

OCTOBER 15, 2019, MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE YOUTH AND RECREATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES

5:15 P.M. Council Chamber. Members present: B. Groothousen, M. Reynolds. Absent: J. Fields, B. Morgan. Others present: A. Christianson 1 and 2, C. and J. Riddle, D. Wishowski

Call to Order:

Youth and Rec Committee Chair Reynolds called the meeting to order and presided.

Youth Boating Safety and Fishing Project:

Target Age for Participants

There was some debate whether to limit the initial event to Grades 5-8 or to hold a second session for high school students. There was also discussion of inviting NCA students, and of allowing high school students if they show up even if not invited. Those in Grades 9-12 may be at greater risk.

Prizes

- A kayak is planned to be given away as the major prize. Participants will need to complete the safety course, at a minimum, to qualify for the kayak prize.
- Smaller items might be obtained as well.
- Mr. Riddle believes he can purchase a large number of PFDs or fishing poles at a good price.

Resources

It was noted that contacts need to be made with potential adult resource people who might man event stations, or supply items needed. Mr. Riddle has access to up to about 20 fishing rods and the Riddles, along with Mrs. Wishowski, feel they can round up 18-20 kayaks.

Discussion

Questions or comments offered by those present included the following:

- We need to determine activities and stations to be included.
- A kayak obstacle course might be set up in the beach area. Could ropes and buoys be left up until event is over?
- A DNR customer ID# will be required to register to participate. This can be tracked without necessity of providing names.
- “Musky Joe” is a potential speaker.
- There needs to be more discussion of how and where to advertise. The Northwoods Escape insert is one idea. A booth at the Mardi Gras and at the Junior Fair are also advised. Sign up sheets might also be permitted to be available at school sign up night.
- The event would tentatively run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2020.

Budget/Funding

Even though the City has money budgeted for this project, efforts will still be made to seek donations.

Mr. Groothousen reviewed an application he will complete and file seeking (Weather Shield) Lite Foundation financial assistance for this project. A few thoughts were offered.

City Goals

City goals with this project include the following:

- Introduce local youth/parents to area amenities/fun activities they may never have been exposed to.

- Workforce attraction/ retention.
- Community promotion.

Politics

Some DNR staff are trying to develop a DNR boating safety program, while others in that agency seem to resist doing so. A higher portion of deaths are attributed to canoes and kayaks than to other boat types.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will tentatively be at least a month off to allow some tasks to be accomplished.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

OCTOBER 21, 2019, PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING -OCT. 41

5 p.m. R. C. Fairgrounds. Members present: B. Morgan, M. Platteter, M. Reynolds. Others present: A. Christianson 1.

Call to Order:

Mr. Reynolds called the meeting to order.

Visit:

The Committee paid a brief visit to the Jaycees' float storage building in the NE corner of the Rusk County Fairgrounds where it was plain to see that the 15 floats stored there leave essentially no room to work on them. The meeting concluded quickly so those present could attend a 5:15 All Committees meeting at City Hall.