

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

(Official Minutes)

Park Commission Monthly Meeting

July 19, 2017

The Park Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Stan Livingston at 5:15 pm on Wednesday, July 19, 2017.

Members Present: Trustee Livingston, Sarah Lobdell, Mary Green, Gail Hibbard

Members Absent: Jill Wegner, Robin Nuzzo, Sandra Hibbard

Also Present: Clerk Theresa Loomer, Sharon O'Brien, Josh Skolnick, Rick Treptow

Approval of Minutes June 21, 2017

Lobdell/Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the June 21, 2017 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

Former Park Commissioner Rick Treptow stated he asked for the arborist reports at last month's meeting but still has not received any. He stated he agreed to receive six of the 10 reports but would like to see at least one.

Announcements

None

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was used two times in June, 2017.

Treasurer's Report

Due to Treasurer Vilona being on vacation no treasurer's report was available to present.

Public Works Report

Livingston stated he spoke with DPW Manager Brett McCollum who was not in attendance, but McCollum would like the park commissioner's recommendation on what to do with the rocks from the rock gardens that were disassembled at the Fontana Fen.

Old Business

Pioneer Park Bollard Lights

An estimate of \$199 was received from lightmart.com for 40-inch tall and 6-inch wide bollard lights to replace the existing light poles and fixtures. Only three will need to be purchased and they will match the lights in Reid Park.

Lobdell/Green 2nd made a MOTION to approve the purchase of three bollard lights to match the bollard lights in Reid Park, as presented, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 from the Pioneer Park fund, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Warranty Extension Quotes for Reid Park Trees

This item will be presented at next month's meeting.

Memorial Park Bench Proposal for Micki O'Connell

The item was recommended for approval at last month's meeting and referred back to the Park Commission after being presented to the Village Board. There was discussion about why the Village Board referred the item back to Park Commission including whether there was a rule about one memorial tree or bench per person. It was pointed out that there are multiple trees planted for at least one person throughout the village and the application does not specify one tree

or bench per person/family. Treptow and Sharon O'Brien spoke in favor of having two benches for O'Connell, one in Pioneer Park (which is already installed) and one in Mohr Road Park along the lake path. If the issue is having two benches, it was proposed to move the Pioneer Park Bench to Mohr Road Park as that is the preferred location of the donators. There was also discussion of planting a tree in lieu of a second bench if the second bench is not an option.

Lobdell/Green 2nd made a MOTION to reaffirm the original recommendation to the Village Board to install a second bench for Micki O'Connell at Mohr Road Park, but if that is not an option, to move the Pioneer Park bench to Mohr Road Park, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Tick Repelling Plants

A list of tick repelling plants was distributed. The list includes lavender, rosemary, feverfew, marigolds, citronella grass, catnip, chamomile, sage, lemon grass and chrysanthemum. It was suggested to put the list on the Village website, the Park Commission Facebook page and the Garden Club website and check with Bird City for additional resources. Green stated she had other material to present but did not bring it to the meeting. It will be placed on next month's agenda for additional information.

New Business

Proposed Demonstration Planting at Fontana Fen – Heartland Creations

Josh Skolnick from Heartland Creations submitted a cost estimate for plant materials for the proposed demonstration area and supplemental seeding at the Fontana Fen. The beds have been difficult to maintain and have been leveled. The proposal is for 960 plants to be installed in summer or early fall for a cost of \$1,425, Short Grass Woods Edge Oak Savanna seed mix with cover crop for 2,000 square feet for the cost of \$150 to be sowed after November 1, and Bur Oak Sapling for an estimated cost of \$75 to \$100. The estimates do not include any village labor provided by public works and Skolnick recommends setting up a volunteer work day with the Geneva Lake Conservancy to defray some of the costs. Due to budgeting concerns, the item is recommended for reconsideration at the October Park Commission meeting, specifically work for the Oak Savanna which is recommended to be done after November 1.

Duck Pond Native Prairie Area Restoration Recommendation for WE Gas Line Boring Damage

Josh Skolnick assessed the damage at the Native Prairie Area at Duck Pond which was caused by the installation of a new gas line by WE Energies. They did not follow the appropriate route that was approved by the Village and explained by Department of Public Works employee Ron Adams. The prairie was disrupted in both the high quality and low quality prairie and savanna areas as described in Skolnick's report and the drill broke down twice in the middle of the flower area. Skolnick presented cost estimates and a remediation plan in the amount of \$27,781 which the commissioners agreed is a starting point to negotiate.

Lobdell/Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to refer the prairie restoration remediation plan to the village attorney in an effort to get the maximum reimbursement for the damage, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Village Landscaping Concerns – Blackstone

Livingston shared concerns about Blackstone, the Village's contracted landscaping service provider, and their performance as outlined in their contract. Many of the contracted areas are being ignored or only sporadically completed including Duck Pond recreation area and the well areas. McCollum and Street Dept. Lead Man Ron Adams have called the contacts at Blackstone several times to try to address the concerns but no one is getting back to him. Since their contract is up at the end of next year, Livingston suggested putting together a more comprehensive RFP for the contract including maps, directions, and specific times of expected maintenance to be completed.

Duck Pond Playing Field Soil

Livingston presented a plan for the Duck Pond baseball fields to address the field soil saturation issue. He recommends rototilling the baseball fields down four inches and spreading red limestone which according to Tony Greco from Walworth Ball and Glove, helps to drain the field. Lobdell pointed out that it has been two years since the field has been aerated. This item will be brought back at the October Park Commission meeting for further consideration and budget planning.

Park Permit Application Filed by Mary Vanslyck for Reid Park Gazebo and Reid Park Pavilion for Saturday, August 26, 2017 from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm

An application was filed by Mary Vanslyck for the Reid Park Gazebo and Reid Park Pavilion on August 26, 2017. Vanslyck has clarified that she would like to host a family gathering with live music classified as “easy listening.” Since the music will be completed by 7:30 pm the commissioners recommended approval as long as the fee is paid.

Hibbard/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit application Filed by Mary Vanslyck for the Reid Park Gazebo and Reid Park Pavilion on Saturday, August 26, 2017 from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm, with the condition the \$250 fee is paid, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Any Other Comments/Concerns

Hibbard asked whether DPW employees have been putting up signs and banners for events in the village such as the Big Foot Lions Club Lobster Boil, and if so, whether the village is reimbursed for staff’s time. Lobdell asked if the Country Club Estates beach area could be added to next month’s agenda. She said after the bridge reconstruction and the utility work, there are still areas of grass that were never reestablished.

Adjournment

Lobdell/Green 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 6:13 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Theresa Loomer, Village Clerk

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

APPROVED: 10/18/17