The Parks and Recreation Board met Monday, August 20, 2018, 4:30 pm, at the Parks office. Present at said meeting were Linda Eales, Karen Springer, Jim Pitoukkas, Brandt Patz, Pat Flannelly and Park Board Attorney, Andy Gutwein. Kathy Lozano, Chris Foley, Bess Witcosky, Dan Dunten, Jon Munn and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Mayor John Dennis and Erik Carlson also attended.

Linda convened the Board at 4:36 pm.

Consent Agenda Items

Minutes – provided online initially, then at meeting

Staff Management Report

EMPLOYEE MILESTONES:
- Morton Program Director Bess Witcosky competed in her very first sprint triathlon. Way to go Bess
- Assistant Park and Recreation Director Position has been posted – we hope to have someone hired and on the job by the end of the year.

PROGRAMS:
- Lilly Nature Center
  Eagle Scout Project – A Boy Scout successfully completed his project at the Celery Bog Nature Area, which involved repairing six of the wooden benches along the various trails.

  Observation Deck Repairs – Two of the older observation decks needed to have wood replaced on them, so they have now been repaired and are safer for the visitors.

  Purdue Student Events – 7,000 freshmen were expected to attend the Boiler Bridge Bash and about 1,000 graduate students at their Orientation Forum. We had a display relating to the Celery Bog Nature Area and handouts at both events.

- Morton Community Center
  Family Fun Day – will be held on Sunday, August 26 from 1p-4p in partnership with the West Lafayette Public Library. Every child under the age of 12 will receive a free book. There will be free popcorn, snacks, drinks and entertainment by Morton instructors and Civic Youth Theatre. Morton will become “Morton Travel" where attendees can imagine their own far-away lands and playful places to visit, creating them through travel posters, sending decorative postcards, and even decorating their own mini-airplane.

  Morton Fall classes will kick off on Tuesday, September 4. Open registration begins Monday, August 27.

Park Maintenance: 
Keeping our parks clean and attractive takes hard work and diligence. Aside from normal activities like mowing, cleaning and mulching our parks department accomplished the following list of projects in the past month:

- New shingles on Shelter #4 at Happy Hollow Park
- Obtained construction bids for the re-decking of the pedestrian bridge at the front of Happy Hollow Park, work to begin in 3-4 weeks
- New deck and handrail installed on pedestrian bridge at Shelter #4 Happy Hollow Park
- New deck installed on pedestrian bridge at South shelter Cumberland Park
- Removed 15 hazardous trees at Cumberland Park
- New concrete, drinking fountain and grill installed at Cumberland Park South shelter
- Met with the artist creating the public art sculptures to be installed at all access points to Happy Hollow Park. Discussed sculpture locations and installation needs. Work to begin later this fall
- Soffit, fascia repairs and painting complete at the Morris Schoolhouse. Work to repair plaster walls, work to repair roof rafters and ceiling joist to begin next week.
- Met with the Public Arts Team 8/9/18 to discuss upcoming public art projects
- Playground and trail inspection reports available at Park Board 8/20/18

Claims – provided online initially, then at meeting.
Pat motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Old Business

Smoking Policy – Tobacco Free Rule
- Kathy provided information regarding the policy, after it went to the Council meeting earlier this month. As it stands, we have adopted a “No Smoking” policy for our parks. We will post signs accordingly. However, there will not be an ordinance established at this time. If we come upon someone not wanting to comply, we can call the police to help with the situation.

New Business

Recreation Center / Morton Community Center
- Mayor John Dennis provided an overview of the projects. Erik Carlson continued, offering more details for the upcoming Recreation Center and renovations for Morton Community Center for the “new” City Hall building. Discussion followed.

Happy Hollow Park
- Jon provided pictures of the planned sculptures for Happy Hollow Park.

West Lafayette School Board
Karen reported Arni’s Support Night is Sunday, August 26, 4 – 9 pm. Twenty percent of proceeds will go to the Foundation to help support teacher grants, future building projects, backpack program, etc.

West Lafayette Intermediate School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10.

Niche.com 2019 Best School District in America

West Lafayette Community School Corporation – 3rd best school district in America. For 3rd year, named Best School District in Indiana. Also, first for Best Teachers in Indiana.

Wabash River

- N/A

Other

Cash/Change Fund

- Chris presented a request to establish a Cash/Change Fund in the amount of $200.00 for Global Fest. The fund will revert back no later than November 30, 2018. Pat motioned to approve the Cash/Change Fund as presented. Brandt seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Michaud-Sinniger Woods

- Andy provided information regarding Michaud-Sinniger Woods property being deeded to the Redevelopment Commission in 2002 to help secure financing for trail work. The property is due to revert back to us when it’s finished. Still verifying, but it looks like the financing was paid off last year. We should be going through the motions to have the property deeded back to us. However, there has been warning they may need the property back for financing of the new Recreation Center.

Steering Committee for Morris Schoolhouse

- Kathy requested Park Board representation for a Steering Committee for Morris Schoolhouse. Brandt, Jim and Karen all expressed interest in serving on the committee. Pat motioned to approve the Park Board representatives for the Morris Schoolhouse as presented. Linda seconded, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

- Pat motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm.

Next Meeting Date

- The next Park Board meeting will be Monday, September 17, 2018, 4:30 pm, Parks Office, Conference Room.