of Washington and Cass Streets appears to have been developed by filling in river bottom land. In the 1890's permission for a steam yacht landing was granted by the City Council at this location for yacht excursions on Boardman Lake. It is believed that the City gained title to the park land around 1914, although no deed has been found. Beginning in the 1915 Annual Report money was budgeted by the City to maintain the area as parkland. The American Legion Hall was located just opposite the park at one time, and Legion members took an interest in the beautification and maintenance of the park. A bronze commemoration placque is located in the park.

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** No legal description is on record, and it has been suggested that a survey should be done to determine the boundary lines of the City-owned land.

**NAME:** There was no documented action taken by the City Commission to name this park until recently. Traditionally the park was known by two different names: Legion Park and Lardie Park. Lardie was a long time City Councilman who suggested filling in the bottomland to create a park in the first place. On May 3, 1993 the City Commission passed a Resolution officially naming the park "American Legion Park".

M E M O

*your copy*

TO: Richard I. Lewis, City Manager  
FROM: Lauren Vaughn, Parks and Recreation Superintendent  
RE: NAME OF THE PARK AT WASHINGTON AND CASS STREET  
DATE: April 16, 1993

At the April 1, 1993 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting a motion was passed 6-0 to recommend to the City Commission that the name of the park at the south east corner of Cass and Washington Streets should officially be named American Legion Park. This was after reviewing documents prepared by Mary McCrystal Brown and Clayton Sporre that discussed both sides of the issue (Lardie Park vs American Legion Park). It appears that even though George Lardie has an impact on a part of the history of the park, a great deal of care and work has been put into the park by members of the American Legion and the Ladies Auxiliary.

Over the years there are many references to the park in print as American Legion Park, in news articles, city commission minutes, and on maps, even though it has never been officially named. The above reasons along with the American Legion Memorial located at the park make a very strong case for the official designations.

PLEASE RECOMMEND AN OFFICIAL NAMING OF THE PARK AS "AMERICAN LEGION PARK" TO THE CITY COMMISSION AT THE MAY 3, 1993 MEETING.

If this is accepted we will get the sign changed in time for the Memorial Day dedication ceremony. The American Legion post has volunteered to have the memorial repaired to correct the minor shifting and wear that has occurred over the years. This could also renew interest in and care for the park property by the American Legion post and form a strong partnership between the Legion and the City.

pc: Mike Slater  
Mary McCrystal Brown

# Memorandum

The City of Traverse City

TO: Parks and Recreation Commissioners  
FROM: Lauren A. Vaughn, Parks and Recreation Superintendent  
RE: Superintendent's Report  
DATE: February 26, 2016

Today, our Parks and Recreation Plan was submitted to the DNR for review prior to the April 1 deadline for the Hickory Hills grant submission. It is good to have that project done for about 4 years until the process will start again.

This unusual winter is winding down. Hickory Hills will be closing for the season on March 13. The Hickory Hills Fun Day with the Slush Cup and other fun events will on March 12. The skating rinks may be done after this weekend. It is supposed to be in the mid-40s both days this weekend with some rain on Sunday. Two of the previous three weekends have also been in the 40s so the ice is getting borderline in some spots.

At our meeting, we will continue the process of looking at two parks per meeting for future planning purposes. Sunset and American Legion will be the parks we will discuss. I have included maps of the park and the some historical information.

Welcome to new Commissioner Sabrina Newton who is replacing John Gessner for the remainder of that term which ends September 1, 2018.

See you Thursday night, March 3. Please email or call if you cannot come.

TO: Park and Recreation Commissioners  
FROM: Lauren A. Vaughn, Parks and Rec. Sup't.  
DATE: February 26, 2016

## SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

March 3, 2016 – Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

March 13, 2016 – Hickory Hills scheduled to close for the season

April 7, 2016 – Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

April 11, 2016 – Day Camp registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

May 5, 2016 – Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m.