

GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD

Minutes for the April 8, 2019 meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Town Hall, 111 N. Broad Street in Griffith, Indiana by Vice-President, John Dudlicek. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The meeting was attended by the following members:

- John Dudlicek -Dan Perez -Christine Wroblewski -Kathy Ruesken, School Board Liaison
-Al Markut, Park Superintendent -Jim Marker, Town Council Liaison

Tim Diamond was absent.

Dan Perez made a motion to approve the March 11, 2019 minutes. Christine Wroblewski seconded the motion; minutes were approved.

Christine Wroblewski presented claims 22464-22481 in the amount of \$6154.98. She then made a motion to accept the claims as presented. Kathy Ruesken seconded the motion; motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

John Dudlicek announced that the next Park Board meeting will be held on May 13, 2019 at 7 PM. A study session will be held at 6 PM, and a follow-up meeting will take place after the regularly scheduled meeting if necessary.

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 regarding the parks or bike paths can be directed to griffithparks@griffith.in.gov

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

REPORTS:

Park Superintendent: Al Markut asked if he was to pick up trees which were received from NIRPC on Wednesday. Jim Marker suggested he call Valerie Wotkun. Al then reported that his crew was gearing up for the spring clean-up and trying to get everything up and running for spring. John Dudlicek asked Jim Marker what the next step would be now that the Park Board has recommended the purchase of Al's truck. Jim replied that he should talk to Rick Konopasek to find out what procedures he follows.

School Board Liaison's Report – Kathy Ruesken asked John Dudlicek for an update on the Robotics Team. He replied that the team has won the state competition and will now compete in the world contest on April 24 -27, 2019 in Detroit. Over 1500 students and 160 schools representing 60 countries will be represented. Kathy then reported that the School Board will be opening bids for major roofing projects for the schools. She also stated that the interlocal agreement for the playground inspector is signed and sealed. The Town Council has finalized everything and the agreement is in the hands of the School District who will communicate with the Park Department.

Imagine Griffith Report –Dan Perez reported that the public art project is up and running. The display of art will be on banners. Griffith residents can go to the Imagine Griffith page on Facebook to upload pictures of their artwork. It will then be evaluated. So far thirty responses have been received. The banners should be

up by May 15th. Dan also added that Mr. Graaf has been communicating with the high school to get samples of art from the students. Kathy Ruesken asked if there had been any discussion of funding the art projects with advertising. Dan Perez stated that there had been funds for this particular project but will revisit this suggestion for the future.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

John Dudlicek went over the items of unfinished business:

1. DNR Grant/Firefighters Park Pavillion – This project is moving along. There have been questions about the placement of certain items. They are trying to plan a meeting next week to discuss the options.
2. New 4 x 4 truck – John will talk with Rick Konopasek for information about purchasing the truck; Jim Marker suggested a letter be sent to Rick Ryfa to inform him of the purchase.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

- A. John Dudlicek stated that Cheever Park currently has a ratty tennis court one half of which the Park Board will be converting to a pickleball court. The area will be resurfaced with new asphalt and new fencing will be installed. The other half will be striped for basketball and hoops will be put up. The total cost of this project will be \$72,000.00. John then made a motion to approve the spending for the pickleball court project from the bond proceeds pending the approval of the Town Council. Dan Perez seconded the motion; all in favor. Motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

- a. Youth baseball facility issues – John Dudlicek reported that TLC did rod out the drain at this park and did not find any issues. Dusty Vrska and John have not yet met to discuss the other issues due to scheduling conflicts.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

None

The meeting was adjourned by Vice President, John Dudlicek, at 7:20 pm.

Diane Kujawa, Recording Secretary