

MINUTES: DECORAH PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

7:00pm, Thursday, December 19, 2019, Decorah City Hall

Attendance: Board members Rich Gaard, Kathy Bakken and Cindy Albers, Director Andy Nimrod and incoming Board member Brian Fuhrmann.

Chairman Gaard opened the meeting at 7:03pm.

Nimrod reported under public comment that the City had been contacted about developing a park in the Downing Addition. Currently the City does not have any requirements that new developments set aside land for a park.

Bakken motioned to approve the November 21, 2019 meeting minutes, Albers seconded, all approved.

Financial report: Nimrod reported on a recent meeting with a representative from the Northeast Iowa Community Foundation in regards to the Board's endowments. There were two items of note:

- There were five donations totaling \$3,200 immediately following Vermace's newspaper's article regarding the endowment.*
- Fees for the endowment are taken quarterly and include a 1% administration fee and a 0.63% investment and audit fee.*

Department reports, including an update on the Decorah Betterment park project along Dry Run.

- Nimrod reported that the fundraising committee had raised 86% of its goal through donations and pledges. Nimrod also noted that the fundraising committee liked the park name of Dry Run Plaza better than Dry Run Park and wanted input from the Board since it had requested being consulted before the name became official. The Board agreed that it did feel more like a "plaza" than a park.*
- Nimrod asked for comments on design features for Mary Christopher Park over the next couple of months that he could share with the design firm.*
- The Recreation Dept reported that outdoor recreation activities were not happening due to the warm weather but that it was working on getting ready for the annual New Year's Eve Party for families at Luther.*
- Campground staff are busy splitting wood and insulating their maintenance shop.*

In other business Nimrod reported that City Administration was looking for ways to create more office space in City Hall, and that could mean moving the Park-Rec. Office. He also reported there was a meeting with the Fair Board regarding a possible partnership on a Community Building which could provide some office space.

The next meeting was scheduled for 7:00pm, January 16, 2019. Bakken motioned to adjourn, Albers seconded, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Andy Nimrod, Director

Decorah Parks and Recreation