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**Department of Parks & Recreation**

Alison Swanson, Director  
**Recreation Board Members**  
Donna Kelley, Chairperson  
Gordon Briggs  
Mark Monohon  
Rob Petrusa  
Jim Powers  
Roman Wasylkevych  
Kellianne Yarnall  
Linda Zabik

**HESS-HATHAWAY PARK COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, May 12, 2022, 6:00pm**

**Location: Hess Hathaway Park, Community Building**

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** 6:03 pm, J. Himmelspach
- II. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND GUESTS**  
**Members present:** K. Callahan, S. McCready, L. Hardacre, M. Carlock,  
J. Himmelspach, A. Frasca, K. Yarnall and J. Barker  
**Others present:** T. Heglin and A. Swanson
- III. REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA:** Motion to approve by M. Carlock, second by  
L. Hardacre. Motion approved.
- IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES:** Motion to approve April minutes with the  
correction removing J. Himmelspach from the members present list to those excused by  
L. Hardacre, second by K Callahan. Motion approved with correction.
- V. CORRESPONDENCE:** none
- VI. REPORTS:**
  - a. Director's Report: Alison Swanson**
    - i. Monthly April 2022 Report** submitted at meeting. Please see attached document.
    - ii. American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA):** One million dollars has been allocated by the Township Board to the Waterford Parks and Recreation Department through the APRA funds. These funds must be used by December 2026. Several park projects are being considered given the aging infrastructure at most parks. We plan to apply for matching grants to help these funds go further. The Michigan DNR has grants available and their next deadline is March 2023.
  - b. Parks and Recreation Programs: Tori Heglin**
    - i. Sheep Shearing and Pancake Breakfast:** It was suggested this was our largest attended Sheep Shearing event ever. Over 60 volunteers were instrumental in the success of the event (including the following volunteers Genisys Credit Union, Youth Assistance, Waterford Mott Jazz Band, spinners, past staff, committee members and Dr. Gertsen). Largest number of pancakes purchased and an \$800 sponsorship from Genisys Credit Union brings the net revenue after supply expenses to \$1,346.72 for the most funds raised in our records. Large lawn games were facilitated by Genisys volunteers. Cool new attractions included rubber ducky races and lassoing a fake steer. Historic tours were led by Deby Steen and Skyla Hanes.
    - ii. Seasonal Positions:** Various efforts continue to be made to recruit camp and park maintenance staff for this coming season.
  - c. Caretaker Report:** Repairs should be finished this month. Position to be posted and filled by the end of June.

- d. **Animal Report: John Barker & Kelie Callahan:** All animals are good. Avian influenza concerns were discussed. We are closely following the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development updates and guidelines.

#### VII. Old Business

- a. **Hess Fencing Project:** Bids should go out soon with map contributed by Oakland County Planners.
- b. **Concerts:** Tori is working on the details with Nikki Tippet, Chamber of Commerce and John Barker. Looking for volunteers to help with parking. Art Frasca volunteered.
- c. **Community Garden: Kelie Callahan:** We had the annual meeting on Tuesday, April 19. All 88 plots have been secured. We will be selling organic compost to the gardeners and having it delivered by Breen's in mid-May. There is a request to mow weeds down in the area between District Court and Community Garden.
- d. **District Court Garden: Linda Hardacre:** District Court Garden will meet for their first time this year on Saturday, May 21 and will continue forward with Saturdays and Sundays (9am until 12 noon) and Tuesdays and Thursday (4-7pm). Planting is scheduled for June 4, and will be completed that day. Everyone is invited to the District Court pancake breakfast on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> (details to follow). There is a request to mow between the Community and District Court gardens on an ongoing basis to keep the weeds down.

#### VIII. New Business

- a. **Media Network of Waterford, Alison Swanson:** The Media Network of Waterford will host a Mad Music and Art Festival on Saturday, September 24 from 2-7pm at Hess-Hathaway Park. Alison is working with them on planning for this event. More details to follow. We will need a few staff members to assist the day of the event.
- b. **Hess Volleyball Courts:** We are accepting proposals for refurbishing the sand volleyball courts at Hess-Hathaway Park. First estimate is \$16,000.00. We must obtain three quotes for this project. It was suggested that we request sand samples.

#### IX. Round Table Discussion

- a. **M. Carlock:** Governor Whitmer will be distributing funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to local communities across the state.
- b. **T. Heglin:** Waterford Parks and Recreation Department will not be represented in this year's Memorial Day parade.
- c. **A. Frasca:** To avoid conflicts such as a renter or group wanting to use Hess Hathaway Park on a day that we have our Harvest Happening event it was suggested we could post on social media and put a sign at the park that park amenities are for use by permit only when there is a special event.
- d. **K. Callahan:** Vickie is wondering when we might be able to allow the sheep back on the pond and the horse and steers into the northeast pasture. Tori mentioned we want to do that but there are areas where the fence is all the way down, new yard waste dumps and we need to walk the area with a number of people to check for trip hazards for the animals.

#### X. Public Comments none

#### XI. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 6:48pm.

Next meeting:

**Thursday, July 21**  
**6:00p.m.**  
**Hess Hathaway Park, 825 South Williams Lake Road**