

**MINUTES: DECORAH PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING  
7:00pm, Thursday, July 15, 2021, Whalen Cabin at Phelps Park**

*Chairman Rich Gaard called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, board members present were Kathy Bakken, Shirley Vermace and Brian Fuhrmann. In addition, Director Andy Nimrod and visitor Bruce Ventura were also present.*

*There was no public comment. Vermace motioned to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2021 meeting, Gaard seconded, all approved.*

*Director Nimrod shared a document with an update of the Master Plan of the Parks System from Josh Dansdill of RC&D. The update included the inventories of park amenities that was completed a year ago, the natural resource inventory that is currently being taken, and information about the interpretive wayfindings signage that is being installed this summer. The next phase of the Master Plan includes an accessibility assessment and transition plan, which will be focused on next year. Overall, the work on the background for the masterplan is about 50% complete.*

*The Board discussed gathering more information regarding the consideration of a splashpad. Vermace motioned to have Director Nimrod finalize an agreement with Burbach Aquatics to provide that information, Bakken seconded, all approved.*

*In financial matters the Board reviewed the Judy Syverson Everyone Plays Fund that was set up during Judy's retirement. The Fund will serve as scholarship money and will be used to pay for recreational programming for families in need.*

*Nimrod gave a short report on some park projects. Work is being done on the remaining piece of wall along park street and the stone pillars at Dunning's Spring. The ribbon cutting for the Alliant Battery project at Vennehjem Park will be held July 21. The trail signage project in association with a Wellmark Grant is scheduled to begin the last week of July.*

*In other matters Bakken shared her concern of kids riding electric scooters in the Phelps Park area.*

*The next meeting is scheduled for August 19, at Whalen Cabin. Bakken moved to adjourn, Gaard seconded, all approved.*

*Respectfully submitted,*



*Andy Nimrod  
Director  
Decorah Parks and Recreation*