**GRIFFITH PARKS and RECREATION BOARD**

**Minutes for the October 11, 2021 meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. 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 -Dan Perez(Absent)- Sue Hoese(Absent) -Tony Terzarial-John Dudlicek, School Board Liaison -Rich Powell(Absent)- Park Director.

John Dudlicek made a motion to accept the September 13, 2021 minutes. Tony Terzarial seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

John Dudlicek makes a motion to accept the claims 35803-35830 in the amount of $6,220.95. Terzarial seconded the motion and the claims where approved.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Tim Diamond announced that the next Park Board meeting will be held on November 8, 2021 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:**

Handball tournament Saturday was fantastic, four of the best players in the World. Great turn out and great weather.

Last year was the 100 year anniversary of the Fire Department and we had just put in a park by the Fire Station called Firefighters Park. The Town had a ceremony for the Park and an open house.

Working on tree transplanting. There were some trees removed down the bike trail and it was brought to our attention that there was one of importance cut down that was a memorial tree. We have found a Blue Spruce to replace that with and we are working on a proposal from a landscaping company and that will hopefully get done this week.

**Park Superintendent: Rich Powell reported as follows:**

* Mowing
* Trim Trees
* Clean Graffiti
* Repaired and replaced from vandalism
* Six days cleaning up from Octoberfest and Market
* Mower repairs
* Dirt repairs around Central side walks
* Sprinkler repair
* Electrical problems at Pop-Warner and at Central

Rich Also inquired why we need to load up all the picnic benches and place them in the Yard for the winter and why they cannot remain at the park considering they are left outside anyways.

Tim says he does not see there being an issue with leaving most of them there just as long as they are left in a safe manor and off of the grass. John also says it makes more sense than finding help to load them up and move them all seeing as they are already shorthanded.

**School Board Liaison’s Report: John Dudlicek reports as follows-**

Griffith High school is looking for a Robotics Coach. One doesn’t necessarily know how to build robots, just looking for someone enthusiastic about helping kids do some cool stuff. Anyone interested contact the school or John personally. First community meeting to discuss a potential upcoming referendum will take place on November 26th from 5:30 til 6:30 in the High school LGI room. This week is national anti-bullying week. The first quarter just ended, and parent-teacher conferences are going on this week. Congratulations to the boys’ soccer team they won the Sectional Championship and will be competing this Thursday October 15 against West Lafayette in Griffith.

**Imagine Griffith Report:** **None**

**Finance Report: None**

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

39th Lane Park had some demolition from the Restaurant Depot. They put some bad dirt and gravel, so we are trying to get rectification from that. Once that is taken care of we will draw up a design and get something put there.

We did receive the “unofficial approval” that we likely got the DNR grant that gets matched by the Town and will be used to improve Tot Park. We should know more about that and be able to officially announce more come springtime.

Woodland Story Walk-We applied for a grant with the Legacy Foundation to do an official story walk through Woodlands wooded area. In the meantime, the Public Library and Tri Kappa made a make shift story walk in the meantime. A story walk is basically stations with passages from a children’s book, so that you are able to take a walk and read pages of a book on your walk. That is in place to day for anyone to go check out.

Park Survey is closed now had about 240 responses that gave us a lot of thoughts and ideas, we use those surveys to build a new Master Plan which is due in January. In order to apply for more DNR Grants you must have a 5 year Master Plan into place.

**NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD:**

John stated we received a copy of the proposal for engineering services from Butler Fairman and Seufert. These engineering services are for improvements for Tot Park, Central Park and Cheever Park. We are going to ask BFS to separate the one proposal into three separate proposals, which they had already said they would do for us. John would like to recommend that we approve BFS’s proposal with the revision that John will follow up with them on with Tot Park, Tony seconds. Recommendation approved.

Tim said the Government requires certain things to approve the grant, one of the requirements that they need to move forward (by Dec 1st) is a boundary map.

John would also like to make a recommendation for BFS to revise the proposal for the Baseball Field improvements. Tony Seconds recommendation. Recommendation approved.

**NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Carl from the YMCA is present and says he is happy to be back in Griffith and is looking forward to once again working with Tim and the rest of the Park Board to do some fun things in the future

Meeting Adjourned 8:03 PM

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**Attested:**

