

MINUTES

PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY COMMISSION

February 23, 2021, 5:30 PM, Virtual Meeting Due to COVID-19

PRESENT: Fendrick, Monroe, Smith

ABSENT: Jackson, Webber.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dudley, Gorman, Hagen, Hall – Village of Mount Horeb.

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

Consider minutes of the September 22, 2020 meeting.

Smith moved, Fendrick seconded to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Discuss and consider Aquatic Center dates, hours of operation, and COVID-19 guidelines

Dudley reviewed the proposed dates and hours for the 2021 pool season. They will be similar to the 2019 season with more cleaning due to COVID protocols. Dudley said she may have lifeguards run the concessions to reduce staffing needs and to be more efficient.

JR Szabo spoke on behalf of the Mount Horeb Gators Swim Team. He would like to get on the March agenda to discuss the Village/Gator agreement. He is anticipating having a season this summer with four home swim meets but is waiting for the final approval from the Dane County Health Dept.

Monroe moved, Smith seconded to approve the dates and hours for the 2021 season. Motion carried.

Discuss 2021 summer field usage

Dudley mentioned that various community sports clubs (baseball, softball, soccer) have contacted her regarding field usage for the upcoming spring and summer. Dudley will be meeting with club reps in the next few weeks to discuss what fields are available and what the needs are for each club. Dudley also mentioned that the school district is still unsure if they will allow outside groups the opportunity to utilize their fields this spring and summer. They will be meeting about this within the next few weeks. Fendrick mentioned he would be interested in attending the field usage meeting as is Monroe. Dudley will let them know when this meeting will take place and she will give an update to the commission at the March meeting.

Discuss and consider acquisition of property for use as additional parkland

Fendrick asked the Commission what their thoughts are on purchasing additional property to be used as park land in the Village. Fendrick cited the need pointed out in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as well as the current demand for field space by youth and adult sports organizations.

Smith and Monroe both agreed that the Village should look at the possibility of purchasing additional park land but noted that the cost will be significant.

Smith moved, Monroe seconded, stating that the Village should pursue options for purchasing additional park land. Motion carried.

Recreation Director's Report

Dudley reviewed her report.

Public Services Director's Report

Gorman reviewed his report.

Consider items for future agendas

Gator agreement

Emerald Ash Borer treatments / plan

Follow up on CORP

Set next meeting date and time

The next meeting was set for March 23, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

Adjourn

Smith moved, Monroe seconded to adjourn at 6:47 pm.

Minutes prepared by Jeff Gorman, Public Services Director