

## MINUTES

### PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY COMMISSION

September 25, 2018, 5:30 PM, Municipal Building Board Room

**PRESENT:** Goltz, Webber, Smith. Shay arrived at 5:33pm.

**ABSENT:** Hill

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dudley, Gorman, Hagen – Village of Mount Horeb. Declan Smith – Mt. Horeb High School

**Goltz called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.** Goltz also introduced Declan Smith, a junior at Mt. Horeb High School who is participating in the Youth in Government program.

#### **Budget Update**

Gorman reviewed a few changes to his 2019 budget requests since the Commission last met in June. Hagen informed the Commission that Nic Owen is proposing to combine Public Works and Parks and Forestry following the retirement of Laurel Grindle in April, 2019. Under the plan, Gorman would oversee both departments. Hagen said the Finance and Personnel Committee will begin budget meetings on October 10 and continue every Wednesday as needed for the rest of October.

#### **Consider minutes of the June 26, 2018 meeting.**

Shay moved, Webber seconded to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2018 meeting. Motion carried.

#### **Discuss 2018 annual pool report**

Dudley reviewed the 2018 annual report. She is planning to increase lifeguard wages for 2019 to help recruit more staff.

#### **Discuss removal of sand play area from the aquatic center**

Dudley said staff had requested eliminating the sand play area due to sand getting into the pools and the bathhouse. Alternatives discussed included using pea gravel, turning it into a concrete patio area or grassy area or building a splash pad. There are no funds budgeted for this project at this time. Dudley and Gorman will discuss it further at a future Commission meeting.

#### **Recreation Director's Report**

Dudley reviewed her written report.

#### **Parks and Urban Forestry Director's Report**

Gorman reviewed his written report

#### **Mount Horeb Area Community Garden Group year-end report**

Carolyn White and Lynn Messinger spoke on behalf of the community garden group. They gave a brief summary of the 2018 season in which they had 18 20'x20' garden plots. DRH Fencing donated all the labor to install the fence posts and fencing. They received grants and several donations. They have a 5 person board and obtained a 501 C7 non-profit status. The group used an online newsletter to communicate to gardeners. The garden group would like to have a 5 to 10 year commitment from the Village to continue using Himsel Park and would

like to expand the garden to 26 plots. Webber said he had talked to a couple neighbors near Himsel Park and they both said that they had no issues with the garden this summer.

**Consider re-approval of the garden group at Himsel Park in 2019**

Shay moved, Smith seconded to allow the garden group to use Himsel Park for an additional five years with an annual review to the Commission. The garden group would also be allowed to expand up to 26 garden plots. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 5:30pm.

**Adjourn**

Shay moved, Webber seconded to adjourn at 6:30 pm.

Minutes prepared by Jeff Gorman, Parks and Forestry Director.