

## PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Bedford Township Hall

8100 Jackman Road

November 27, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

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

Also Present: Nancy Crandell

Excused: Jerry Goodridge, TC Clements

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Velliquette, with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Smith added Bedford Blast to Old Business h. Motion was made by Dunton, seconded by Smith to approve the revised agenda of the November 27, 2017 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Smith, seconded by Dunton to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2017 Park Board meeting, all ayes. Motion carried.
4. Secretary's Report: Keys fit White Park concession stand, but not restrooms.
5. Treasurer's Report: Expenses for period \$2,723.38. Remaining fund balance \$55,688.34. A third invoice of \$85 was received today from Taulbee Electric for re-setting breakers at Carr's Grove. It's not known who called for service on the dates of the invoices. Velliquette will call and speak with Randy to find out who had called, and ensure he's not responding to calls that aren't from a park board member or township official. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Smith, seconded by Dunn. Roll Call: all ayes. Motion Carried.
6. Presentations: Freedom Path by Tim Fitzgerald 9195 Lewis. The Veteran's Committee would like to create a new memorial for veterans and active service members. They've raised \$5,000 and have a proposed budget of \$40,000 for the entire project. He's asking for a liaison from the Park Board to help write a proposal regarding a monument or a path in Ansted Park.
7. Community Education: Spring brochure is being worked on, and there will be indoor courts for pickleball. SEMTA has been contacted regarding tennis lessons. Their proposal will be ready in December.
8. Comments from the Public: Gail Keane 1056 W Temperance. They've applied for oversight from Monroe County regarding their volunteer Master Gardener Association, and would like to have Ansted Park recognized as an official part of The Monroe County, Michigan Master Gardener Association. This would make Ansted a place where people can complete the required hours to earn their Master Gardener certificate. Tim Fitzgerald said he thinks the Master Gardener project would be a better fit for Anstead than the monument or path.
9. Old / New Business:
  - a. **Carr's Grove Park:** No issues.
  - b. **Samaria Park:** The water supply is in compliance as of Nov 20<sup>th</sup>. The village tree lighting went well. The old awnings have been taken down, but the new ones have been held up because of a shortage of sewers at Wettle Corp. Wettle outsourced them, and they were made to incorrect sizes.
  - c. **White Park:** People walking, but otherwise quiet.
  - d. **Parmelee Park:** A date for closing the skate park needs to be selected, but as long as the weather stays nice, it should remain open.
  - e. **Indian Creek:** Velliquette said that the 4<sup>th</sup> bridge from the shelter, and the bridge right by the shelter are both ADA compliant. Invoice received from Bedford Schools for bridge repairs. Smith asked if the repairs made by the school would impact repairs that were contracted to Kurt's Modern Repair. Velliquette said there probably isn't a need for KMR to do any further repair work, but she'd like to wait until spring and see if further repairs are needed. Dunn expressed dissatisfaction with the repair work, because the new boards don't match in color, and asked if the boards could be stained. Motion to approve invoice of \$92.47 for labor only for replacement of rotted boards made by Dunton, seconded by Smith. Roll Call vote: Aye: Dunton, Smith, Velliquette. Nay: Dunn. Motion carried. Smith asked Crandell if community ed could submit some

bids for repairs on diamonds and backstops so the board can include them in the upcoming budget. Crandell said they will be included in their presentation.

- f. **Ansted Park:** Construction is being held up waiting for MIS Dig to approve site of construction.
- g. Motion to reschedule December 11 meeting to December 18, and cancel December 25 meeting made by Dunton, seconded by Dunn, all ayes. Motion carried. Velliquette brought up meeting once per month to save the board money, Dunton said it would save close to \$4,000 annually. Motion to meet once per month in 2018 on the second Monday of the month made by Dunton, seconded by Smith. Dunn asked if it's been done before in Bedford, Velliquette said she didn't know, but most other park boards that she's aware of only meet once per month, and special meetings can be called if something arises that needs sooner attention. Roll Call vote: All ayes. Motion carried.
- h. Bedford Blast: Sean Sheppard 2564 Torrey Hill and Pete Zapadka 1451 Winden. The board said they couldn't see a benefit to the community if Blast has usage of the diamonds seven days a week. Blast said they would have definite times for diamond usage ready mid-February, and they aren't trying to have exclusive rights. Smith wondered if building new fences and dugouts is a good idea in the long term. Dunn raised concerns over taking away fields from community ed. Crandell said community ed primarily uses the fields at Indian Creek. The board said anything that would be built would have to be done by a licensed contractor, and the board would have to be contacted before any significant work could be started. Dunton said she didn't see a problem with new structures being built, because Blast would be responsible for grass, weeds, and maintenance associated with them. She also asked what the 4x6 banners would consist of. Blast had a photo of a current banner, which showed a picture of the team, and listed the businesses that sponsored them, and the banners would only be hung on the outfield fences. Blast would be willing to pay any electric fees associated with lights used in night games. Dunton brought up an old contract with a team that used Samaria diamond, wherein on days that the community center or shelter was rented, the baseball team wasn't allowed to park at Samaria Park, and they had to provide their own transportation. In response to Blast's request to use the concession stand at Parmelee, there is already a lease with the Civic Club that they have first rights to the stand five days per year, but other than that the concession stand would be available. Crandell raised concerns about the fields being used on a regular basis by a team because requests to use those diamonds have been increasing. The board feels that there have been problems created by past contracts with other teams, and due to the number of complaints received regarding township owned field availability, new contracts will be written for future years, in the hopes that it is fairer to the teams as well as other township residents. By having more diamonds in good playable condition, the board is hoping more people could utilize and benefit from those fields. Concerns were raised regarding spraying chemicals on the grounds, and what steps need to be taken as far as notifying park goers or neighbors. Blast was advised to have their contractor call the township maintenance department to find out what steps township maintenance takes when spraying. The board would like to move forward with Bedford Blast, and a contract should be drawn up for the next season. Motion to allow Bedford Blast to begin maintenance and weeding processes at Samaria and Parmelee Park baseball diamonds made by Smith, seconded by Dunton, all ayes. Motion carried.

- 10. Comments from the Public: Gail Keane said the sign at Ansted Park is too far from the road to see while driving. She asked if the sign could be moved while the site is being marked by MIS Dig.
- 11. Commissioner's Comments: Smith said the Planning office would have to be contacted regarding moving the sign at Ansted. Dunton found more glass at White Park, and a broken play fixture. Velliquette said she will be stepping down as chair due to time constraints, and officer elections will be held on Dec 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Dunn, seconded by Dunton, all ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by Velliquette.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Dunton, Park Board Secretary