

**MINUTES: DECORAH PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**  
**7:00pm, Thursday, October 21, 2021, Whalen Cabin at Phelps Park**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rich Gaard at 7:00pm, board members Kathy Bakken and Brian Fuhrmann were present. Also in attendance were Kevan Klosterwill, City Manager Travis Goedken and Parks and Recreation Director Andy Nimrod.

*Public Comment:*

- Nimrod reported that he had received a call of concern regarding some signage at the north end of Fred's Trail that probably wasn't approved by the DPR Board.
- Nimrod reported that staff were working to try and answer questions regarding hunting in the City Parks after finding out there was some misunderstanding of the developed guidelines.
- Kevan Klosterwill reported that the amount of knotweed was increasing in the block of Dry Run located behind Ace Hardware and stressed the importance of staying ahead of it.

Bakken motioned to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2021 meeting, Fuhrmann seconded, all approved.

*Discussion of winter activities and facilities*

- Board members wondered if a fire pit could be added to Wayside Park during the winter months
- The Board would like to see the warming house staffed at least part time.
- The Board liked the idea of having Palisades Road closed to traffic November 1 through March 31 unless winter weather affected those dates.
- The Board discussed wanting to continue to improve the temporary signage in Carlson Park for winter trail usage. Fuhrmann noted that DHPT had saved some of the old signs from the Wellmark Grant Project and were getting them ready to be used in Carlson Park.
- Nimrod reported that staff are working on a way to increase parking at Carlson Park.
- Fuhrmann asked if the multi-use trail in Carlson Park could be packed regularly.

*Parks Department update:* The Committee that is in charge of building the Veterans Memorial at Mary Christopher Park has informed park-rec staff that they will not be pouring cement until spring. John Klosterboer has finished his work at Dunning's Spring Park to help reroute an eroding trail. Parks staff are working with the City Engineer to increase parking at Carlson Park before winter.

*Recreation update:* The following programs will begin in early November; youth basketball for 1st through 6<sup>th</sup> graders, adult volleyball leagues and Open Gyms. The annual Turkey Shoot will be held in the high school gym November 8.

*Pulpit Rock Campground:* The campground has continued to be at full capacity every weekend through the fall. Superintendent Vande Krol will be at the November meeting with a report, record revenue is expected. The last day of the 2021 campground season is October 31.

*Other business:* Nimrod reported that staff attended the Fall Workshop of the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association. Fuhrmann reported that DHPT would be holding a volunteer and donor appreciation event along Ice Cave Road on Sunday, October 24. It will be a come and go event, all are invited to attend.

The Board set the next meeting date as 7:00pm, Thursday, November 18 to be held virtually. Bakken motioned to adjourn, Fuhrmann seconded, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Andy Nimrod  
Director  
Decorah Parks and Recreation