

GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD

Minutes for the June 8, 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	-Al Markut, Park Supervisor
-Pat Schaadt, Town Council Liaison			-Leah Dumezich, School Board Liaison

George Thiel was absent.

Gina Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of May 11, 2015. Sue Hoese seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Claims in the amount of \$5638.17 (five thousand six hundred thirty-eight and seventeen cents) were presented. One claim for Robinson Engineering and one claim for Schwerd and Associates are being held. Sue Hoese made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Gina Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Rob Bubala announced that the July, 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 now that it is warmer and there is more activity, 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.

Richard Leber of the Imagine Griffith Committee was given a recognition award for his part in organizing the Griffith Pride Day which was extremely successful. Rob Bubala stated that the Park Board was very grateful for all the work that was done in the parks, bike trails and other parts of Town. Leah Dumezich added that she thought the Pride Day was a huge success. There had been a large turnout of teams and she was glad to have been a part of it.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Rob Bubala received a request from a Griffith resident about use of the softball field for a cancer benefit tournament. This will be taken under advisement

REPORTS:

Treasurer's report: Susan Hoese reported that we have ended the second quarter and the treasurer report looks good.

Park Superintendent: Al Markut remarked that South Park is in good shape; the pavilion has been painted and looks good. He has received an estimated for new lights and a spotlight is supposed to be put on the flag. The horse shoe pits are 98% done and will be stained later. Rob Bubala asked if there had been any damaged reported at the parks and Al responded that an alarm had gone off at the shop and he was still

investigating this matter. It may have been an overhead door. Al also felt that the Griffith Pride Day went very well, was well organized and a lot was accomplished. He hopes that it can be an ongoing thing. Lastly he mentioned that there will be a 2" line put in the washrooms at Central Park and was told there shouldn't be any interruptions in any of the scheduled activities.

Sue Hoese then remarked that Al and his guys have done a great job at South Park; Al responded that the men and kids appreciate their work with some of the newer kids still learning what everyone does in Town.

School Board: Leah Dumezich announced that the Girls Softball High School team won sectionals and the Griffith Boys baseball won their sectional on Saturday. GHS graduation is this Sunday.

GSEC – Rob Bubala stated that the 4th of July parade info and parade route are on the Town website.

Senior Center – Pat Schaadt reported that the Center had a great activity last Friday. The Center is open five days a week again with lunch available for \$5.00; orders must be made one day ahead.

Central Market- Pat Schaadt informed everyone that the Market has been a success. Last Friday with the weather being cold, attendance was down a little.

South Park Playground Replacement Project – The first round of bidding was shared with the Town Council but other suggestions have now been added. New bid requests have been sent to 4 vendors and are due this week. Rob entertained a motion for a special meeting. Sue Hoese made a motion that a special meeting be held for bid opening on Monday, June 15 at 6 PM. Leah Dumezich seconded the motion; motion passed.

Girl Scout Troop Project – There was no update as of yet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

Rob Bubala went over the items of unfinished business:

1. Tot Park Basketball hoops – Rob stated that according to police, no new issues have been reported at Tot Park.
2. Bike Racks in Central Park – Al Markut has installed a green rack by the wishing well and a black rack by the washroom. They can be moved to make it easier to mow.
3. Bike Trails and Associated Parking Lots Review – Rob Bubala said that Robinson Engineering still has not reported on the Parking Lot review of all the park properties. He hopes to have it this week.
4. Field leasing paperwork revisions – Sue Hoese reported that league leases are complete; they just need signatures from the presidents of the leagues. Revisions are all done and are correct. There is a meeting with the YMCA tomorrow at 11:00 AM. They have brought up the idea of a coed softball league but Sue thinks this is not feasible unless it is a mushball league. She expects to get more details tomorrow. The "Y" will have two sessions of volleyball and a little kids' t-ball league. In addition she mentioned that soccer will not be at the fields this year but will return next year when the improvements are finished.
5. Possible South Park Building Improvement – Sue Hoese stated that the goal posts are gone; but the makeshift one was too soft to remove but will be gone soon. Al Markut saw some sticks in the ground at the South Park along the back of the houses and asked if this is where the trees will be planted. Sue confirmed this and Al added that he would spray around the grass in case the sticks got pulled out.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

New Cell Tower Flag- Rob Bubala asked Al Markut if there was any news on the flag, but as of yet Al has not heard anything from the vendor. If nothing can be arranged with the vendor we may need to get quotes for additional lighting. Al suggested that we may just need to put a different bulb in the light but we would need to talk to the vendor before we did anything.

Cheever Park Resurfacing- Rob Bubala reported that we did get a quote from the same company which did the high school courts in the amount of approximately \$12,300.00 with additional options for us to review.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

None

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Jim Marker, 342 Canterbury Road, thanked the Board on behalf of his family for the great job they do with the Parks and handed out a small token of appreciation to each Board member.

Valerie Wotkun, 1004 W. Elm Place, hopes that everyone is enjoying the bicycle art; 6 new bikes will be added by the weekend. In regards to the tree project, she is hoping that the trees will be delivered by the end of the week and planted next week. She asked if the pavilion in Central Park was getting walls. Rick Ryfa responded that sidewalls will be installed and will work on a remote control. Valerie asked if the public can use the walls and was told that if they use them they will incur a separate charge. She was interested because she is having a painting party in the park on Wednesday, July 22, 2015 from 6 – 8:30 PM and may want to use the sidewalls.

Al Markut then commented an Eagle Scout Project taking place. The Scouts proposed to move the sign by the trail end near the gun shop. They want to move the whole sign away from the tree and build a new sign “Griffith Bike Trail”. Al wondered if it was okay to allow the sign to be moved. Rob Bubala stated that his only concern would be the underground utilities and asked for a copy of any information Al may receive.

The meeting was adjourned by President Rob Bubala at 7:26 p.m.

Diane Kujawa
Recording Secretary