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Department of Parks & Recreation

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HESS-HATHAWAY PARK COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 9, 2020, 6:00p.m.

MEETING NOTES

Meeting Location: Virtual via Got to Meeting Link

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** 6:05 pm, John Himmelspach

- II. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND GUESTS**
Members present: J. Himmelspach, A. Frasca, L. Hardacre, J. Beseau, S. McCready, K. Callahan, N. Ristich, J.P. Torres
Others present: T. Heglin, A. Swanson
Members excused: M. Carlock and J. Barker

- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Art Frasca. Second by Nick Ristich.
Motion passed.

- IV. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO MINUTES:** None

- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve minutes from November 14, 2019, meeting by Art Frasca. Second by Nick Ristich. Motion passed.

- VI. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Animal Report:** 104 animals currently at the farm. Dr. Ryker's veterinarian office that has served our farm for many years has transitioned to Hadley Hills Equine Clinic. Dr. Ryker and Dr. Gertsen are still involved. The focus of their practice is equine, but they will remain servicing all of our mammals because we have been with them for a long time.
 - b. Hay Fields and Equipment Update:** New hay cutter was purchased. 124 bales of hay have been cut from the area where the cross-country staging area is located. 351 bales of hay were cut last weekend. This supply should last us most of the year. There are still 20 acres that need to be cut. We need to look into getting a new brush hog. We should look into getting electricity to the hay barn and have some fans installed.
 - c. Re-appointment of John Barker to Committee:** Motion to reappoint John Barker to another 3-year term by Linda Hardacre. Second by Jerry Beseau. Motion passed.
 - d. Re-appointment of Nick Ristich to Committee:** Motion to reappoint Nick Ristich to another 3-year term by Art Frasca. Second by Linda Hardacre. Motion passed.

With us there are no boundaries

VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

Alison Swanson: Parks and Recreation has been holding a Tuesday/Thursday fitness class "Movement with Mari Ann" under pavilion 1 at the park. Feedback has been good. Class will be moving to Drayton Plains Nature Center now that park rentals at Hess-Hathaway are underway.

Art Frasca: The Drive in Movie events are great. Enjoyed getting the opportunity to help harvest hay.

Tori Heglin: Community garden has 88 plots sold. We were able to make accommodations with some COVID-19 restrictions to allow the gardeners into the Community Garden in time to plant for the year. Kelie, Jessie and Linda are doing a great job keeping the brush down inside the Community Garden and getting good efforts from our community service volunteers. New gardeners have been working well with the existing gardeners to produce some garden improvements like putting a new roof and possibly siding on the equipment shed. Pumpkins were planted. Harvest Happening and Big Wheels have been cancelled for 2020. Mott's Cross Country Coach, Ryan Robinson, has retired. Two new individuals will be taking over the running trail work: Toby Fraifogl (Mott High School coach) and Ray Collins (Kettering High School parent). Running trails have already been mowed by school district's crew. Township will make a decision on use of park equipment by cross-country teams.

Nick Ristich: Would be able to help at upcoming events and would adopt a small park if needed.

Linda Hardacre: 51st District Court Garden was planted the second week of June, a bit late this year. Have had a great turnout of individuals needing community service hours to help with the garden. Big thanks to Jessie, Kelie, Steve, Vickie, Deby and John for all of their help. The court pancake breakfast usually held in the summer has been cancelled. The perimeters of both gardens have been trimmed, as have any low hanging branches.

John Paul Torres: Waterford Schools has approved \$1 million to be used for learning devices for students if virtual learning in the fall occurs. School Board is looking at three options for the fall semester: 1) Back to school in-person; 2) ½ virtual, ½ in-person; 3) All virtual. The social/emotional student support portion of the fall semester is being worked on. Over the COVID-19 closure, 400,000 meals were served from five locations. Voters will be asked to vote on a \$150 million bond on the August ballot.

III. **MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion by Nick Ristich to adjourn 7:09pm. Second by Linda Hardacre. Meeting adjourned.

**Next meeting will be on Thursday, September 10, 6:00pm,
at Hess-Hathaway Park, Hilltop Pavilion 1**