

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN
(Official Minutes)
MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION
April 15, 2015

Park Commission Chairman Rick Pappas called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Park Commissioners present: Trustee Rick Pappas, Sarah Lobdell, Mary Green, Sandra Hibbard, Gail Hibbard

Park Commissioners absent: Laura Coates, Lynne Frost

Also present: Administrator Dennis Martin

Approval of Minutes

Lobdell/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to approve the meeting minutes for February 18, 2015, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

At the end of the meeting, the Park Commission reviewed without concern a Park Permit application filed by Big Foot Recreation District and the University of Wisconsin Extension-Walworth County for the fourth annual “Get Moving! Walworth County” family walking program, which is staged at the Duck Pond Recreation Area. The application, which was inadvertently left off the Park Commission meeting agenda, will be presented to the Village Board for approval consideration at its next monthly meeting. The event is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2015, from 9:00 am to noon.

Announcements

Martin stated that the Village has been named a 2014 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation, and the required proclamation for 2015 has been approved by the Village Board. The annual Arbor Day Program and Bird City Wisconsin Migratory Bird Day Observance will be held at Fontana Elementary School on Friday, April 24, 2015, at 10:00 am. Martin stated that Big Foot Recreation District Director Chuck Thiesenhusen emailed a message to the Village regarding the annual Easter Egg Hunt held at the Duck Pond Recreation Area. “I had a number of people come up to me asking to pass along their gratitude to you and your staff for another great hunt. Thank you! I also thought you’d be interested in the numbers this year of the different age groups: 2 & Younger: 34; 3 & 4: 45; 5 & 6: 67; 7 & 8: 55; and 9 and older: 70, for a total of 271. Add in parents and grandparents into the mix, it was another great turnout. I think the numbers were a little down from 2014, but if I remember correctly, last year’s weather was amazing and the date didn’t conflict with spring break. Next year the hunt will be on March 26, 2016.”

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was not used in February and March, 2015. Gail Hibbard stated that a Fontana Public Library book club that used to meet on Thursday evenings at the library may be interested in meeting at the Park House. The commission discussed the previously established group rate for non-profit groups, the Big Foot Recreation District programs and public or civic organizations and clubs which calls for a minimum of \$1 per participant, and Gail Hibbard stated that she will present the information to the book club members for consideration.

Treasurer’s Report

Lobdell presented the Treasurer’s reports as of March 31, 2015. In response to inquiries, Martin stated that he will make sure Village Treasurer Scott Vilona allocates a recently paid \$1,600 Tree Ordinance fine to the Park Commission’s Tree Reforestation Fund.

Plan Commission Report

There is a public hearing set for the April 27, 2015 Plan Commission meeting regarding a Zoning

Amendment Petition filed by John Tracy for his Lakeview Terrace condominium proposal on his Third Avenue and Reid Street parcels, which are currently in the Village Center and SR-5 zoning districts. There also is a public hearing scheduled to address a recent court ruling with a zoning code amendment to the standards for extraterritorial plat reviews. Lobdell stated that the Plan Commission also discussed at its last monthly meeting the Zoning Code regulations regarding the storage of boats and recreational vehicles on residential properties.

Public Works Report & Park Commission Maintenance List

Martin stated that he added the annual spring maintenance items to the list, including weeding in Pioneer Park and raking and spreading the mulch under the swing sets at the playgrounds. Martin stated that the DPW crew was planning to open the park bathrooms within the next week. Sandra Hibbard stated that the garbage cans by Little Foot Playground are overflowing, and the red paint on the chairs around the lighthouse is very faded and looks bad. Sandra Hibbard stated that it also would be nice to have a bench or two installed near the pirate ship slide as parents have no convenient place to gather while watching their children. Pappas stated that the fencing erected to deter deer during the winter months still needs to be taken down around the boat trailer parking lot. Gail Hibbard stated that the path that was mowed through the oak savanna area needs to be mowed again this spring. And the garbage cans and dog poop bags need to be addressed at the Duck Pond Recreation Area dog walking area.

Old Business

Highway 67 Tree Removal Proposal by Entrance Sign

Martin stated that he received a request for the Village to consider cutting down an evergreen tree in the Highway 67 public right of way by the Village of Fontana welcome sign area. Martin stated that he received a complaint that the tree blocks the view of northbound motorists on Highway 67 from seeing the welcome sign area. Following discussion, the Park Commission members reached the consensus that the tree is healthy and does not completely obscure the view of the sign, so it should not be cut down. The entire landscaped area around the sign will be reviewed for possible enhancements and/or new plantings.

New Business

Park and Landscape Maintenance RFP Draft

Pappas stated that the landscape maintenance contract expires this year and the village will be seeking proposals in the fall for a new contract. Pappas stated that a lot of areas have been added to the contract since it was last put out for proposals, so he wanted to make sure the drafting of the RFP is on DPW Manager Brett McCollum's radar. Pappas stated that a map or diagram needs to be drafted that correctly and clearly delineates all the areas that need to be maintained.

Native Area Contract Approval

Pappas stated that the Village Board approved the contract with Tom Vanderpoel for an amount not to exceed \$4,000. Gail Hibbard stated that she talked to Joe McHugh and Cindy Wilson about considering to be officers for the Friends of Fontana 501(c)(3) organization that is currently dormant. Martin stated that as well as placing notices seeking volunteers to get the organization reestablished, he recently worked with the Village attorney's office and outgoing organization president Rick Treptow to file the required Wisconsin Department of Revenue annual reports for 501(c)(3) organizations.

Big Foot Rec Movies Under the Stars Schedule and Sponsorship Request

Martin stated that Big Foot Recreation District Director Thiesenhusen requested that the annual schedule for the Movies Under the Stars program be authorized and that a \$750 sponsorship donation be allocated by the Village again this year. The proposed dates are Saturdays, June 13 and 27, July 11 and 18, and August 1 and 15, 2015. Last year, the district requested that the Village consider a sponsorship donation to help fund the franchise fees for the individual movies. Following discussion, the Park Commission members reached the consensus that they should make the same recommendation as last year with regard to the sponsorship fee, which is that the program is very popular and should be supported by the Village General Fund; however, if approved, the funds should not be allocated from a Park Commission budget line item.

Lobdell/Gail Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to recommend approval of the dates for the annual Big Foot Recreation District Movies Under the Stars program as presented, and to recommend Village Board approval of a \$750 allocation from the General Fund to help sponsor the franchise fees expenses for the program. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Reid Park Permit Application, Pig in the Park, September 5, 2015, Dan Green Foundation

Martin stated that following staff review of the 2014 event proceeds donated by the Dan Green Foundation to the Village, there were concerns due to the the additional salary expenses generated by overtime for the DPW crew members that exceeded the Village's portion of the total proceeds. Pappas stated that last year's event was upside down due to extraordinary Village expenses for the overtime hours put in by the DPW setting up and taking down tents for the event in rainy weather; however, the previous years were very beneficial to the Village as the event helped to fund the purchase of a new pirate ship and other improvements at Little Foot Playground. Lobdell stated that more volunteers helped set up for the initial events and some of the DPW crew members donated their time. Martin stated that he and DPW Manager Brett McCollum will meet with Mary Green prior to the event to make sure the tents are set up and taken down as efficiently as possible and to eliminate overtime expenses. Green stated that the foundation officers did not realize the DPW expenses were so high last year, and she will meet with staff to address the concern.

Trustee Pappas/Gail Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit application filed by the Dan Green's Touch A Life, Heal A Heart, Inc., for the annual Pig in the Park event on Saturday, September 5, 2015, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Application Filed by Fontana Community Church, May 17, 2015 at Duck Pond Pavilion

Gail Hibbard/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit application filed by the Fontana Community Church for a picnic at the Duck Pond Pavilion on Sunday, May 17, 2015, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, with the fee waived as requested. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Application Filed by Ronald Pawlson, July 18, 2015 at Duck Pond Pavilion with Beer/Wine Permit

Lobdell/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit application, with a beer and wine consumption permit, filed by Ronald Pawlson for a family reunion at the Duck Pond Pavilion on Saturday, July 18, 2015 from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Any Other Comments/Concerns

None

Adjournment

Lobdell/Green 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m., and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Park Commission the official minutes will be on file at the Fontana Village Hall.

Approved: 05/20/15