

GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD

Minutes for the September 14, 2015 meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 111 N. Broad Street in Griffith, Indiana by President, Rob Bubala. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The meeting was attended by the following members:

-Rob Bubala -Gina Smith -Susan Hoese George Thiel -Al Markut, Park Supervisor
-Leah Dumezich, School Board Liaison

Pat Schaadt, Town Council Liaison, and Recording Secretary, Diane Kujawa were absent.

Gina Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of August 10, 2015. George Thiel seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Claims in the amount of \$14,258.05 (Fourteen thousand two hundred fifty-eight dollars and five cents) were presented. Sue Hoese made a motion to approve the claims as presented. George Thiel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Rob Bubala announced that the October, 2015 Park Board pre-meeting will occur at 6 P.M., and a follow-up meeting will take place after the regularly scheduled meeting if needed.

He also reminded residents to call the police non-emergency number at 219-924-3141 if anyone sees any graffiti, damage or questionable behavior in any of the town parks during the day or evening.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Rob Bubala received one piece of correspondence from a concerned resident near South Park who voiced his displeasure about the building of the playground. Discussions were held and his opinions were shared with the Board.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's report: Susan Hoese reported that as we approach the fourth quarter we need to be more cautious with the funds we have.

Park Superintendent: Al Markut reported that his crew is keeping up with the mowing. The bathrooms have been painted; the new grill is in at South Park. He also stated that the new playground signs are up at Avenue D and that the south playground is open. The area around the new playground area has been re-seeded with some new grass already coming up, and the excess dirt has been removed. His men had worked around Broad Street to get it ready for the Rock 'n Rail Fest. He added that the new picnic tables are in and will be put together as soon as he has time. The Eagle Scout project at the end of the trail at Broad Street, south of Main, is finished. Al asked if the Scouts could do another project next year and do the South Park signage; they will get back to him at a later date. The cost of materials for bricks and rocks for that project came up to about \$100.00. Other tasks completed included trimming trees for the security system and remulching some islands by the trail, especially by the water fountains. In addition, the horseshoe backboards have been painted but the ground needs to be evened out a little. Also, the basketball court at

South Park has been repaved and 2 inches of dirt had to be added. Lastly, Al asked that the Town website state that **weekday** rental of the parks is \$50.00 per day.

School Board: No report

GSEC – Julie Anderson stated that this Thursday is Creepy Crawler night and asked that Mr. Markut not cut the grass in Central Park. The event will start at 7:30 pm for children up to third grade. Flyers will be going out in schools tomorrow, and the Town mass email will go out on Wednesday. Leah Dumezich will try to get the info on the school website. The last event of the year will be an event after trick or treating on Halloween. The specifics will be determined at the GSEC meeting on Monday. Julie announced that the date of the symphony for next year will be Saturday, August 6, 2016.

Senior Center – No report

Central Market – The last market for this year will be this Friday, September 18.

Bike Trail Connection Project – Rob reported that he had checked with Rick Konopasek on this subject. There has been no movement on the state's part, so this will be a late 2016 – late 2017 project.

Possible South Park Building Improvements – This will be a 2016 project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

Rob Bubala went over the items of unfinished business:

1. Basketball hoops –There have been no reports from the police for either Tot Park or Broad Street on this item. We will keep this on the table for another month or so while it is still warm outside.
2. Bike Trails and Associated Parking Lots Review –We got a little more information but we have to start planning for 2016 if we want to get any asphalt work done.
3. Cheever Park Cell Tower Flag and Lighting –We are looking at additional electrical work to get the flag lighted properly per Pat Schaadt and the Town Council. Al Markut added that he is waiting for an estimate on this project.
4. Park Security Cameras –A good portion of the cameras have been installed. Chief Mance hasn't notified us if they are operational yet. Work is continuing on this.
5. Painting of Central Park Playground Equipment –There were plans to paint this equipment but due to lack of funding this will have to be a 2016 project.
6. Asphalt Paving –The Town Council had agreed to get South Park basketball court (which has already been done), South Park parking lot, and the asphalt areas around the Little League fields paved this year. If any of these areas need to be shut down, people will be notified. Sue Hoese reminded everyone that the YMCA has fall softball on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (for make-up games) so they need to be informed when the paving will be done.
7. Picnic Tables – A total of 15 picnic tables have been ordered. We will try to get them assembled to be used in the last events of this year but definitely for all the events in 2016.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

Rob Bubala announced that the Board is currently evaluating the field leases for sports teams for 2016. The leagues will be informed when that time comes.

Rob then added that there is a problem with the lighting at South Park. A & E Electric is trying to determine the problem so that Pop Warner can have lighted fields for their practices.

Sue Hoese talked to the president to let him know that it may take some time to resolve the issue. Because only 2 out of the 8 lights are off, if the teams needed to be moved around he would do that.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

None

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

None

Meeting was adjourned by President, Rob Bubala at 7:17 pm.

Rob Bubala, President

Diane Kujawa, Recording Secretary