

## MINUTES

### PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY COMMISSION

April 23, 2019, 5:30 PM, Municipal Building Board Room

**PRESENT:** Fendrick, Webber, Shay, Smith

**ABSENT:** Jackson

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

**Fendrick called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.**

**Consider minutes of the February 7, 2019 meeting.**

Shay moved, Smith seconded to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2019 meeting.  
Motion carried.

**Discussion regarding community garden**

Four people registered to speak on the topic. Frank Fetter supports the concept of the community garden but said the Village has failed to meet the requirements of the garden agreement. Fetter said the Village did not plant vegetation they said they would, did not contact residents before re-approving the agreement, did not enforce parking requirements and has not searched for a more appropriate location. Carolyn Kelley spoke against the garden and shared pictures from her house of the view of the garden. She is concerned about traffic concerns, limited public access to the park, lower property values and her view of the garden from her house. She wants the Village to initiate a 5-10 year plan to relocate the garden. Joshua Cochroft spoke in favor of the garden. He said they have worked on a planting plan to help screen the garden. He said they intend to enforce parking but do not want to move the garden. Carolyn White also spoke in favor of the garden. She said they encourage all gardeners to read the rules and also publish a monthly newsletter and remind gardeners of the rules in that. She said they cannot police everyone and are not there all the time. Fendrick said everyone needs to be good neighbors. He would like to keep everyone updated on the status of garden discussions at future meetings and on agendas.

**Discussion and consider MOHO Gators hold harmless agreement**

Dudley received the hold harmless agreement from the Gators. They were asking to get in the pool on May 20, one week earlier than normal. Gorman stated that it is difficult to get the pool ready that early, the average air temps are still in the 50's and the estimated cost for utilities and pool chemicals are \$1,175/week which is not budgeted for. The Commission and staff agreed that it would be easier to extend the Gator's season at the end of the summer as opposed to the beginning. Webber moved, Shay seconded to approve the hold harmless agreement with a condition that if they wanted to extend their season one more week until August 23, they would have to pay an additional \$1,175. Motion carried.

**Discuss Joining Forces for Families project proposal for pool passes and swim lessons**

Dudley was approached by Sarah Shatz who wanted to raise money to offer scholarships for low-income families to participate in swim lessons and for pool passes. This would take place in 2020. The Village would receive 50% of the pool pass and lesson fees. The Commission agreed to allow Sarah to pursue the scholarships.

**Recreation Director's Report**

Dudley reviewed her written report.

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

Gorman reviewed his written report.

**Consider items for future agendas**

Fendrick requested an update on the community garden for the next meeting. Gorman has been working with the youth basketball club on improvements or additions to the current basketball courts in the parks and he will have that information at a future meeting.

**Set next meeting date and time**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 21, 2019 at 5:30 pm.

**Adjourn**

Webber moved, Shay seconded to adjourn at 6:53 pm.

Minutes prepared by Jeff Gorman, Public Services Director