

GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD

Minutes for the September 9, 2019 meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Town Hall, 111 N. Broad Street in Griffith, Indiana by – Tim Diamond. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The meeting was attended by the following members:

-John Dudliceck -Tim Diamond -Al Markut (Absent) -Christine Wroblewski
-Dan Perez -Jim Marker, Town Council Liaison (Absent) -Kathy Ruesken, School Board Liaison

Kathy Ruesken made a motion to accept the August 12, 2019 minutes. Christine Wroblewski seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4 in favor, John Dudliceck abstained.

Claims in the amount of \$25,492.99 Numbered 24845 – 24877 were presented. Christine Wroblewski made a motion to accept the claims as presented. Dan Perez seconded the motion. Motion carried, 4 in favor, John Dudliceck abstained.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tim Diamond announced that the next Park Board meeting will be held on October 14, 2019 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:

Tri Kappa Donation/Sponsorship – Tri Kappa made a donation of \$5,000 those proceeds will go to sponsor the Girls Softball Score Board and the purchase of new swings (adult/toddler combo swing) for Woodland Park. Both the score board and swings have been installed.

Handball Tournament – Midwest Handball will hold a tournament at Cheever Park on September 14, 2019. USHA will be in attendance.

Sand Volleyball Tournament – Evan Devine requested to hold a Sand Volleyball tournament at Central Park on September 14, 2019. Request approved.

Brownie Girl Scout Park Clean Up – Corri the Brownie Girl Scout leader at Beiriger emailed Tim Diamond asking if it would be okay for her troop to go to each Griffith Park to clean up. They want their girls to learn the importance of keeping their neighborhood clean. Their plan is to spend maybe 30 minutes or so at each park to help do their part. Tim followed up and said that it would be fine and suggested location.

REPORTS:

Park Superintendent Dan Perez read Al Markut's report as follows:

- Two new employees are helping with watering and weeding Downtown. This has been a big help freeing up people! Especially since the summer help have returned to school.
- New swings are up a Woodland Park.
- South Park Playground is repaired. Will have piece painted when not raining. There is touch up paint in office.
- New Truck should be in within two weeks.
- Panther Park – waiting on the details about the scout's sign.
- Cheever Park – grass is fixed at the courts. Everything has been leveled out and seeded. Thanks!
- One person on vacation this week and one next week. Working short-handed next week and half.
- Drainage at Central Park has been completed. Should help with flooding along road way. Leveled and seeded areas!

School Board Liaison's Report: Kathy Ruesken reported

- A school board member, Gary Sutton has stepped down due to a personal issue. John Dudlicek will replace the open spot on the School Board.
- The Panther Pride event was held on Friday, September 6, 2019 during the Varsity Football Game. The event was represented by children from all Griffith schools. The atmosphere and event was very nice.

Imagine Griffith Report: Dan Perez reported the following:

- The art banners were taken down and have been replaced by the Football and Cheerleading banners.
- The 3rd Annual Town-Wide Garage Sale will be Saturday, September 21st and Sunday, September 22nd. Residents can participate either both days or just one day. There is no permit required. Anyone interested in participating can sign up by going to the Clerk Treasurer Office at Town Hall or calling 219.924.7500 by September 15, 2109. A digital map will be created of all participating residents.
- The GHS Pantherettes will take leftover garage sale items like clothes, books, and household items for a fundraiser. Call Lisa Bubala 219-718-2181 for questions or to schedule a pick-up time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

Tim Diamond went over the items of unfinished business:

1. DNR Grant – The \$100,000 matching grant will be used to for the pavilion, washrooms, sidewalks and parking area at Firefighters Park. The initial estimates for the pavilion came in very high. So, pavilion cost is being fine tuned and waiting for new proposals. The quotes for the sidewalk bump-out have been received.
2. Central Park Drainage – The drainage project west of the pavilion at Central Park has been completed.
3. Woodland Playground Drainage – This project is in progress. Currently waiting on quotes.
4. Pickle Ball Courts – This project is moving along. The fencing, concrete and walkway looks good. The nets and stripping should be completed by September 23, 2019.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:

- a. NIRCP Tree Donation. The town received 27 trees that were planted on Clean Up day. Unfortunately, many of the trees died and NIRCP is donating more trees to replace them.
- b. New signage is being discussed for the Bike Trail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Skate Park:

- Next steps are the Park Board is discussing possible locations. Possible locations are Tot Park, Cheever Park east of the handball court, and a location on Broad close to Sweet and Suds. Locations need to be discussed and approved by the Town Council. Once location is selected a Public Hearing needs to happen.
- Chief Mance requested that the location be visible for the officers on patrol.
- Joe Murovic owner Region Rat Skate Shop attended a meeting about the new Crown Point Skate Park. He obtained brochures from the vendor overseeing the project. The brochures were given to the board to review.
- The board asked Joe that once the Park Board has approval, they would like him to help with the concept.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

No new business from the floor.

The meeting was adjourned by Tim Diamond at 7:29 p.m.

Shari Heins, Recording Secretary

