

## PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Bedford Township Hall

8100 Jackman Road

April 9, 2018 7:00 P.M.

Present: Jerry Goodridge, Chair, Connie Velliquette, Sally Dunn, Lew Smith & Joan Dunton.

Also Present: Nancy Crandell, Lucie Fortin

Excused: TC Clements

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. by Chair Goodridge, with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Velliquette added 10i. Mannik & Smith, and 10j. discussion of parks cleanup. Motion was made by Velliquette, seconded by Dunn to approve the revised agenda of the April 9, 2018 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Smith, seconded by Goodridge to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2018 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
4. Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Velliquette, seconded by Dunn to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2018 Special Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
5. Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.
6. Treasurer's Report: Expenses for period \$756.02. Remaining fund balance \$66,469.74. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Velliquette, seconded by Dunn. Roll Call: all ayes. Motion Carried.
7. Presentations: Cathy Comstock, 7390 Creeksbend, of Compassion, Food & Fun. She's asking for free use of the Indian Creek pavilion on August 19<sup>th</sup> for a 5k charity run for Heart of Hope. Motion to allow the use of Indian Creek park for event and waive pavilion usage fees made by Dunton, seconded by Velliquette. Roll Call Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.
8. Community Education: Indoor Sunday play has been extended for pickleball, and all courts have been full. Classes will be offered this spring and summer.
9. Comments from the Public: Gail Keene 1056 W Temperance. She brought the sign for the Master Gardener project for Ansted Park. She said she spoke with the school superintendent, and suggested moving their offices to the old Temperance Road Elementary, and she said the park board might want to have office space there as well. She said there is a Blizzard Fest being planned for December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at Carr Park, and was surprised that the park board hasn't been given any information regarding this event.
10. Old / New Business:
  - a. **Carr's Grove Park:** Velliquette said Pirrone asked her if fire pits could be used at Carr Park.
  - b. **Samaria Park:** The key that a renter was given didn't work in the lock. Basketball court was busy.
  - c. **White Park:** The courts need to be cleaned up.
  - d. **Parmelee Park:** The fence was pried open, and two children were inside riding their bikes. The Sherriff was called by a resident. Dunn was on site and said a section of fence about 15' long was damaged. Velliquette said Tom Redmond thought the fence was damaged before that day. The board feels the two should be held responsible for the cost of repairs, or they will be prosecuted.
  - e. **Indian Creek:** Several dogs were seen off leash, and there was pet waste left on the trails. Goodridge said an ordinance needs to be put in place so that negligent dog owners can be fined for having dogs off leash, and for not cleaning up their pet's waste. Bridge #2's new deck has been installed, but handrails and mid-rails aren't done yet. Shayla Pitzen would like to hold dog days on June 9<sup>th</sup> for local dog owners, with a veterinarian on site. Crandel said that there are soccer games scheduled that day, and the parking lot will probably be full, and the park will be over crowded. She will check the schedule to be sure.
  - f. **Ansted Park:** ITC replaced the electric poles, and when removing their equipment, they destroyed an area

about 60' x 60'. The grasses were ruined, and it is muddy and rutted up now. Pirrone gave ITC Velliquette's information last week, and she still hasn't heard from them. Goodridge said an alternative to replanting seed in the area is to extend the parking lot. Dunton suggested a fair price for damages would be to get a quote on what it would cost to re-seed the area. Then the funds could be used for re-seeding or extending the parking lot, at the park board's discretion. The sign needs to be moved, because it's hard to see when driving by.

- g.** Wheeler Preserve: Goodridge suggested the parking lot be 150' x 150' holding approximately 40 cars. The board feels professionals should be consulted regarding a trail and parking lot.
  - h.** Fireworks: Velliquette is working with Goldsmith regarding contracts for food trucks, and she has 3 trucks that would be available on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2 of which are also available on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. She's also contacted the Sherriff's office with concerns about the Summerfest also happening that weekend.
  - i.** Mannik & Smith: Conversion issue with MDNR and wireless tower on Carr Park. Because this part of the property is no longer usable by the public, it prevents the board from being eligible for grants. Fortin believes that the addition of the 22 acres of the Wheeler Preserve will help negate this issue. Motion to approve \$2,000 for Mannik & Smith to begin preliminary paperwork regarding the conversions made by Dunton, seconded by Dunn. Roll Call Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.
  - j.** Park's Cleanup: Damon Cecil of the ordinance department contacted Velliquette about a youth group from the Y doing cleanup work at the parks. She said when work needs to be done, the board could contact Cecil and he could send them to work. Smith said the first project they could do would be distributing mulch in the playgrounds, because the levels are well below the safety lines on the equipment. They can also help clean up after the fireworks. Velliquette suggested each member make a list of things that can be done at their park by the next meeting.
11. Comments from the Public: Gail Keene. She said she's had volunteers from Red Shirts clean up the sides of roads. She said ITC has also said they would like to donate \$7,000 to the community. She suggested restricting dogs to one park only, to reign in the waste problem, because it can be a public health issue.
12. Commissioner's Comments: Velliquette said Dunn did a great job on the St Luke's grant request for \$5,000.
13. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Velliquette, seconded by Smith, all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. by Goodridge.

Respectfully submitted  
Joan Dunton, Park Board Secretary