



Wednesday, October 10th, 2018
Grafton Parks & Recreation Board Room
715 West 5th Street
Grafton, ND 58237
5:15 p.m.

Minutes:

- I. Call to Order by Ryer Stark at 5:15 PM
- II. Board Members Present:
 - A. Board Members Present: Scott Hills, Cory Burns, Todd Storey, Ryer Stark, Jessica Tanke
 - B. Staff Present: Keith Blattenbauer, Bill Dahl, Matt Oppedard
 - C. Media Present: Todd Morgan
- III. Ryer asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Jess asked to add the Little Free Library to the agenda. Little Free Library was added to the agenda under Parks.
- IV. Ryer asked for an approval of the minutes from the September 12th board meeting. Cory made a motion to approve the minutes. Jess seconded, motion passed all approved. Ryer asked for a motion for the authorization of expenditures as listed. Scott made a motion to approve the expenditures. Seconded by Jess, motion passed all approved to pay bills as listed. The September bank statement report was issued to the board for their review.
- V. Reports:
 - A. Director
 1. Parks
 - i. Bill reported that the Corn Maze was open for a total of 4 out of 6 weekends. The first 2 weekends were great while the next 2 weekends were poor due to cold weather. The last 2 weekends were canceled due to snow and muddy conditions. Total tickets and admissions came to \$14,920. After all of the startup costs and donations to each group that helped, the corn maze netted \$3,605. 2019 dates and times are yet to be determined.
 - ii. Windows for the rental house were ordered last week and will be installed early November. The storm door will be installed next week.
 - iii. Jess mentioned that she was approached by a school group that would like to place Little Free Libraries at different Parks & Recreation properties. Jess explained what they were and that the school group would pay for the North Valley VoTech construction of the libraries with help of a grant. The board agreed that they would be a great addition to the parks especially Schumacher and Pumpkin. Jess will have the group get in touch with Bill when they are ready to place their Little Free Libraries.
 2. Pool:
 - i. Bill reported that water will be shut off at the pool in the next week or 2 after the pool is refilled and winterization is complete.
 - ii. Bill reported that Wayne's completed the mud jack of the equipment room floor. Todd explained that a lot of mud was added and only raised the floor a quarter inch. The mud jacking should stabilize the floor to eliminate the stress on the pipes. Todd will look at the possibility of raising the floor further by disconnecting and reconnecting the pipes.
 3. Campground:

- i. Bill reported that the water will be left on as through October. The water connections have been insulated and ready for the cold weather.
 - ii. Bill reported that the Grafton Park Board became a member of the Rendezvous Region Tourism Council. Included with membership is advertising through their site, social media pages, and other tourism sites.
 - iii. The campground income through September is \$120,094.33. Expenses are up, but net income is still \$81,905.42. All campground categories are up except for firewood due to the 2 month burn ban.
4. Athletic Fields: (nothing to report)
5. Arenas
 - i. Bill reported that the ice plant was started on September 27th and ice went in well. Still building ice, but will be at the 1.5 inches by next week.
 - ii. Lobby rentals are starting to come in again. The board discussed the noise issue in the lobby and discussed options. Scott asked Bill to look into spray foaming the lobby ceiling. Bill will price out each option.
6. Elmwood:
 - i. Bill reported that the Elmwood bridge is scheduled to be repaired once the weather improves.

B. Business Manager

- i. Matt reported that the Centennial Center usage agreements have been sent out to North Stars Youth Hockey and Grafton Public Schools. Grafton Public Schools have signed and returned the agreement. North Stars Youth Hockey have not returned their agreement yet. Both usage agreements are at the same rental price as the last 2 seasons.

C. Recreations Manager

- i. Keith reported that the hockey camp is underway with 1 additional participant than last year. Three of five levels have less than 10 participants. The board discussed ways to improve the numbers and possible reasons people are not registering for the camp.
- ii. Gymnastics registrations is coming along. The tiny tot groups are almost full. The parent toddler group only had 1 registration so they were moved up to tiny tots. Silver only have 5 registered, which is down by 12. Gold registrations totaled more than last year.
- iii. Keith mentioned that late fees have caused issues with parents becoming upset once they find out that they missed the deadline. Keith brought up that once the reason for the registrations is explained to parents they understand and pay for the registration. Keith proposed raising future program registration fees across the board and eliminating the late fees. The board discussed the option and agreed that eliminating late fees would help reduce complaints.
- iv. Keith explained that he will start having parent meetings months prior to the start of a program to communicate registrations, possible payment plan options, and fundraising obligations.
- v. Figure Skating registrations are going well with 17 registered with a month left before the start of the program.
- vi. Kickball is still coming to a close. The weather on the last 2 Wednesdays was very poor causing fields to be unplayable. The championship game will hopefully be played next Wednesday, October 17th.
- vii. Keith reported that the Babe Ruth website allows teams to post tournaments for free. Keith is planning on having two 8-team tournaments next season at the 10U, 12U, or Babe Ruth levels.

viii. Private Advanced Figure Skating received a \$5,000 North Dakota Community Foundation grant for a new harness. The board extended a thank you to the North Dakota Community Foundation for the grant, which will go a long way to the purchase of the new harness.

VI. Old Business:

VII. New Business:

VIII. Public Comments:

IX. Adjournment: Motion made by Scott, seconded by Cory to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed all approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.