

PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Bedford Township Hall

8100 Jackman Road

April 23, 2018 7:00 P.M.

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

Also Present: TC Clements, Jon Gutierrez

Excused: None.

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: Motion was made by Velliquette, seconded by Smith to approve the agenda of the April 23, 2018 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Dunn, seconded by Velliquette to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2018 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
4. Secretary's Report: We've gotten close to \$800 in donations for the fireworks so far. We also received a thank you card from the family of Margery Shinkle that was postmarked last month.
5. Treasurer's Report: Expenses for period \$5,435.48. Remaining fund balance \$57,703.95. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Smith, seconded by Goodridge. Roll Call: all ayes. Motion Carried.
6. Presentations: None.
7. Community Education: Pickleball has been steady, soccer leagues are starting this week. Fields were lined last week. About 200 kids are playing in this league. Softball, starter-ball and Tee ball are starting soon. Gutierrez is trying to organize another cleanup soon. The upcoming maintenance plans for ball fields will have to be done during the season, because the funds for it aren't available yet.
8. Comments from the Public: Gail Keene, 1056 W Temperance, said people are already parking illegally at White Park.
9. Old / New Business:
 - a. **Carr's Grove Park**: Motion to approve quote for \$2,700 for mulch purchase for play areas made by Velliquette, seconded by Smith. Roll Call Vote: all ayes. Motion carried. Porta potties are out in all parks, and community centers have been booked regularly with the change in weather. A group is wanting to host Blizzard Fest at Carr Park. Velliquette spoke with fire department chief Massengill regarding the event and having burning barrels, and was told that there needs to be a specific plan in place regarding safety for something like that. The group was supposed to attend this meeting to make a presentation.
 - b. **Samaria Park**: Everything looks good. The contract for Bedford Blast needs some clarification, as to who from Bedford Blast is authorized to sign it, and if Bedford Blast is one single entity.
 - c. **White Park**: Ball games have started. Clements said that the board should contact Sergeant Moody, and ask him to start an early patrol in the parks to dissuade potential vandalism, and ask him to monitor parking as well. Dunn said she's suggested to coaches that they should ask parents to park by the bus depot.
 - d. **Parmelee Park**: The Summerfest that was going to happen at Forest View the weekend of the fireworks has been tentatively moved to the Civic Club property. The group hosting it has asked if they can use the baseball diamond to land a helicopter on. Goodridge said that he doesn't think the township attorney, board, or insurance company would allow that. Smith said that field has already been rented to the Blast, and there may already be a game or practice scheduled there. Clements said this would endanger anyone at the park that day. Smith said the entire park would have to be closed to the public that entire day. The board feels it's too dangerous to allow.
 - e. **Indian Creek**: Everything looks fine, some cleanup is needed. Bridges are still being worked on.
 - f. **Ansted Park**: Shelter is being worked on, water is being pumped out for the foundation. Velliquette is still trying to work out being reimbursed for the damage done by ITC. Dog waste left on the trails could be a

- project for the group of volunteers coordinated by Cecil.
- g.** Wheeler Preserve: Fortin is still working on conversion paperwork for grant request. Goodridge will meet with Fortin tomorrow, to find if Wheeler attorney has contacted her yet. Smith asked if work on property can be started before the property has been deeded to the park commission.
 - h.** Update on fireworks / additional insurance coverage: Last year, an additional million dollars of coverage was added to policy. Motion to approve spending \$1,700 for \$2,000,000 insurance coverage for fireworks made by Velliquette, seconded by Dunn. Roll Call Vote: all ayes. Motion carried. Velliquette will get some prices for reusable lawn signs to put around the township. Velliquette said the board also needs to have extra porta potties brought to high school for the fireworks. Clements suggested the board could just ask the school to pay a usage fee for access to current porta potties, rather than having more brought in. She's still working on contracts with food trucks.
 - i.** Sale of unused park property: An unused lot in Mohawk subdivision, and Miller Park on Substation and Crabb. Tom Graham was asked about selling them, and what could be done with the money after the sale.
10. Comments from the Public: Gail Keene, said if fireworks signs are put around township, they need more information. She said the Summerfest from last year still owes debts. A presentation was given at a public meeting for Lewis Corridor Authority regarding Blizzard Fest.
11. Commissioner's Comments: Dunn said St Luke's denied the grant request. Goodridge said the camera at Parmelee needs to be checked, because two boys' bikes were stolen from the park. The township may look into a newer camera system that's easier to check footage on, rather than climbing the ladder. Clements said township budget is being done differently this year, and it's likely that someone from the park board will be called to the township COW to explain budget requests.
12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Velliquette, seconded by Smith, all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by Goodridge.

Respectfully submitted
Joan Dunton, Park Board Secretary