

GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD

Minutes for the October 14, 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:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tim Diamond announced that the next Park Board meeting will be held on November 11, 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:

Merle and Lois Colby Memorial – A memorial bench for Merle and Lois Colby has been approved to be placed adjacent to the Ray Nichels Memorial Marker on Broad Street.

Artwork for park or path – The Frontier Girls requested to put up artwork and this request was referred to Imagine Griffith. At artwork requests moving forward will be filtered through Imagine Griffith.

Cheever Park Flag – The large flag at Cheever Park is ripped and needs to be replaced. Tim Diamond asked Al Markut to possibly have the flag replaced before the upcoming weekend, due to the dedication on the new Pickle Ball Courts.

REPORTS:

Park Superintendent report as follows:

- Gearing up for winter – tables and cans are going into storage, bathroom will be shut down and winter banners will go up.
- Oktoberfest Work – tables out and put back into storage, tents taken down and straw back
- Thanks to John Dudlicek for the helping with the pads for the benches. New benches need to be bolted down
- Repaired fixtures at Central Park and South Park – plus door, put sign together and repaired book box.
- Thankful for the extra help with watering and landscaping. They also replanted some trees (about 10)
- Problems with mower (tires and hydraulic leak)
- One truck down – problem with breaks
- Keeping up with mowing 2 times a week at the soccer field. Should be the last weeks
- Flag at Cheever Park needs to be fixed
- Trees and Woodland Park

School Board Liaison's Report: Kathy Ruesken reported

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shari Heins", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.