**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

9:00 A.M. Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Present: Steve VanHouse Absent: Shane Hoff Tracy Tiboni Jenny Bjerken

Nathan Stadler

Carol Youngberg

Bryan Carpenter – Parks and Recreation Department

Devon Monteith – Confidential Secretary

VanHouse called the meeting to order at 9:07 A.M.

**Agenda** – Motion by Tiboni, second Youngberg to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

**Minutes** – Motion by Stadler, second Tiboni to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021 regular meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS – None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

**Arena Update** – There were no issues this winter and the machinery is up to date and working great at the Arena. There was discussion on limited use of the facility, COVID-19 guidelines and mandates as activities get back to normal routine. There was further discussion on youth and high school hockey programs which will extend to the end of March.

**Marina Update** – The Marina is closed for the winter and currently stands with a full waiting list for slips. The staff is working with the DNR and other funding sources in an effort to install an additional dock to accommodate the waiting list, and options for using emergency set-aside slips for rentals. Carpenter predicts the reserved slips at the Marina to be available by the 2022 season. There was further discussion on current seasonal slip rental payments and insurance verifications.

**Black Beach Campground Update** –There was discussion on improvements such as additional parking, extension of walking and bike paths to connect the campground sections, more picnic tables for large groups, recycling bins, dog bag dispensers to help maintain cleanliness and additional information/guidance sign installation. There was further discussion on reducing the speed limit, installing a privacy fence and adding crushed rock along the trail to prevent dust kickback from ATV’s and Carpenter would like to see a re-design of the Campground for better usage and comfort.

**Outdoor Rink Use This Winter and Future Plans** – The Board continued their discussion on expanding and improving the outdoor rink to include benches, a designated area for congregation, upgrading lighting, speakers, and a warming house or controlled fire pit to encourage winter use. There was further discussion on converting the lower parking lot area into a second outdoor rink to accommodate non-hockey users of all ages. Carpenter presented the initial idea to the Blue Line Club and they are very supportive. The Board would like to get a volunteer group together to brainstorm the concept, layout, funding, and materials needed for this project to present to City Council by May 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

**Board Membership Application** –The members reviewed an application for the vacant position on this Board. The Board is looking for somebody who has a background in camping or other outdoor curricular experience to gain a better understanding of our citizens wants and needs for recreational activities. There was Motion by Tiboni, second Stadler to table this topic until the next meeting on March 3, 2021 to gain further information on the applicant. MOTION CARRIED.

**City Attorney Memo** –The Board reviewed a letter from City Attorney Tim Costley. The letter serves as a friendly reminder to members of all Boards and Committees regarding open meeting laws, Councilmember authority and conflict of interest.

Motion by Tiboni, second Stadler to adjourn at 9:53 A.M. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Devon Monteith