

NORTH MANCHESTER PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

February 24, 2021

MINUTES

The North Manchester Parks & Recreation Board met in regular session at the Strauss-Peabody Aquatic and Fitness Center Conference Room. Members present: President Mel Sautter (24), Jack Vineyard (25), Bobbi Lautzenheiser (23) and Becky Kreps (22). Also present were Jennifer Hotchkiss (Director) and Linda Miller (Assistant Director).

CALL TO ORDER

Mel Sautter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were none.

MINUTES

Minutes from the January 27, 2021 Regular Meeting were presented for approval. Motion for approval (BK/BL) was passed by a voice vote of members present.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

The Maintenance Report was reviewed. (Copy attached)

DIRECTOR REPORT

The Director's Report was reviewed. (Copy attached)

MRA REPORT

Jack reported the MRA has an agreement with MJSHS for the use of the southwest ballfield for MJSHS Girls Softball games. The MRA discussed with the high school that they have hired a new Maintenance Director to prepare and maintain the fields and they would like that person, and not the high schools, to also take care of the southwest ballfield. Concessions for the southwest ballfield will also belong to the MRA. They were able to cancel the new mower order at Eel River because someone graciously donated a used 60 inch mower to them. So far, they have 150 kids registered and are looking at opening day being May 1st. He also reported that the MRA used to have a Toro 3-wheeler which they used to grade and drag the ballfields. For an unknown reason, the last MRA board decided to trade it in on a 4 wheeler, which doesn't have enough power. Fortunately they were able to find out who purchased their old Toro and they bought it back. The first game for MJSHS Girls Softball is March 21st. The board has hired Franny Schannep to manage the concessions this year. They have also heard interest from other communities who are not having their own leagues, about playing in ours or having their leagues play here, even a possibility for Men's Fast Pitch.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL PAYMENTS

Claims and Allowance Docket

The February Claims and Allowance Docket in the amount of \$51,682.68 was reviewed. Motion to approve the February Claims and Allowance Docket in the amount of \$51,682.68 (JV/BK) was passed by a voice vote of members present.

Monthly Park and Recreation Financial Reports

The February Claims Summary, Utility Comparison Report, January Expense Reports and January Revenue Report were reviewed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Splash

Mel reported that since our last board meeting, he has received a couple of statements from the Community Foundation for the Splash Fund. The current balance is \$475,000 with \$78,000 being available to spend if we were to have an emergency and needed it. Contributions for 2020 appear to have been between \$10,000 and \$13,000.

Dog Park

Jennifer reported she spoke with the owner of the land on N. Market St. and he is currently waiting on soil sample results. However, he seemed open to all possibilities, including selling or donating the land. He has dogs and thinks a dog park would be a great thing. She will get back with him when the samples come back. She is thinking of selling a membership to the park and require proof of vaccinations. Members would get a key/fob to unlock the gate. Our current software (RecDesk) partners with another company for locks. However, the locks would require Wi-Fi. Hopefully next month she will have more information and some numbers.

NEW BUSINESS

Wi-Fi Upgrade

Jennifer informed the board that she and Denise met with BIT Computers because we have been experiencing issues with our Wi-Fi connection in the building. Also, MJSHS had problems when they were trying to live stream their home Swim Meets. After some investigating, and help from Travis @ BIT, it was discovered that we have been operating the past 9 years on a low grade residential speed and equipment. Jennifer gave the board a copy of a quote from BIT Computers and went over the options to replace our old equipment and upgrade to a business grade system. Following a lengthy discussion, motion to approve the quote from BIT to upgrade our old equipment and Wi-Fi system to a business grade system at a maximum cost of \$12,000 (JV/BL) was passed by a voice vote of members present.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

APPROVED _____

Mel Sautter, President

Jack Vineyard, Vice-President

Becky Kreps, Member

Bobbi Lautzenheiser, Member

Rick Espeset, Member