

MEETING MINUTES - CITY OF TOMAH

A meeting of the **Parks & Recreation Commission (PRC)** for the City of Tomah was held on Monday Sep 28, 2020 at 5:45 p.m. at the Winnebago Park closed shelter.

The following members participated: Dir. Joe Protz, Donna Evans, Dean Peterson, Bruce Peth, Dustin Powell, Tess Saunders, Jared Tessman, Oak Moser, Shirley Galstad-Roh

The following members were absent:

Please file a copy of your board or commission meeting minutes with the City Clerk's office within three (3) days after your meeting was held so that copies can be made and distributed to the alderpersons.

Others present: Lamont Kiefer, Kim Mello, John Rusch, Steve Rundio

Act on Minutes of 8/24/20 regular meeting. A motion by Moser to accept the minutes of the Aug 24, 2020 regular meeting, second by Tessman, All ayes. Motion carried.

Goose Management: The Lake Committee has looked into the possibility of a Goose Management Program for Parks around the Lake. Geese have been present for years and tend to disrupt the Park and Trail users. Community members have raised concerns with the new Inclusive Playground to be installed in Butts Park and that it may turn into a collection area for goose droppings. Dir Protz presented information on Goose Management Programs obtained from Wildlife Biologist Mike Jones, through the Lake Committee. The information included some recommendations on managing the goose population, health concerns associated with the continued presence of the geese, and regulatory and permitting requirements should any formal management plan be pursued. Kim Mello communicated to the PRC that the presence of the geese in the parks around the lake does not hinder the Lake Committee in terms of its mission, but they are willing and interested to stay involved in any goose management program. John Rusch addressed the PRC communicating that: he is comfortable with the geese and believes they attract people appreciative of the wildlife, there are potentially non-lethal methods to deter the geese including spraying the surrounding grass with a chemical that irritates the geese but is not harmful to humans, using "lines", short fences, higher shoreline growth, as well as other methods that could be part of a management program. After significant discussion, no formal action was taken. The PRC will continue to monitor the situation, collect information on different potential management programs and accept input from citizens.

Tribute Wall and Warming Area naming at Tomah Ice Center: Tomah Youth Hockey Club president Jay Greeno submitted a request to rename the entrance area (warming area) in the Tomah Ice Center to the "Rodney G Sheldon Warming Area" and to establish a wall of tribute to recognize deceased TYHC members who made significant contributions to the program and association. This would be the west wall (the concession stand wall). The wall would be painted a gray color to contrast slightly with the surroundings. Zingler Signs would provide the markings on the wall. A picture of the proposed wall and lettering was presented. Rod Sheldon is a very distinguished past member of TYHC who contributed immensely to the long-term success and operation of the association. Other deceased significant contributors (of time and effort) would be considered for the Wall

of Tribute and honored on that wall with individual plaques. Motion by Moser, second by Evans, to approve the renaming and memorial wall proposal. All ayes, motion carried.

Act on request for Tomah Scouts for a popcorn selling fundraiser at Gillett Park during remaining Farmer's Market hours. Scott White, Cubmaster, Pack 279, made a written request to set up a booth, away from the Farmer's Market participants but in Gillett Park, for the month of October, as a fund raiser. Motion by Saunders, second by Tessman, to approve request for Scout Pack 279 to sell popcorn during Farmer's Market hours in the month of October 2020. All ayes, motion carried.

Discussion on Capital Improvement Projects: Dir Protz reviewed the Parks and Recreation Department 2021 projects and the projected needs for the next 5 years to cover equipment, enhancements and additions to current Park system. This is an annual process. The entire plan is a working document and projects are added and deleted as needs and budget dictate. Motion by Moser, second by Galstad-Roh, to approve submission of the Park & Rec 2021-2025 CIP to the City Council for consideration. All ayes, motion carried.

Parks and Rec Program Report: Dir Protz reviewed the monthly 2020 Park and Rec Program report. Of particular note, the nasa Inclusive Playground-Funding, has been delayed due to Covid-19 implications, the goal is to excavate this fall and install equipment in spring of 2021. \$1500 was received from the Frank G Andres fund for boulevard trees. Park and Rec programs continue, and often are modified, rescheduled, or canceled due to Covid-19 implications. Winterization work to begin as needed.

Other Affairs:

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Motion by Tessman, to adjourn, second by Peterson. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:40PM.

Next regular meeting to be held Monday, Oct 26, 2020, 5:45PM, at Fireman's Park closed shelter.

Respectfully Submitted: Oak Moser