

GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD

Minutes for the February 13, 2017 meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. at the Town Hall, 111 N. Broad Street in Griffith, Indiana by President, Tim Diamond. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The meeting was attended by the following members:

Tim Diamond	-Scott Muffet	-Christine Wroblewski
Al Markut, Park Superintendent		-Leah Dumezich

Also in attendance was Councilman Jim Marker.

John Dudlicek was absent.

Scott Muffet made a motion to approve the January 9, 2017 minutes. Christine Wroblewski seconded the motion; all approved. Motion passed.

Scott Muffet presented the claims numbered 10773-10779 in the amount of \$3514.18 (Three thousand five hundred fourteen and 18/100). He then made a motion to accept the claims as presented; Leah Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tim Diamond announced that the March 13, 2017 Park Board meeting will be held at 7 PM. A study session will be held at 6 PM before the meeting; one will follow if necessary.

He reminded residents to call 911 if any graffiti, damage, or questionable behavior is seen in any of the town parks.

General comments regarding the Parks Department or bike paths can be directed to griffithparks.@griffith.in.gov

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS:

Treasurer's report: Tim Diamond remarked that we will create a financial report for the next meeting.

Park Superintendent: Al Markut welcomed Jim Marker to the Park Board meeting. He remarked that he was kind of disappointed with the park bookings. He had assured the people who had booked for weddings that they would be first on the list for the bookings. Tim Diamond then commented that anyone who was planning for weddings or reunions will need to book far in advance so that some exceptions to bookings are needed. Also, by the bookings being online, if there are problems we can see who has the park at that time. He added that the Town Council and Michelle Velez are working on an actual wedding form to include alcohol permits, caterer, and police presence for example. Al said he needs to be kept informed so he can get things ready for each event. He also added that there is no water left in the ice rink and air bubbles have also begun to pop up. Al doesn't believe the weather will be conducive to creating 3 inches of ice again this year. Tim Diamond commented that Councilman Ryfa does want the liner to be saved. After some discussion, it was decided that the liner should be taken down due to the warm weather. Al then stated that the springtime is his busiest time and the one of his first priorities is to pressure wash the pavilion. Since the weather has been so nice he has

been getting some of the work done which is normally done in the spring. Reseeding Central Park for the Market is needed to be done again. He would like to talk to Tim's Landscaping to get some idea of what he should do. Tim Diamond then suggested that the issue of the seeding be tabled until discussion with the Town Council takes place. Al has some estimates for benches and would like to get mulch for Woodland Park. Krooswyk gave him an estimate of \$30/yard for a total of 100 yards. Leah Dumezich asked if the mulch could be put down during the town wide Clean-up Day in May when donations are received. Al then stated that the money for mulch comes out of recycling money. Tim Diamond asked if the mulch project could wait but Al replied that he has time now to do this project, and the mulch in that area is pretty bad at this time. After discussion it was decided to go ahead and get the mulch for Woodland right away rather than wait until May. Al then proceeded to give the Board the two quotes he got for the benches for Central Park. The first quote was for the copper tone benches that we already have in the Park and comes out to \$6800 for six benches. Tim asked if he had places to put all six benches. Al responded that he needed one for Pat Schaadt and would like to put in at least two others. Concrete pads would be made for them. He also presented a quote from Zenon for six new garbage cans similar to the ones we have in Central now: wire framed, 55 gallon cans with the lids. He asked if these could be ordered; the old ones would be used at the other parks. Tim Diamond said that this item would be discussed; the Board will get back to Al on this matter.

School Board Liaison – Leah Dumezich reported that there will be a public forum on March 16 at the high school in the LGI to discuss open enrollment. She extended good luck wish to the wrestlers at State; she also announced that there are DECA and Robotics team competitions happening. Congratulations also were extended to the football team and to Coach Geffert for being named "Coach of the Year". The next School Board meeting is this Thursday, instead of being held last week. It will begin at 7:00 instead of 7:30 with the executive session at 6:00 pm. Leah also recognized the middle school drama team who did a great job.

GSEC – On hiatus

Neighborhood Spotlight Report – Tim Diamond stated that Ken Karlstedt of Neighborhood Spotlight has received an extension of their agreement to the end of June for the four groups working on various areas. For Parks and Recreation there is a team of five working on various aspects one of which is Safety and Security. Officer Grist is working on getting different thoughts in respect to perception of safety. He is looking into putting police phones on the bike paths, more cameras in the parks and checking to see if Wadsworth's cameras can be stretched into Cheever. Lori Falstrom is working with some of the youth events in Town including football, baseball, and softball to try to get more signups. Tim said that he is working on the 5Year Master Plan; he hopes to have all the needed information by the next meeting to present it to the Park Board members and all meeting attendees. He needs to submit this plan to the DNR in April; once it is accepted we are eligible for grants from them for some of our projects. Another member of the group is Val Wotkun who is working on tree assessment, flowers and art with the other master gardeners. The Neighborhood Spotlight has also received an extra \$25,000 to be split between the four groups. Once the master list is created an item can be chosen to devote the money to.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

Tim Diamond went over the unfinished business:

1. Baseball field drainage-Grimmer Construction is working on enhancing the drainage and will be putting down some cold black top to get things settled and then will blacktop that area in the spring.
2. Pop Warner Field lighting – Poles will be pulled and moved once the ground freezes. Also Buckeye Pipeline was doing some work in the ditch in that area. Al brought up the problem of the soccer field always being wet. He thought the problem was that the water that drains towards the swell near the road was not able to get to the ditch. The ditch had been blocked up. He had spoken with Rick Konopasek ; he believes that the ditch that runs along Broad Street will be opened up so the water will run south. However, Buckeye has to be there when this work is done. Tim Diamond then suggested that the field be cut in the afternoon to help alleviate the wet ground. Al remarked that the

men who did the cutting said that the sprinklers were on a lot; Councilman Jim Marker agreed and said that the timing of the sprinklers should be adjusted.

3. Central Park Playground area – Christine Wroblewski made a motion to authorize Tim Diamond to sign the Robinson Engineering proposal. Scott Muffet seconded the motion. Tim explained that the Board had gone through an approval process and had received three quotes for the engineering portion of the Central Park playground area. This company will evaluate the land, put out a public bid and get those bids back to us.
4. RFP Lawn Maintenance – Scott Muffet reported that he had created a simple request for pricing for the lawn maintenance modeled after a quote that was sought for weed care at the park. It was sent out recently to five different landscape firms and he should be receiving responses soon in order to have the information by the next meeting. Leah Dumezich asked if a request had been sent out to the resident from Griffith whose information she had given over the summer. Tim Diamond responded that the Board had wanted a firm rather than an individual; he did ask that Leah resend him the information and he will take a look at it.
5. Sport Field Leases – Leases are due next month. John Dudlicek has the folder with all the sports' teams and will work on them when he returns from vacation. Sports' teams will be here next month to sign the leases.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

1. Park Ordinance - The Town Council has approved Park Ordinance 50-82. The pavilion rental fees were put into this ordinance. South Park fee went from \$100 to \$125, Central Park went from \$125 to \$150, and Cheever Park went from \$80 to \$50
2. Leah Dumezich had a question regarding the signup information on the marquee at Central Park. She suggested that the location of the signups be added and that Town or "Y" League be specified. In addition, she announced that on March 4 Night in Paris Disability Prom will be held at the "Y". Donations of baked goods, drinks, cups or just your time are welcome.
3. Al asked if there was going to be another Town Cleanup Day. Tim Diamond responded that there will be as Imagine Griffith was looking for more to do.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

None

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

None

Meeting was adjourned by President, Tim Diamond at 7:45 pm.

Diane Kujawa
Recording Secretary