**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

9:00 A.M. Wednesday, April 7, 2021

Present: Steve VanHouse Absent: Gene LaFond

 Tracy Tiboni Vacancy

 Jenny Bjerken

 Nathan Stadler

 Shane Hoff

 Bryan Carpenter – Parks and Recreation Department

 Nelson French

VanHouse called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

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

**Minutes** – Motion by Tiboni, second Bjerken to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2021 regular meeting with the revisions of Goutermont to Bjerken. MOTION CARRIED.

**December 2020 Treasurer’s Report** – The December 2020 Treasurer’s report was reviewed. There was discussion on paying off loans.

COMMUNICATIONS

**Letter to ISD#381 Lease Payment Request** – The Board reviewed a letter submitted to ISD#381 requesting payment for the arena lease agreement. It was noted that Bill Crandall is no longer the contact person.

**Park Benches Throughout the City** – Roxie Lundgren submitted a question/request about benches along the sidewalks throughout the City. The Board discussed the placement of benches and noted there are benches along Outer Drive starting at the flag park up to the Outer Drive and Edison Blvd intersection.

OLD BUSINESS

**Arena Update** – The ice went out the end of March. A batting cage is being installed in the arena for indoor baseball and softball use when the fields cannot be used. A couple of the main bearings outside the arena need to be replaced this spring.

**Marina Update** – The winter went well with no issues with ice buildup. The seasonal slips are 100% full with a waiting list. We will continue to pursue adding an additional dock in the future.

**Black Beach Campground Update** –A presentation was given to Northshore Mining representatives regarding projects the City would like to complete at the Black Beach Park, specifically additional parking areas and trails for safety. Northshore Mining is willing to lease a portion of the land request but will require surveying, wetland delineation, and site plan work paid by the city before work can begin. There was discussion on if parking lots should be paid parking and additional security cameras to help with the safety. Adding donation boxes may be the best option at this time. It was noted that if donation boxes are installed, Northshore Mining should be notified.

**Outdoor Rink Use This Winter and Future Plans** – The committee is currently narrowing down the plans and researching the project costs and potential funding sources.

NEW BUSINESS

**Summer Rec Program and Costs** – Carpenter researched other communities recreation fees and would like to raise the cost of some of the recreation programs. He reported that supplies and equipment need updating and would like to outfit baseball and softball teams to be in leagues. There was discussion about keeping the fees affordable for families and the possibility of a scholarship for those that cannot afford. Motion Hoff, second Bjerken to approve the fee increase for baseball and softball from $20 to $30. MOTION CARRIED.

**Recycling Containers at Parks** – Many tourists have requested recycling containers be available at the campground and Black Beach Park. There was discussion on the additional costs involved with recycling. The committee is in favor of installing recycling containers at the campground and the park.

**Weight Room Open Gym at School** – Carpenter met with coaches to plan how to maintain and utilize the weight room for community use. There was discussion about the equipment that is in the weight room.

**Marina Refund Request** – John and Amy Dahl submitted a cancellation notice for their 2021 seasonal slip and request a refund. The refund policy states a 90% refund if made before May 15th. Motion Bjerken, second Tiboni to recommend to City Council to accept the cancellation and refund the Dahl’s 90% of their fee. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bjerken, second Stadler to adjourn at 9:52 A.M. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lindsey Klemmer