

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gary Wall, Supervisor
Kim Markee, Clerk
Steven Thomas, Treasurer
Anthony M. Bartolotta, Trustee
Marie Hauswirth, Trustee
Janet Matsura, Trustee
Mark Monohon, Trustee



5200 Civic Center Drive
Waterford, Michigan 48329-3773
Telephone: (248) 674-5441 Fax: (248) 618-7674
waterfordmi.gov/parks

Department of Parks & Recreation

Alison Swanson, Director
Recreation Board Members
Donna Kelley, Chairperson
Jerry Beseau
Allison Buczek
Dan Ludwig
Kim Markee
J.R. Olerich
Rob Petrusha
Roman Wasylkevych
Linda Zabik

HESS-HATHAWAY PARK COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 14, 2021, 6:00pm
MINUTES

Meeting Location: Hess-Hathaway Park-Hilltop Pavilion

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: 6:01 pm, J. Himmelspach

II. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND GUESTS

Members present: K. Callahan, J. Barker, S. McCready, J. Beseau, N. Ristich, K. Gertsen, J. Himmelspach and A. Frasca

Others present: T. Heglin

Members excused: L. Hardacre, J. Matsura and M. Carlock

Guests: none

III. REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA: Motion to approve. Motion passed.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES: Motion to approve, A. Frasca, 2nd, N. Ristich. Motion passed.

V. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Rosemary Istratoff sent her apologies that the spinners (wool) decided not to come to the Harvest Happening event because the cold, wet weather would endanger their wood spinning wheels. Tracy, one of their members did show. She really enjoyed joining the tatters (lace) under Pavilion 2.
- b. Jordan Gettel, Genisys Credit Union expressed appreciation for our partnership on the Harvest Happening event.

VI. REPORTS:

a. Director's Report: Tori Heglin reporting for Alison Swanson

- i. Thank you to everyone who made Harvest Happening possible.
- ii. Caretaker house update: deck repaired, house cleared of furniture, walls patched and carpeting removed. Budget meeting is scheduled for October 27. Three additional part-time year-round positions will be requested. One of these positions would be at Hess-Hathaway Park. Recreation Center and all of our older facilities continue to need more maintenance annually to sustain them.
- iii. There are plans to relocate the department's Town Hall staff over to the Recreation Center in 2022.
- iv. Parks and Recreation staff from Town Hall have been helping out at the Recreation Center. Lack of staffing continues to be an issue as most of the regular daily activities have been resumed at the Recreation Center.

b. Parks and Recreation Programs: Tori Heglin

Reports included under other agenda items.

With us there are no boundaries

- c. **Caretaker Report:** Target completion date for house improvements is the end of November.
- d. **Animal Report: John Barker:** Steers names are official: Rafferty was born December 25, 2020 and Finnegan was born March 12, 2021. Two families won a prize for their contribution to the name selection. Finnegan our youngest steer has been castrated, and is doing well. The young turkeys roaming around are a popular highlight for our visitors. Sheep moved into the chicken coop, so that Wilbur can come inside a barn. We now have three rabbits, Cookie passed away from natural causes. We are now keeping the total number of rabbits to four or less. Documentation was created on the care and attention Cookie received throughout her last week.
- e. **Hay Fields & Equipment: Steve McCreedy:** There are 300 bales of hay after the final harvest. Steve announced his retirement from the hay production responsibility. His contribution was duly noted. Steve advises that the hay fields need fertilizer, holes filled and application for weed control.
- f. **Community Garden: Kelie Callahan:** There is no update on the Bee & Butterfly grant application. Produce is still growing. Soon it will be time to clean-up for the end of the year. This has been a very productive year impacted by the abundant amount of rainfall.
- g. **51st District Court Garden:** It is the end of year for the District Court Garden, although some additional clean-up work in garden and work around the farm will continue through the next weekend or two.
- h. **Cross Country: Tori Heglin**
Three meets left, but this includes the West Bloomfield and Royal Oak Jamboree (8 and 6 teams respectively) and Regionals on Saturday, October 30. Due to the concern with soft, wet ground and multiple calls for towing service already, we will reach out and alert the teams. Alternative approaches to parking will be encouraged in place of vehicles with single occupants.

VII. Old Business:

- a. **Concerts:** Total concert income for 2021: \$24,148.67. Net revenue for parks and recreation \$7,257.41 (balance of the 50/50 split with the Chamber of Commerce).
- b. **Harvest Happening:** Harvest Happening was scheduled for Sunday, October 3. Harvest Happening event attracted an estimated crowd of 675 (225 vehicles based on 3 persons per vehicle). The weather had been wet leading up to this event and it rained all morning. Undoubtedly this affected our attendance, but the crowds that came out truly seem appreciative and happy to be with our community out at the park. \$5 was collected per vehicle at the gate instead of a donation request. Donations were still welcomed. Inflatables were eliminated this year to save on expenses and avoid increased COVID risk. Ongoing hayrides were free this year. Approximately 18 staff and 63 volunteers worked hard to bring this event to our community.
- c. **Funtober:** This coming Saturday, October 16 from 12noon to 5pm.

VIII. New Business - none

IX. Round Table Discussion - none

X. Public Comments – none

XI. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 6:58pm

**Next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 10 @ 6:00pm,
Location: Waterford Recreation Center, 5640 Williams Lake Road**