

**MINUTES: DECORAH PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, November 15, 2018, 7:00 pm, Decorah City Hall**

*Chairman Rich Gaard opened the meeting at 7:00 pm; Jeff O’Gara, Kathy Bakken and Shirley Vermace answered roll. Staff members present were Campground Superintendent Scott Vande Krol and Director Andy Nimrod.*

*There was no public comment. O’Gara motioned to approve the minutes, Bakken seconded, all approved.*

*Financial statements were reviewed, and preliminary budgets were discussed.*

*Parks report: Nimrod reported that the overlook along Park Street in Phelps was finished other than the surface of the floor which will be completed next spring. Nimrod also reported working with RC&D staff on creating some long-term planning for the parks.*

*Scott Vande Krol, Pulpit Rock Campground Superintendent, provided the Board with an annual report of the campground. Numbers were up slightly from previous years even with the slow, wet start to the camping season. Once the weather straightened out Vande Krol reported that it was an excellent season overall. He shared that the limited reservation policies were well received and were much appreciated by campers who had been traveling. Vande Krol also noted some improvements during the last year which included dependable Wi-fi throughout the campground, heat in the Twin Springs side bathrooms, and a maintenance shed next to the wood storage area. He also noted that 80% of the ash trees were removed from the campground and replaced, with hopes of getting the rest of them out in 2019. Vande Krol told the Board that a small utility tractor with a bucket on it would be very helpful in the day-to-day operations of the campground.*

*Other items discussed:*

- Final confirmation of the Great Places Grant will be received by December 21.*
- The Board looked at some of the Community Visioning projects that involved connectivity for walkers and bikers.*
- The Board had a brief discussion about advertising during non-Park-Rec. activities on public land sites, like the ballfields downtown and at Will Baker. The Board will continue this conversation.*

*The next meeting was set for December 20, 2018, 7:00 pm , at City Hall. O’Gara motioned to adjourn, Bakken seconded, all approved.*

*Respectfully submitted,*



*Andy Nimrod*

*Director*

*Decorah Parks and Recreation*