

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

April 6, 2022

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 4:15 p.m., at Merrill City Hall.

Members Present: Kyle Gulke, Joan Tabor, Brian Artac, Chad Krueger, John VanLieshout, Jean Ravn, and Dan Novitch

Members Excused Absent:

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

***Motion by Artac, seconded by VanLieshout to approve the minutes from the March meeting.

***Carried unanimously.

***Motion by VanLieshout, seconded by Artac, to approve the claims from March.

Artac questioned the bill from Nevco for the score board controller. Wendorf stated that the score board controller that was in there no longer worked so this was a replacement. Wendorf also stated that Baseball is paying for the controller.

***Carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None

The next item on the agenda was an update on Outdoor Recreation Plan & Survey. Wendorf stated that all questions were finalized and the survey was out for the public. Wendorf stated that the survey has been out for a month and about 266 have taken the survey. Wendorf stated that the survey would be available for another week. Ravn questioned if the Park and Recreation Commission will be able to see the answers from the survey. Wendorf stated that he will put them in next month's packets.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss Bierman Family Aquatic Center staffing and operations. Wendorf stated that it has been very difficult finding lifeguards. Wendorf stated that at this time we will have enough to open but unless we get more guards the aquatic center will not be open full time this summer. Alderman Steve Sabatke requested to speak. Sabatke stated that the community is going to be upset if the aquatic center does not open. Sabatke stated that the Fraternal Order of Eagles donated \$1,000.00 to help with lifeguards. Wendorf stated that the money that was donated is in a non-lapsing account and will be used to help train and reimburse guards for getting certified. Wendorf stated that they will hopefully get a few more guards before summer. He will report back at next month's meeting.

The next item on the agenda was monthly reports. Wendorf asked if anyone had any questions. Wendorf stated that the weather has not been favorable to get our spring sports up and going. Wendorf stated that the summer rec guide was out and have been getting some good feedback from it. Wendorf stated that it has been a busy turnaround from getting the ice out, having a Mennonite Pastoral conference with around 1,000 people in attendance Monday through Friday last week, followed up by the Children's Festival.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

***Motion by Ravn, seconded by VanLieshout to adjourn at 4:35 p.m.

***Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith
Recording Secretary