



PARKS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2021

Attendees:

Matthew Weyer
Mike Steffe
Natalie Howard
Jill Schipp
Tom Lueken
Gavin Kieper
Kennedy Staton
Michelle Kieper

The meeting started at 4:31 pm.

Two Eagle Scouts from Troop 186 Ferdinand were in attendance; Gavin Kieper and Kennedy Staton. They presented their projects. Gavin would like to put up LED motion lights on the bridges at the Old Town Lake. He will be asking local businesses for donations to fund this project. He would install around 30 lights and Tom suggested Gavin attached these lights using tamper proof screws. Gavin said he will replace them as needed over the next 10 years. The board was unanimous in approval and asked Gavin to keep the board abreast of his progress.

Kennedy Staton would like to install a system of stone pavers as a human sundial at 18th street park. She handed us a packet to view and go review. The location was discussed. Specific location should be approved by Tom. Also, Tom asked her to make sure the blocks she will be using are low enough to mow over and a permanent base be laid beneath each paver. She will let Matt know when she will start this project. The board was unanimous in approval.

The board read over the minutes from the March meeting. Mike made a motion to approve the minutes, Jill seconded, all were in favor. The board read over the finances. We received the second of three grants from the Community Foundation. We received the rest of the donation from Shirley Olinger. We received a donation for 2 park benches Mike questioned the \$430 on insurance and Tom said he would check on this. Matt made a motion to approve the finances, Mike seconded, all were in favor.

Leases

We have not received a lease from the boys' little league yet. Natalie said she would ask Kyle Greulich for JR Roesner's information to see if she can find out what is going on.



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Upcoming Events

We have heard nothing on the Dragon Fest. Chris James said they will be having the summer program. He would like two candidates. We have some questions about this for Chris. Would kids have to register? Chris plans to present at Tuesday's council meeting.

Outdoor movie series?? Haven't heard back from Chris on this yet. Mike said he would be ok with using the park for this event but that the park board doesn't need to run it.

Forest Park Jr/Sr High School will be doing a color run. Need to email the dates to Matt and Mike.

Hannah Sitzman would like to host a softball event on April 28. It has been 20 years since FPHS won the state title. She has sent a lease form request.

COVID-19 items

Cleaning Concepts is still doing our cleaning. Tom needs to ask Chris for a schedule. They come at weird times. Brian is cleaning more than they are.

Park Rentals

Jill checked on a scheduling program. Huntingburg and Santa Claus do not charge travel teams to rent for practice. It is a first come, first serve agreement. Huntingburg still uses a paper schedule for scheduling. Santa Claus uses an app called Team Up for shelter house rentals and league rental and scheduling. You are able to share the calendar in this app with 10 people. We could have it on the town website for viewing.

The digital app / calendar service to could assist with sports leagues, shelter house rentals, tourneys, and travel league rentals to keep up with the growing demand of scheduling these events and avoiding scheduling conflicts. The process would include other town employees who would have interaction with this so others will need to be included in the processed and we are in the very early investigation phase. We need to continue discussing with other local park and rec leagues to find a cost effective, simple, and reliable solution.

18th Street Park

The board reviewed a quotation to repair and resurface the basketball court at 18th Street which is in pretty bad shape. The quote was from Ronnie Drew for \$9,500. Mike made a motion to approve the quote, Jill seconded and all were in favor. The board approved the work unanimously. The work will



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include a new surface with new lines for both a basketball court and two pickleball courts. Additional repairs to the fence and lighting will come in the future. Work is scheduled for early this summer. The original surface was installed in 2007 and has been in the plan to repair for a number of years.

Kevin Luebbehusen—a 20th Street resident—came to Tom and asked why we stopped cutting the trees down. We have planted well over 200 trees over the last 10 years.

5th Street Park

Mike received Brady Gunselman's final bill for \$1200 for the boys baseball fields. Scoreboard is not in yet, and we are unsure of status.

Jeff Warren emailed today and said the first base on the little girls field is out of whack.

We will need to work out a schedule on the water sprinkler with Roger so that is in place and ready when the need arises this summer.

Old Town Lake

Matt talked to Jackie Doem from Best Home Furnishings about a donation for Baldy Weyer. They agreed to \$500. Matt suggested picnic tables. A grilling area was suggested by Jackie. Natalie will ask Ronnie Drew about his woods class building picnic tables.

They kayak launch and fishing pier have started construction. Matt, Mike and Tom looked at the lake and moved the kayak launch to a better location. Because of a variable water level we are adding approximately 15 foot sidewalk to the fishing pier. Seufert Construction will price up the financial adder to do this, but all agreed it was the right thing to do.

Other news

Ferdinand Elementary is interested 700 rubber mats for their courtyard. Pine Ridge no longer needs any. What do we want to do with the rest of them? Give them away??

Matt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 pm. Next meeting will be May 12th at 4:30 pm.

Minutes submitted on 27 April 2021

Natalie Howard

Natalie Howard