

# PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

9:00 A.M.

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

Present: Steve VanHouse  
Shane Hoff  
Nathan Stadler  
Jenny Bjerken  
Dick Stern

Excused: Tracy Tiboni  
Gene LaFond

Bryan Carpenter, Parks & Rec Director  
Alex Burcum

VanHouse called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

**Minutes** – Motion by Stadler, second Bjerken to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2025 regular meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

## **COMMUNICATIONS –**

**Public Comments-** None at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Arena Update-** Carpenter reports the roof project is almost finished, that Lake County is replacing the last old heater and water heater in upcoming weeks, and that the ice is installed and the first girls' hockey game is next week. Pickleball courts are ready for flooding when temperature is cold enough with extra caution to be taken to not damage the courts. Horseshoe area fencing needs to be straightened, discussion regarding use of area and possible repurposing.

**Black Beach Campground-** Carpenter reports campground and bathhouses are now closed after a very good season. New signs have been received and will be put up in the spring. Staff will look for campground hosts during the off season.

**Black Beach Parking-** City Council has approved moving forward with a committee, Members Hoff and Bjerken will be part of the committee to come up with a plan and present to Northshore Mining and the DNR. Discussion regarding additional parking areas.

**Black Beach Vendor/Event Policy-** Tabled until December meeting.

**Winter Programs-** Adult/Open skating has started, numbers are lower than previous years. The Learn to Skate program will be offered this year. Discussion regarding participation numbers in programs over the past years.

**Multi-Modal Trailhead Center-** The project is going well, landscaping, curbing, and paving of parking lots are done. Building shell is up and work inside will begin over the winter season. Discussion regarding an area of the ATV/snowmobile trail passing through private property that property owner has had delays with moving the trail and creating an easement from the County.

Discussion continued where trail could be moved to and concerns for keeping trails open for residents and with the new trailhead center being built. Motion by Bjerken, second Stern to recommend the Mayor or Council reach out to Lake County and property owner regarding status of easement request. MOTION CARRIED.

**Marina-** End of the season meeting with the DNR was held. DNR is currently in the design phase of a new fuel system and new dock and signage. Discussion regarding management, maintenance, and status of the contract.

### **NEW BUSINESS –**

**Revitalize Mariner Mountain Park-Dog Park Proposal-** Alex Burcum presented a proposal for creating a dog park in the Mariner Mountain park area. Burcum has been researching available grants, contacting other communities regarding their dog parks, signage, fencing, insurance requirements, and waste disposal. Discussion regarding community priority, location, housing nearby, tree barriers for sound control, and nonprofit involvement. Burcum was advised to gather support from the homeowners near the proposed area, meet with Parks Director Carpenter and submit a written proposal at a future meeting for possible referral to Planning & Zoning for a conditional use permit.

Motion by Bjerken, second Stern to adjourn at 9:55 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lisa Christenson