

Griffith Park and Recreation Board Minutes May 2022

May 9th, 2022

The meeting was called to order at the Town Hall, 111 N Broad Street in Griffith, In by President Tim Diamond. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The following members attended the meeting:

Tony Terzarial, Sue Hoesse, Tim Diamond – President, Dan Perez, John Volkman - School Board Liaison
Member Sue Hoesse made a motion to approve the April 11th, 2022 Minutes, seconded by Member Dan Perez, Motion carried.

Member Sue Hoesse made a motion to approve the claims in the amount of \$27,105.26, Member John Volkman seconded the motion, Motion carried. Sue Hoesse also wanted to make sure all Board members are aware that anything over \$25,000.00 needs to have 2-3 quotes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next park Board meeting will be June 13th, 2022 at 7pm. A study session will be held at 6pm before the meeting and one will follow if necessary.
2. Reminder to residents that if anyone sees any graffiti, damage or questionable behavior in any of the town parks, please call 911.
3. General comments and questions regarding the parks or bike path can be directed to griffithpark@griffith.in.gov

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Yoga in the Park will be on Mondays in June at Central Park Pavilion at 6pm.

REPORTS:

Park Superintendent: Rich Powell

Rich Powell reported they have started mowing and weeding in the parks, mower/truck/trailer repairs, almost finished on the Story Book Walk, cleaned bathrooms at the parks, and power washed the pavilions. Franklin Center weeds is getting out of control. Wants to put residential weed killer on the weeds. Will lock gate for 24-48 hours after application of weed killer.

School Board Liaison's Report

John Volkman reported referendum is over with a pass of 1309 to 796. Continuing with the Wadsworth upgrade to continue the driveway all around the building. Rich Powell stated he was approached by Kathy of the School Board asking why the Parks are mowing behind the school when the school should be mowing that area.

Imagine Griffith

Imagine is asking for donations to improve the Little Library around town. The Town wide garage sale is coming up May 20-22.

Tim Diamond stated the Woodlawn Story Book Walk is almost complete with the help of a grant that was received in the amount of \$8,800 from Legacy Foundation. Tri Kappa installed story. Update on Cheever Park enhancement's included Pickle Ball added courts and Futsal movement. DNR Grant for Tot's Park has given a verbal agreement and just waiting on award letter. 39th Street Park update, putting in new playground equipment. There will be green space where the utilities are located.

Tony Terzarial made a motion for putting up a bid to install the playground equipment, Sue Hoesse seconded the motion, Motion Carried.

Youth Sports Property Renovations

Dan Perez stated the park board is there to support the leagues. Dan Perez encouraged the leagues to come to the Park Board and bring ideas that the leagues have. Call or message anyone on the Board or the Park Superintendent Rich Powell. Tim Diamond said if they know what their wishes are they can help with those issues or wants. Sue Hoesse stated once the board knows of anything they can start to discuss

it and have answers for the next meeting. Rich Powell stated they will be checking the Buck Eye pipeline at South Park behind 540 S Broad Street.

Business From The Floor

Eric Connors wanted to discuss the electric bikes on the bike path. He stated they are going very fast zooming in and out. John Volkman stated he has seen people on e-bikes going 20mph. Rich Powell stated those bikes are legal. Tim Diamond checked with the county and they are legal. Tim Diamond also stated that golf carts are not allowed on the pavements but can go on the grass. Tim Diamond also stated about looking into plants along the bike trail in the future.

Frank Nava – Griffith Soccer President questioned the leagues paying a rental fee and asked if pickleball pays a rental fee as well. Tim Diamond stated if there is a league they will also pay for a rental fee if a league forms in the future. Frank asked who pays for the lighting for the pickleball field, and Tim Diamond stated the town pays for it. Frank says his kids have been kicked out of the courts and will not be going back. Tim Diamond encouraged the boys to come back once everything is complete. Sue Hoese asked if the Y and the school board open up Reddy can the soccer go back in there? John stated the new road will be going through the north side of wadsworth school to ease child drop off and pick up.

Mario Martinez stated he drove by the Pickle Ball Courts and is concerned about the parking cars everywhere and there is a lot of blind spots and can be hazardous. Will there be anything to improve visibilities for the kids that go to the park. Tim Diamond stated they use the courts in the morning, on one side of the street. The designs in the future are looking at adding parking and they added a handicap spot as well.

Sue Hoese stated everything discussed is in the Park Board minutes and the council sees the minutes, she states she was asked to ask the leagues what they want so the Park Board can discuss these things with the council.

Chris Ray - Griffith baseball stated this is the best interaction with the Park Board that he has seen. He states the wish list would be the ball field with grading the dugouts and getting the score board updated. Getting the field up to par would help getting tournaments into the town. Sue Hoese stated they us to get the fields ready themselves and asked Chris Ray what equipment they have to use. Chris Ray stated they don't have the equipment to maintain the fields. Sue asked what percentage of kids playing are from Griffith and Chris stated about 80% and all members live in Griffith. Sue Hoese asked who would maintain the fields if the town puts in the dollars? Chris Rays stated after the season the fields are public use. Dan Perez asked is they brought an electrician in to look at the scoreboards to see if they can get them operational? Chris Rays stated no they did not. Tony Terzariel stated he is passionate about the 3 diamonds at Central Park and was hoping they can get enhancements done at the park.

Sue Hoese asked the soccer board where they practice and let them know the Y said they can rent the fields at their location.

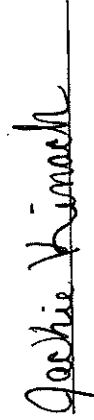
Jimmy Campos asked if they will be creating a recreational part of the board and if the leagues will be involved. Dan Perez says a consolidation of all leagues will be involved.

Mario Martinez asked if there will be any volley Ball Courts. Tim Diamond said they need to fix the drainage. He also asked about the Franklin Center gym, Tim Diamond stated to contact Michelle Velez. Mario stated he is asked where our tax payer dollars were going in regards to the leagues and he stated baseball is 95% Griffith residents.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20.



Tim Diamond, Park Board Presiden



Jackie Kinach, Recording Secretary