

Westminster Park Gazebo Restoration Project

Pledge

Name/Business: _____

Amount pledged: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Contact info: _____



***Small plaque on gazebo will list donors of \$500 or more**

***Please return to Rogers City Hall (193 E. Michigan Ave)**

Westminster Park Gazebo Restoration Project

The Rogers City Parks and Recreation Commission is seeking pledges toward the restoration of the Westminster Park gazebo. The goal is to raise \$15,000 which would allow the City to secure a grant of \$15,000, making the \$30,000 project possible.

The gazebo has a proud and important history, as it served as the original band stand for the Rogers City Band, hosting a great many fantastic concerts in its day. The following is from Presque Isle County Historical Museum Director Mark Thompson:

- Michigan Limestone General Manager Carl D. Bradley volunteered to build the band stand at the Calcite Limestone Quarry in 1918.
- Upon its completion, the band stand was housed on the Michigan Avenue side of the Presque Isle County Courthouse grounds.
- In 1934, upon the completion of the new (and current) City Hall, the band stand was relocated across Michigan Avenue to the City Hall property.
- The band stand remained next to City Hall until 1954, when a new band shell was constructed in Lakeside Park.
- The old band stand was stored next to the City WWTP, then up on Bradley Highway, falling into a state of disrepair.
- In 1973, it was acquired and restored by Donelda McWilliams, and relocated to what is now Beck Funeral Home.
- By 1989, the band stand had been acquired by the City, further restored by the Optimist Club, and relocated onto the foundation of a no-longer-used water fountain in Westminster Park, where it remains to this day as the popular park gazebo.

Unfortunately, 32 years later, the structure is falling back into disrepair, with the shake shingle roof in desperate need of replacement, and the stairs and other components rotting away and in need of attention. This project will see the restoration through before it's too late.

Donations in any amount are appreciated and will be acknowledged. Donations of \$500 or more will be memorialized for at least the next 10 years on a small plaque to be installed near the stairway on the gazebo itself.

The Parks Commission is requesting pledges only at this time; those completing the pledge sheets will be contacted for the pledged donations at a later date. Pledge forms can be found in the Advance, on the City's website, www.rogerscity.com, or at City Hall (193 E. Michigan Ave).

Thank you in advance to all who contribute toward this great project!