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HESS-HATHAWAY PARK COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 14, 2019, 6:00p.m.
MINUTES

*Meeting Location: Recreation Center,
5640 Williams Lake Road*

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: 6:05 pm, Art Frasca

II. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND GUESTS

Members present: J. Barker, A. Frasca, K. Callahan, N. Ristich, K. Gertsen

Others present: T. Heglin, A. Swanson

Members excused: S. McCreedy, M. Carlock, J. Himmelspach

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: No quorum.

IV. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO MINUTES: No quorum.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from October Meeting: No quorum.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT: A. Swanson

Budget submitted with approval review scheduled for the beginning of December. Township General Fund contribution to the department will not be reduced by \$25,000 in 2020 – final vote on this will be made by Township Board at the December meeting.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE: None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Caretaker update:** Roof repair work is continuing on the caretaker house. Kyle Connors, The Rain Gang, contractor on project is interested in repairing the Maintenance Barn shingles and roof vent as well (as brought to our attention by Todd Butler). The Overhead Door Company, Waterford will be replacing the caretaker's garage door including the addition of a Liftmaster Chain Drive Opener.
- b. **Animal Report:** Bill Parsons will do animal hooves later this month, postponed due to weather. Milford, donkey is doing well. The pond aerator has helped protect the ducks from prey animals and it is greatly appreciated.

With us there are no boundaries

- c. **Projects - Hess Historic Barn and Gazebo, Tori and Alison:** Gazebo wood will be treated with a sealant no stain. Barn project is completed except for the northeast gutter portion. We are interested in reviewing estimates for the cleaning and finishing of the interior of the barn. Extending the flooring on the east side was discussed.
- d. **Fields and Equipment:** We will be purchasing used hay cutter. Soil supplements as needed per soil testing to be applied in spring 2020.
- e. **Harvest Happening Summary: Review of Attractions and Notes -** Clydesdale horse was a good addition to the pony rides. Spacing of attractions were well-positioned. Lines were not long due to additional attractions. Discussion of fresh donuts made on-site versus pre-purchased. Attraction that will be considered for 2020 will be shepherd dog-herding demonstration
- f. **Cross Country:** First collegiate cross-country meet to take at Hess-Hathaway included 90 females taking off at 1:30pm and 100 males at 2:30pm on October 11. Ryan Robinson, Mott High School cross-country coach will be leaving at the end of this school year. Alison, Tori and John will be meeting with Ryan on November 22 to prepare for transition to two individuals designated to step into the role he filled. Hess trails were always primed and ready for any cross-country runners due to Ryan's commitment to the Hess trails.
- g. **Garden:** 2020 notices went out to ask/remind gardeners to weed/tend their plots and be good neighbors. Thanks to Silvio Yamada and Kelie Callahan for volunteering as Garden Supervisors.
- a. **Funtober:** Revenue was almost \$500 more than last year, but due to additional purchase of pumpkins (\$379) and s'more makings, net profit (not including staff costs) was less. In the past, pumpkins were left-over from the Harvest Happening event that could be utilized. Due to the success of that event there was no carry-over of supplies. With Keenan Smith, WXYZ TV promotion of our Funtober event on the "Top 7 on Thursdays" show, we wanted to make sure that we were prepared for a larger crowd. Suggestion for next year included a \$10 all-inclusive fee (small pumpkin, s'mores, animal tour and hayride). Alison will check with the Treasurer's Office on facilitating on-site payments.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- X. **ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:** Due to concerns with the safety of patrons and staff when the park is dark before closing time, the following adjustment in park hours were discussed for 2020:

SPRING/SUMMER: April 15 thru Labor Day, 10am-8pm, 7 days/week

FALL: Day after Labor Day thru October 15, 10am until dusk

WINTER: October 16 thru April 14, 10am-4pm, closed Wednesdays & Thursdays

- XI. **MEETING ADJOURNED:** 7:43pm. **Next meeting, Tuesday, December 10, 6pm at Recreation Center, 5640 South Williams Lake Road – JUST A REMINDER, this is a Joint Board Meeting and will be at the Recreation Center.**