

GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD

Minutes for the July 9, 2018 meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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:

-Dan Perez -Tim Diamond -John Dudlicek -Christine Wroblewski
-Al Markut, Park Superintendent -Jim Marker, Town Council Liaison

Kathy Ruesken, School Board Liaison, was absent.

John Dudlicek made a motion to approve the June 11, 2018 minutes. Chris Wroblewski seconded the motion; minutes were approved.

Dan Perez made a motion to approve the claims numbered 18445-18482 in the amount of \$18,047.88. John Dudlicek seconded the motion; motion carried. Tim Diamond then remarked that the invoice from Zenon was paid by the Griffith YMCA for communication tables at Tot Park as well as by the Town. He has requested that Zenon refund the \$4553.00 to the Town.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tim Diamond announced that the next Park Board meeting will be held on August 13, 2018 at 7 pm. A study session will occur at 6 P.M. and a follow-up meeting will take place after the regularly scheduled meeting if needed.

He reminded residents to please call the police non-emergency number at 911 if any graffiti, damage or questionable behavior is seen in any of the Town Parks.

General comments and questions regarding the parks or bike path can be directed to griffithparks@griffith.in.gov

CORRESPONDENCE:

Tim Diamond had received an email from Cheryl Breymeyer asking if the Town could supply restrooms along the bike trail. He had directed her to various locations off the bike trail - businesses and parks in our Town as well as businesses near 45th. Most of our businesses are accommodating to those using the trails; it is unlikely that the Town will provide restrooms along the trail.

Christine Wroblewski commented that our Movies in the Park summer series continues with Coco on July 18 and Black Panther on August 8.

REPORTS:

Financial Report: None

Park Superintendent: Al Markut went over a list of items as follows:

1. Al's crew has lost 4-5 mowing days due to rain.
2. They have cut down 3 trees at Woodland Park, two of which were dead and one that had been leaning.
3. Trees have been trimmed at the softball field; 2 dump trucks of foliage have been removed.
4. The bench at Tot Park has been installed.
5. Blues Fest went great but it was a tough job cleaning up all the tables and cans that had to be moved. The Park handled Blues Fest well and no damage was incurred.
6. Al then stated that a waste management facility had donated and dropped off a dark green composite bench. It has been put at Panther Park.
7. He remarked that it is almost impossible to keep up with the weeds at this time.
8. He and his crew are getting ready for Park Full of Art; the banners have been put up.
9. One of Al's mowers was down for three weeks and it had cost almost \$1000.00 for parts and repairs.
10. Al needs three 4 x 8 pads for benches at Central Park and asked where he should put them. He suggested by the playground on the east side which has shade. Tim Diamond asked about the west side but Al said that it was too sunny there. Christine Wroblewski added that someone had commented that if one is seated on the east side, the entire playground couldn't be seen. For this reason a bench on the west side could be beneficial. Tim Diamond will go for a walk after the meeting and check out the area. Al also needs an 8 x 8 pad for the new table with the four seats on it which he thought could be put in on the northeast corner of the playground.

11. Al had received complaints about the electricity at South Park pavilion. He feels we need more there and would like to add at least 2 more plugs on another breaker. John Dudliceck asked if there is conduit there to pull the wires to run a new circuit. Al responded that there is a box on the wall of the pavilion. He also added that as it is now, if two crockpots are plugged in, the circuit will blow. Tim Diamond asked Al to get a quote for new service; he also would like to get a light put on the restroom building facing the pavilion as it is dark in the park. Al commented that the west side of Central Park is also dark.
12. Al is taking a truck in as it is in need of dire repair.
13. Tim Diamond questioned Al about memorial tree plaques for the trees from Enbridge. Al said he doesn't plant trees. When a tree is purchased a plaque is put on the existing trees. Tim then suggested we put markers on the three trees which Metro donated for Central Park.
14. Al then remarked that if we want to see more benches for Central Park, we need to buy some. John Dudliceck and Tim Diamond gave Al permission to purchase 3 more benches.

School Board Liaison's Report – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Tim Diamond went over the items of unfinished business:

- a. Handball Court – The court is good to go; walls, lines and the fencing are all done. There will be a grand opening on August 4.
- b. Tot Communication Station – Benches with chess & checkerboards built in are installed here. Neighborhood Spotlight is looking to hold a kick-off.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

None

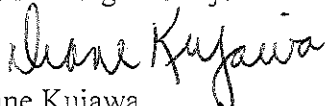
UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Tim Diamond explained that there had been a request last month for a potential playground in the area of 43rd and Wheeler. He had investigated and did find out that the Town does own land in this area and that it is in a flood zone. We will look at our strategic plan to determine what we can do; we would not be able to apply for a DNR grant because of the overhead wiring. There is also potential for a dog park here, but we are waiting for Lake County's 5 year plan as they may put in a dog park at Oak Ridge Prairie.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Cade Harsh appeared before the Board to submit plans to pour cement pads under the exercise equipment at Panther Park as part of his Eagle Scout Project. He thinks it will be a three day job and would like to do it sometime this month before August 1 in order to get his presentation done for the Eagle Scouts. Tim Diamond responded that we need to fine tune the date so we can notify those who use it for an exercise class. Al Markut added that he hoped to get a park sign there like they built at Woodland in addition to the Legacy sign. John suggested that we put a curb around the sign area so that flowers could be planted there. He then moved to approve the Eagle Scout project. Dan Perez seconded the motion; motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned by President, Tim Diamond, at 7:33 pm.


Diane Kujawa
Recording Secretary