

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

(Official Minutes)

Park Commission Monthly Meeting

July 20, 2016

The Park Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Whowell at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, July 20, 2016.

Members Present: Trustee Whowell, Gail Hibbard, Trustee Livingston, Sandra Hibbard, Sarah Lobdell

Members absent: Lynne Frost, Mary Green

Also Present: Merilee Holst, President Kenny, Administrator Dennis Martin, Bill Turner

Approval of Minutes May 19, 2016

Gail Hibbard/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the May 19, 2016 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

None

Announcements

None

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was used four times in May and June, 2016.

Treasurer's Report

Lobdell reported there is currently \$25,116.38 in the Park Commission Fund.

Public Works Report

DPW Manager Brett McCollum was absent and no report was given.

Old Business & Pet Projects

Landscape Maintenance and Irrigation System Contractor Updates

Whowell stated the previously contracted Landscape Maintenance Company has been replaced with Blackstone and they are performing much better than the previous company. Northern Mist has taken over for Ingersol and all of the irrigation systems have been repaired and are now up and running, but Whowell stated it is not as good as it could be. Whowell also reported that a new water supply line also was installed for the fountain at Porter Court Plaza, and the fountain is currently operating.

Pig in the Park and Rock Central Event Updates

Whowell stated both the Pig in the Park and Rock Central benefit concert events went well. The Pig in the Park event had less visitors than previous years but that was likely due to the date change. For the first time, there was no perimeter fencing set up which Whowell stated made the event feel more open and comfortable. There were no complaints from nearby property owners about the Rock Central event and the Village received very positive feedback from all involved. Gail Hibbard asked about the signage that's posted for local events and said signs for the Lobster Boil have been up since before the 4th of July. Martin said the signage request was written into the approved contract for the Lions Club, however, by ordinance, signage is only allowed to be erected 10-days prior to the event.

Fen Update

Bill Turner provided a history on the Fen and explained that he and John Anderson bought the land the Fen is on for \$15,000 in 1979 then donated it to the Village with deed restrictions. Turner suggested hiring a full-time employee to supervise, work and manage the natural areas that currently exist, and that person also could monitor the buildings and grounds. He suggested being more aggressive at budget time to be able to get additional help for maintenance of the natural areas. There was discussion about whether a new full-time person is necessary or whether it could be a seasonal position; however, some commissioners thought it might be difficult to obtain a professional if the position is only seasonal. Martin said there used to be Walworth County Huber inmates that would pull garlic mustard out of the Fen, Hildebrand Nature Conservancy and other natural areas at the Duck Pond; however, that help is no longer available and volunteers are hard to attract. Whowell said Josh Skolnick, who was hired to work managing invasive species at the Fen, submitted an incorrect bill last month in the amount of \$1,000 and submitted a second bill for work completed in the Fen for the amount of \$2,800.

Lobdell/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to pay Josh Skolnick or Heartland Lane Creations the amount owed, not to exceed \$2,800, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Any Other Comments/Concerns

Sandra Hibbard asked if someone could look at the boat trailer parking lot where there is an area of overgrowth that should be addressed. Gail Hibbard asked about getting a plaque or some sort of recognition for Roy Diblik. Martin said it was previously discussed and agreed on that a Park Commission supporter/name recognition wall should be created in Sam's Garden behind the Library/Village Hall to recognize those that have gone above and beyond in the community. Several ideas were discussed including putting a plaque on a big rock in Porter Court Plaza, or placing a plaque on a rock in an area where the person recognized had spent the most time. Gail Hibbard and Lobdell agreed to work on the details of how the volunteers will be recognized and bring the information back to the committee at next month's meeting.

New Business

Accept Lynne Frost Resignation & Consider New Appointment

Lynne Frost submitted her resignation to the Park Commission due to health reasons. Lobdell stated that she will have flowers delivered to Frost to thank her for her service on the Park Commission that last few years.

Gail Hibbard/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to accept the resignation of Lynne Frost, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Memorial Tree Donation Request – Sandy Mackee

Martin stated he previously spoke with Sandy Mackee who would like to purchase a memorial tree for the lakefront area, however, because that is a popular location, there are few if any spots left. Whowell stated there is a dead birch tree that public works is going to remove from the Willow Weeps memorial area next to the Village's lakefront marina building being leased to Kevin Kirkland, and the commissioners discussed whether a new tree could be planted after the dead birch is removed, and whether it would need to be replaced with another birch tree. There is possibly an open spot in Pioneer Park for a tree as well. Martin stated he will contact Sandy Mackee with the information.

Memorial Tree Update – Locations, Identifications & Maps

The names and locations of all the memorial trees were included in the meeting packets. Martin stated he is working on a map/diagram that will be placed in Village Hall and show the location of all the donated memorialized trees.

Memorial Bench Donation Request – Ray Fitzgerald & Ann Tyrrell Corbin

Resident Ray Fitzgerald submitted a request to donate a park bench in Reid Park at the lakefront. The new bench will replace an older one on the shore path to the north of the village's lakefront

marina building. Ann Tyrrell Corbin also requested to replace a bench that is located at the foothill of Kinzie Avenue. After discussion, the location of the proposed bench is in Buena Vista and not on Village property.

Gail Hibbard/Trustee Livingston 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the proposal submitted by Ray Fitzgerald to purchase a memorial bench in the same style as the previous two benches on the lakefront path, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Duck Pond Recreation Area Dog Track Memorial Request – Michael Stewart

Whowell stated Michael Stewart asked if he could name the dog track at Duck Pond in exchange for a donation. Stewart will gather more information and come back with some ideas.

Signage Proposal for Mohr Road Park and South Lakeshore Drive

Martin said the signage proposal for Mohr Road Park came up at the Public Hearing for the Park and Open Space Plan held at last month's Plan Commission meeting. Martin said after installation of the new generator for the upgraded Mohr Road Lift Station, there will be one handicap and two regular parking stalls located next to the building. Merilee Holst requested a directional sign that reads, "To Mohr Road Park and Shore Path," and suggested using a sign similar to the one that points to the location of the boat launch. Holst said she believes many residents are not aware that Mohr Road Park exists or that it is an entrance to the Shore Path. Martin said he will review the information on the directional signage installed several years ago on Valley View Drive/Highway 67 as part of the CDA projects, and he will work with the DPW to determine where on South Lakeshore Drive at Mohr Road the sign(s) could be erected. Martin stated that the Mohr Road reconstruction project plans are currently out for bids and the signs could be installed as part of that project.

Reconsider Meeting Date/Time

Next month's meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, August 17, 2016 beginning at 5:00 pm.

Fall League at Duck Pond

Martin said the dates do not conflict with any other scheduled leagues.

Park Permit Application Filed by National MS Society Tour of Champions at Reid Park Gazebo, September 23, 2016 from 7:00 am to 9:00 am

Lobdell/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit Application Filed by the National MS Society Tour of Champions at Reid Park Gazebo on September 23, 2016 from 7:00 am to 9:00 am.

Park Permit Application Filed by Betty Shay for Photo Up Reunion at Duck Pond Pavilion on Friday, August 5, 2016 from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Betty Shay came into Village Hall earlier in the day to add a Beer/Wine permit in addition to the Park Permit. She paid the additional fee of \$175.

Trustee Livingston/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit Application with Beer/Wine Permit Filed by Betty Shay for Photo Up Reunion at Duck Pond Pavilion on Friday, August 5, 2016 from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Permit Application Filed by Benton Durley for Reid Park Gazebo on Saturday, October 1, 2016 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Gail Hibbard/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit Application Filed by Benton Durley for Reid Park Gazebo on Saturday, October 1, 2016 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Permit Application Filed by Bob Ahern for Blinn/Baumann Wedding at Duck Pond Pavilion & Recreation Area with Beer/Wine Permit on Saturday, July 23, 2016 from 10:00

am to 1:00 pm

Lobdell/Trustee Livingston 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit Application filed by Bob Ahern for Blinn/Baumann Wedding at Duck Pond Pavilion & Recreation Area with Beer/Wine Permit on Saturday, July 23, 2016 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Pheasant Ridge/VOF Sign Landscaping Proposal

Trustee Livingston, who owns a home in and is a member of the Pheasant Ridge Association Board of Directors, stated that the association would like authorization to change the landscaping around the Village of Fontana entrance sign at Indian Hills Road and County Highway B. He stated the initial landscaping is currently very overgrown and the association would like to replace what is currently there.

Lobdell/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to authorize the Pheasant Ridge Association to change the landscaping around the Village of Fontana entrance sign on Indian Hills Road at County Highway B, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Lions Club Reid Park Pavilion Funding Proposal

Village President Kenny who is also a member of the Big Foot Lions Club presented an artist's rendering for the proposed Reid Park Pavilion. Kenny stated the total bid for the pavilion is \$91,637. The breakdowns are \$8,463 for excavating, \$38,464 for building materials, \$16,440 for construction labor, \$16,327 for concrete, and \$11,943 for electrical. Kenny asked for the Village's support to pay the initial cost for the pavilion and for the Lions Club to pay the amount back over a period of time. They plan to sell bricks as a fundraiser to help offset the project cost. Martin said the money will likely be able to come from the contingency fund which is in good shape and the matter will also have to go through the Finance Committee and Village Board.

Trustee Whowell/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to support the funding proposals for the Lions Club's Reid Park Pavilion construction project as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Shabbona Pedestrian Path Split-Fence Proposal

Martin stated the property owners of the home located at the foot of the Shabbona pedestrian path have requested the Village put up some kind of signage and/or barrier so that people on the trail use the path and do not cut across their yard and driveway. McCollum suggested putting up a split rail fence in the area where it is a problem. DPW has the materials and it will not cost anything except labor to build and install the fence.

Gail Hibbard/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to direct Public Works to install a split rail fence at Shabbona Drive, not to exceed 50-feet, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Lake Street Open and Close Hours

Trustee Whowell stated he would like the language amended in Ordinance 74-383 Restricted Streets. He stated the ordinance currently reads that Lake Street is closed from the weekend prior to Memorial Day to the Weekend after Labor Day, however, the road is only closed from the weekends of Memorial Day to Labor Day. He stated the timeframe set forth is also incorrect, and the road is closed on Sunday afternoon or evening, not Monday morning, and sometimes earlier if there is inclement weather, which he would also like defined. Whowell stated he believes opening Lake Street earlier than outlined due to inclement weather should be at the discretion of the Administrator, President or Police Chief, and not a rank and file police officer.

Trustee Livingston/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of an amended ordinance 74-383 Restricted Streets, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Adjournment

Trustee Whowell/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 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: 09/21/16