

## **GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD**

### **Minutes for the January 11, 2015 meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 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              Tim Diamond      -Al Markut, Park Supervisor  
-Leah Dumezich, School Board Liaison      Pat Schaadt, Town Council Liaison

Gina Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2015. Susan Hoese seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Claims in the amount of \$3365.89 (Three thousand three hundred sixty-five and 89/100 dollars) had been presented. Gina Smith made a motion to approve. Tim Diamond seconded the motion; claims were approved.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Rob Bubala welcomed Tim Diamond as new Park Board member, replacing George Thiel.

Rob Bubala announced that the February, 2016 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.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

### **ELECTIONS: Nominations and elections were as follows:**

President: Susan Hoese nominated Rob Bubala for president; there were no other nominations; Rob accepted and all were in favor. Motion carried.

Vice President: Susan Hoese nominated Gina Smith; there were no other nominations; Gina accepted and all were in favor. Motion carried.

Secretary: Gina Smith nominated Tim Diamond; there were no other nominations; Tim accepted and all were in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer: Rob Bubala nominated Susan Hoese; there being no other nominations, Sue accepted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **REPORTS:**

Treasurer's report: Susan Hoese reported that as the new fiscal year starts the Park Board is on a very tight budget and are looking at ways to bring revenue into the park to improve the budget.

Park Superintendent: Al Markut commented that he and his men are waiting on the winter weather. He is reducing hours in the work force, and he will help out as much as possible. However, he does not want to cut himself short.

School Board: Leah Dumezich stated that the next meeting of the School Board is this Thursday, January 14. Community members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the Education Foundation will be held Friday, February 19, 2016 from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. in the High school cafeteria. She also added that on January 13 Beriger will be hosting a Family Literacy Night from 4-5 pm. Lastly, Wednesday night, January 13, there will be assistance with preparing FAFSA for the seniors at the high school.

GSEC – on hiatus until April

Senior Center – Pat Schaadt reported that the Senior Center is very busy with more seniors coming all the time. She stated that lunch orders have increased; they are available for \$5.00 and must be ordered a day ahead. They can be picked up as a carryout if not able to attend that particular day. The Center is open five days a week with activities every day.

Central Market – no report

Bike Trail Connection Project – Rob Bubala commented that paperwork has begun for this project but there is still a way to go on this bike trail connection at Colfax.

Girl Scout Troop Project – Since no response has been received from this group, Susan Hoese made a motion to remove this item from our agenda. Gina Smith seconded the motion; motion passed.

South Park Building Improvements – Rob Bubala reported that nothing new has been heard from the Council on this project at this time.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:**

Rob Bubala went over the items of unfinished business:

1. Bike Trails and Associated Parking Lots Review - This item may be removed because of the tight budget.
2. Cheever Park Cell Tower Flag and Lighting – Rob Bubala stated that this item will be removed from our agenda since the problem has been resolved.
3. Park Security Cameras – Rob Bubala had sent the Board members an email from Chief Mance regarding all the cameras, working and not working. All seem to be a “go” except for those at South Park. However, Al Markut asked when the damaged cameras at the playground at Central Park will be repaired. Rob will check into this matter.
4. Painting of Central Park Playground Equipment – Pricing will take place for this project once the weather gets warm.
5. Paving project at Central Park – South Park was done last year and since the Council sponsored that, we will see if they will also help with this project.
6. 2016 Field Leases for Sports Teams – Susan Hoese has spoken with all the groups except for Griffith Youth Baseball whom she will text. She hopes to have discussions regarding the fees in February and then to sign the leases in March. Pop Warner, Griffith Girls’ Softball and Griffith Soccer are ready to sign. Al Markut then reminded the Board members to think about putting in the bumpers at the South Park parking lot. Sue would like to see if the Town Council would put these in since they had been responsible for the paving.

7. South Park Pop Warner Field Lighting – Rob Bubala commented that there is still an issue with lights that are down. Al Markut stated those lights cannot be used until they are repaired. Susan Hoese thought that the Town Council had approved about \$5000.00 for lights there and asked Al if he had seen any bill yet. He was not aware of that bill.
8. Central Park Ice Rink Liner – Al Markut reported that the liner has been installed and that he is trying to build up the ice there since it is only about ½” thick at this time. He had not turned on the lights there because the ice was not ready; but since people have been skating already he plans to have them put on. Rob Bubala stated that when Al thought the ice was adequate, he would publicize the availability of the rink.

#### **NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:**

NIRPC wants resolutions and interlocal agreements signed for the bike trail signage. A motion to allow the Board members to sign Resolution 2016-02 was made by Susan Hoese. Leah Dumezich seconded the motion. Motion approved. A motion for the president and secretary to sign the interlocal agreement was made by Leah Dumezich with Gina Smith seconding the motion; motion passed.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Aaron Pollock, 127 N. Rensselaer, appeared before the Board to discuss the possibility of a Labor Day tournament and use of fields for practice for the Northwest Indiana Sox. He was inquiring about the fees to host such a tournament. Susan Hoese stated that the cost had not yet been determined but that some of the factors included how many days the tournament would run, the number of fields required, how many teams would be involved and the age groups of the girls. Aaron responded that he would definitely need the two Franklin fields but that he needed costs as soon as possible so he can get the advertising out for the tournament. He has also considered a round robin tournament in place of a larger tournament. Susan Hoese added that because there may not be a concession stand, Aaron could put up a tent and sell items; however, because the Rock n Rail fest will be occurring there will be plenty of food and drink options available.

In regard to the leases for practice for the Sox, Sue informed Aaron that he would be given days during the week, but that she wouldn't have anything definite to sign until March.

#### **NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

None

Meeting was adjourned by President, Rob Bubala at 7:42 pm.

Diane Kujawa  
Recording Secretary