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HESS-HATHAWAY PARK COMMITTEE
Thursday, May 9, 2019, 6:00p.m.
MINUTES

*Meeting Location: Hess-Hathaway Park Community Building,
825 S. Williams Lake Road*

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: 6:07 pm, John Himmelspach

II. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND GUESTS

- **Members present:** A. Frasca, M. Carlock, S. McCready, J. Himmelspach, J. Barker
- **Others present:** A. Swanson, T. Acker, Jean-Philippe Loew, Dr. K. Gertsen
- **Members excused:** T. Heglin, J. P. Torres, L. Hardacre, J. Beseau

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve, A. Frasca. Second M. Carlock.
Motion passed.

IV. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO MINUTES: None

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from April Meeting:

Motion to approve, A. Frasca. Second M. Carlock. Motion passed.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Contract expenses for park are over budget due to amounts spent on a very large tree removal project. In addition, various expenses for the full summer have been paid in full already. All else is good with strong camp membership, rentals, etc providing good revenue for this early. All of the camp staff is hired.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Janet Yuhas, neighbor on Turrillium Ln., north side of park, contacted the office concerned about increased usage of the new trail by motor vehicles and dog owners. J. Himmelspach mentioned that Committee wants to see overall park usage increase. There are areas where fencing needs repair and parks and recreation will evaluate the perimeter fencing for replacement. Sign at opening to O.C.C. boundary will be placed notifying patrons they are entering Hess-Hathaway Park and that dogs are not allowed inside the park.

With us there are no boundaries

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Caretaker update: Trever Acker:** Working on lawn equipment including zero-turn mower. Cleaning trails when trees fall over them. Would like a larger sign at park entrance informing patrons that dogs are not allowed inside the park.
- b. **Animal Report (Deby Steen):** Patrons have been out to visit their favorite animals and park has been busy on the weekends. Wilbur is in his summer home in the pen by the pond. When sheep are moved from oldest barn for the construction project, Lilly Goat will move in with the two new goats Tater and Tot. Several Canadian Geese in the park. Still looking to purchase up to four poults (not bronze breed, would like royal palm breed). 8 deer were spotted on the property.
- c. **Hess Barn Restoration Project:** Township Board approved the project to be awarded to K & L Construction Improvements, L.L.C., Macomb, MI. Area will be fenced off for safety and first project item will be lead paint abatement. Target is still October for completion.
- d. **Sheep Shearing Event:** Revenue \$1,069.25, final event expenses are still being calculated. Thanks to all who helped out: J. Barker, S. McCready, L. Hardacre, M. Carlock, N. Ristich, A. Frasca, J.P. Torres and J. Himmelspach. The historic games at the farmhouse went over well. The new goats were named Tater and Tot. 240 breakfasts served, 213 animal feedings sold. In the future, we will keep cooking until 11am or until we run out of food. This was a wonderful event.
- e. **Gazebo Project:** Gazebo bid project out to bid. Discussed alternative space for birthday party packages during construction.
- f. **Fields and Equipment, Steve McCready:** North field is still underwater. Alfalfa is coming up and we may be able to get a cutting in September. District Court Garden is partially plowed. Memorial boulder by horseshoe pits has been moved to new horseshoe pit location. Hay equipment is still in the barn and will be worked on soon. Repairing part for hay baler, replacement part may need to be ordered. Corn planter isn't worth saving, maybe use for parts. Cabinet in maintenance barn now houses all of the equipment manuals. Will cut hay fields in about one month. Fertilizing District Court Garden soon.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Community Garden:** All 88 plots have been sold. Will be using Zone 4 from District Court Garden for 18 additional plots to be sold. Compost to be delivered this month. Plans to add a pollinator garden by compost area running north/south on west side of garden. Kelie, volunteer garden supervisor is going to bring in plants for pollinator garden. Coleman from Sprout Fresh Food Store in Pontiac offered to come in an help with rototilling as needed. Kelie will also plant sunflower seeds bordering the hayfield on the south side.
- b. **District Court Garden:** Will be working on May 18. Plan on planting first weekend in June.
- c. **Concerts:** Every Thursday in June. This year will include the following featured bands: New Horizon Concert Barn, Dave Bennett Band, 2XL and

- Itchycoo Park. Promotional flyers distributed. Last three concerts will have BBQ and Brew from Billy's Tip N Inn. Will need help directing/parking cars.
- d. **Park It Family Fun Nights:** July 16 and August 21. Entertainment and activities begin at 6pm. Movie begins at 8:20pm. Will need help directing/parking cars.
 - e. **Camp Staff:** All positions have been filled. 6 returning and 3 new staff members. Returning staff will strengthen the program along with the addition of the MSU/4-H enhancement being added this summer.
 - f. **Unicorn Utopia Party:** Held May 4. Sold out with a waiting list. Will offer again this fall. 60 children were in attendance.

X. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

Jean-Philippe Loew – Resident that lives near the park spoke about trying to create additional access points to the park for pedestrian traffic only. He created a plastic model map showing his ideas. Discussion about building communication with the residential areas around the park for a variety of reasons including thoughts on additional access points.

Dr. K. Gertsen – Took manure samples for testing to verify if dewormer we use on animals is working well. All results came back good.

M. Carlock – Surprised to hear about the Sheep Shearing concern with amount of pancakes. As far as she was aware we cooked enough

XI. MEETING ADJOURNED 7:01 pm: Motion to adjourn, M. Carlock. Second A. Frasca.

Next meeting, Thursday, July 11, 6pm at Hess-Hathaway Community Building, 825 South Williams Lake Road.