

MNIUTES, DECORAH PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING
7:00pm, Thursday, April 15, 2021, Decorah City Hall

The meeting was opened at 7:00pm by Rich Gaard, Decorah Parks and Recreation Board Chair, Board members Shirley Vermace and Brian Fuhrmann were present along with Andy Nimrod, Director. Visitors included Lorraine Borowski, Bruce Ventura and Vic Pickney.

There was no public comment. Vermace motioned to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2021 meeting, Fuhrmann seconded, all approved.

Update on Veteran's Memorial:

- The site has moved slightly east to avoid a private sewer line*
- Onsite work was being completed, including elevation determinations and a check of the underground utilities*
- DPR staff are looking into the possibility of having the pad of the shelter poured at the same time as the memorial to avoid having the park being torn up over two summers*
- Gaard was looking for more grant opportunities through Ashley Hinson's office*

Account balances of the memorial fund, the permanent endowment and the quasi endowment were discussed.

Nimrod reported that the campground had opened April 1, summer recreation registration was set to open May 3 and the pool was scheduled to open June 1.

Gaard reported on the hiring process as the department works to replace Judy Syverson who will be retiring this coming summer. Gaard was very impressed with the quality of the applicants. Gaard also reported that he had studied the city salary matrix following the publishing of staff wages in the paper and that he didn't think DPR staff were being compensated adequately. Mayor Lorraine Borowski said that the City was in the process of reviewing it.

The Board had a quick discussion regarding the list of potential capital improvement projects that were shared at the March Board meeting. Fuhrmann noted that he didn't want to lose focus on maintaining what is already in the parks. Gaard noted that he was interested in looking into a splashpad further. Fuhrmann asked the status of the masterplan and if it could help channel decisions. Nimrod reported that the masterplan is being worked on but the final product is probably still a few years away.

The next meeting was set for May 20, 2021. Vermace motioned to adjourn, Fuhrmann seconded, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,



*Andy Nimrod
Director
Decorah Parks and Recreation*