

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, April 15, 2019, 4:30 pm, at the Happy Hollow Complex. Present at said meeting were Linda Eales, Jim Pitoukkas, Karen Springer, Pat Flannelly, Brandt Patz and Park Board Attorney, Andy Gutwein. Kathy Lozano, Greg Mitchell, Dan Dunten and Kevin Noe represented the department. Department of Development, Erik Carlson, also attended. Absent were staff members Chris Foley and Cheryl Kolb.

Linda convened the Board at 4:32 pm.

Consent Agenda Items

Minutes – provided online initially, then at meeting

Staff Management Report

EMPLOYEE MILESTONES:

Nick Rawles has accepted a new position at ConAgra as a Maintenance Technician. We thank him for his service for the past six years and wish him well in his new endeavor.

Jon Munn has submitted his resignation. His last day of work will be April 18, 2019. Jon will be joining the TBird Design team as a Project Manager and Building Inspector. Please extend your thanks for a job well done.

We are actively searching for candidates to fill these two positions as well as the Maintenance Tech position that will be available when Tom James retires on April 30.

PROGRAMS:

City Hall Programs: Programs at City Hall are in full swing and operating smoothly. All instructors report that classes are operating well and appreciate their space in the new City Hall.

LILLY NATURE CENTER

Eagle Scout Project – Another successful Eagle Scout project was completed at Michaud-Sinninger Woods at Cumberland Park, thanks to a cooperative plan with the scout and a financial donor group. A new path and wooden bench will be enjoyed by all through their hard work and generosity. Thank you.

Historical Video Production – Dan Dunten and the volunteers have been working with Chad Evans (WLFM Meteorologist) and a Purdue department to write and record the script for a special video for the Lilly Nature Center. It will discuss the geological changes of the wetlands from the last Ice Age (14,000 – 16,000 years ago) through today, while incorporating how the Celery Bog Nature Area was named.

New at the Nature Center – Yoga has been a great addition to the programming at the Lilly Nature Center. A Yoga Retreat was held on Saturday, April 7 at the Nature Center. Over 20 participants enjoyed the natural setting while getting a wonderful workout.

Trail Mulching – Volunteers continue to be the lifeline of our beautiful outdoor nature area. Spring is trail maintenance time and we thank the volunteers from two Purdue groups, and a church, for spreading wood chips on our trails.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The design phase of the Wellness and Aquatic Center and the new Community Center at City Hall continues.

We are auditioning new software for program management

Cason Park Design also continues and is beginning to develop a theme for the park

Work has begun for spring programming and planning for summer

Municipal Pool will open for the Season on May 23 with regular hours through August 4.

Starting August 5 – September 2, the pool will operate on an evening and week- end schedule.

The 25th Annual Mor' Danc'n Dance Recital will be held on April 27, 2019 at 4:30 pm at the Loeb Playhouse on the campus of Purdue University.

Farmers market will open on May 1.

The Skating Rink is closed for the season.

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:

Construction of the Happy Hollow Playground is well on its way to completion.

Parks have been working to empty both the Morton Center and the Parks Barn in preparation for the construction projects slated for commencing in April.

Pool is being prepared for the season

Community Gardens will be re-located on April 22 (Earth Day). This is a volunteer opportunity if anyone is interested. Please call the Parks Department or Dept. of Development for more information.

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

Health and Wellness Center/City Hall Update

- Kathy reported things are moving along well. Soon there will be renderings of the building available for viewing. The bond has been approved, so the money is there. We will be going to bid for the first bid package at the end of the month. Discussion followed.

Kathy asked everyone to come out on Monday, April 22, to help move the Community Gardens, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Discussion followed.

Happy Hollow Park Update

- Due to the Community Garden project, the Happy Hollow Playground project has been halted. In addition to the playground, the trail extension work is starting at the first week of May. The entrance to the Park is scheduled to close from May 6 – May 20. The park will still be accessible by parking in the east lot outside of the park, and then using the trail, walk into the park. Throughout the summer, construction will continue on the trail extension, with mid-August as the projected time of completion for the entire project.

- With Tom James' retirement, there are plans to tear down the house in Happy Hollow Park. With that, we are looking for ideas to utilize the space, such as a possible dog park. Future discussion to take place.

Pat asked what happened to the outdoor fitness station that used to be behind Happy Hollow School, and if we would be replacing it. Kathy explained the equipment was not ours, and that it belonged to the school.

New Business

Personnel

- Kathy noted there have been some changes in the Parks Department. With Tom James' retirement and Nick Rawles accepting another position, we have successfully identified replacements for both positions. We also have one seasonal that has accepted. We will come back with these for approval at the next meeting. In addition, Jon Munn has resigned as of this coming Thursday. We will search until we find the right replacement for his position.

Celery Bog Nature Area

- At some point, we would like to discuss the Celery Bog Nature Area with the Board. We walked it with the Redevelopment Commission last week and would like to come up with some type of a plan to access the water easier, such as a boardwalk.
- Andy talked to the Police Department regarding the ice skating reports at the Celery Bog. The person he spoke to could only locate one incident, or one call, regarding the skating. Pat provided some additional background information regarding how calls work when they come in to Dispatch. Discussion followed.

Lincoln Park

- Andy presented information regarding a situation that became known over the winter. Lincoln Park consists of two lots, with a third lot that was up in contention for a long period, with the possibility of tearing down the house and adding the property to the park. It did not happen, and eventually the house was torn down and a new house was built. The house was deeded with half of the park. The property owners were very cooperative and happy to have it corrected. Andy met with them this past Friday evening, and the owners signed a deed to transfer the park to us. It would be appropriate for us to vote for the resolution to accept the deed and the title issue. Andy will have Linda and Jim to sign off, accepting the deed. We did not have to pay anything and they were very cooperative. They did ask that we address the layout and the demarcation between their house and the park. When they first moved in, there was no demarcation at all. They put in a fence that does not go all of the way to the street, but to a logical place, then slants down, gets lower, then stops. They are on the west side of the park. With their neighbors on the east side of the park, there is a landscape mound with plantings and a sidewalk on the park side of the mound, so it is more clearly defined what is park side. On their side, it is just a flat line between the park and their driveway. Therefore, they have people cutting across their driveway to get to the park. What is worse is children will run into driveway, and play, which is of major concern when backing the car out of the driveway. They have planted some

additional plants there, but are asking for help with a berm and some additional plantings to delineate the park from private property and keep people from using their driveway as a sidewalk. Andy presented the motion to accept the deed from the Seymours for the portion of Lincoln Park, which erroneously remained titled in their name and to authorize our officers to sign the acceptance of the deed. Brandt motioned to accept the deed transfer as presented. Jim seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

West Lafayette School Board

Karen reported on the following items:

- For the 11th year, WLCSC has received the 2019 Best Communities for Music Education Award. We are one of 12 school districts in Indiana to receive this.
- State Legislators passed a law last year mandating Suicide Prevention Training for all IN teachers, with completion by June 30, 2019. The law went into effect July 1, 2018. Guidelines developed by Department of Education were not completed until February 2019. We will be able to complete the required training by the end of the school year in late May.
- Work continues on the GLASS (Greater Lafayette Area Special Services) decentralization process. LSC, TSC & WLCSC are working to take individual corporation control of many of the GLASS services. As the number of students serviced by GLASS continues to increase, it will be more cost effective and efficient for each school corporation to assume greater individual responsibilities.
- Staff Walk-Ins were held at many schools throughout Tippecanoe County last Wednesday, April 10. The goal was to show support for public education and to repeat adequate funding from the State during this legislative budget cycle.

Wabash River

- n/a

Other

Cash/Change Fund

- Kathy presented the request to establish a Cash/Change Fund from the Non-Reverting Operating Fund for \$200.00 for the Mor' Danc'n Dance Recital. Kathy presented a second request to establish a Cash/Change Fund from the Non-Reverting Operating Fund for the West Lafayette Municipal Pool for \$200.00. Both funds will revert back no later than November 29, 2019. Karen motioned to approve the Cash/Change Fund as presented. Pat seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Mind BOGgling Event

- Dan requested approval to, once again, have a food truck for this year's Mind BOGgling Event scheduled for Saturday, May 18. Pat motioned to approve the request as presented. Brandt seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

- Brandt motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Next Meeting Date

- The next Park Board meeting will be Monday, May 20, 2019, 4:30 pm, at Lilly Nature Center

Presiding Officer

File: Cheryl/2019ParkBoardMinutes/Minutes#04/April2019

Secretary