

MINUTES: DECORAH PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

7:00pm, Thursday, September 17, 2020

Attendance: *Board members Rich Gaard, Cindy Albers, Kathy Bakken, Brian Fuhrmann and Shirley Vermace. Staff members Andy Nimrod and Erika Randall. Visitors Bruce Ventura, Duncan McClain, Libby Abbas, Chris and Keri Redenius, Lee Hackman, Molly McNicoll, Josie Smith, and Kyle Huegel.*

Public comment: *No there was no public comment.*

Update on Carlson Park Master Planning process: *Nimrod reported that he and Fuhrmann had met with Eric Doll (Jeffrey L. Bruce Co.) and Ken Barker (Backyard Trails) regarding the initial steps of the process. Gathering public input would be the first really important step. Nimrod shared a rough draft of a flyer that could be used to advertise an "open house" at Carlson Park inviting the public to come and explore the park and share their thoughts. The Board confirmed that they would like to help host that type of event on October 2 and 3. It was suggested to have the parks crew put up the big tent and have some chairs and tables available. It was also discussed that it would be important to be able to take input electronically from anyone that couldn't make it to the open house.*

Consider approval of minutes of August 20, 2020 meeting: *Vermace motioned to approve, Bakken seconded, all approved.*

Update of financial reports: *Nimrod reported that the yearly proceeds from the two endowments was going to be over \$19,000 in 2020. The Board discussed reinvesting 25% of the proceeds as part of the spending policy they implemented recently.*

Recreation Dept report: *Randall reported that two youth leagues were beginning outdoors, flag football and sand volleyball. Participants, coaches and spectators were expected to wear masks.*

Pulpit Rock Campground report: *The campground continues to be full to capacity week after week.*

Parks Dept report: *Nimrod reported an increase in vandalism recently. He also suggested the Board hike the trail at Pulpit Rock and Phelps Trail behind the Park Shop to see the recent work completed. Nimrod reported that he had looked at Gunnar Trail with Nick Peach of DHPT about some upcoming trail improvements that would eliminate some intersections and fix two bad erosion spots.*

Swimming Pool report: *Randall shared a picture of the newly painted bath house.*

Other: *Nimrod reported the discussion regarding dogs needing to be on leashes in the parks was on hold until City Administration had met with the people requesting it. The Board asked Nimrod to make sure the Vet's group working on the proposed memorial at Mary Christopher Park bring a plan to the Board before the November 11 deadline.*

Adjourn: *The Board set the next meeting date for October 22. Vermace motioned to adjourn, Bakken seconded, all approved.*

Respectfully submitted,



Andy Nimrod, Director

Decorah Parks and Recreation