

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

**(Official Minutes)**

**Park Commission Monthly Meeting**

October 18, 2017

The Park Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Stan Livingston at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, October 18, 2017.

**Members Present:** Trustee Livingston, Sarah Lobdell, Mary Green, Jill Wegner, Robin Nuzzo

**Members Absent:** Gail Hibbard, Sandra Hibbard

**Also Present:** Jim Bost, Brett McCollum, Jordan Rowe, Josh Skolnick, Scott Vilona

**Approval of Minutes July 19, 2017**

Green/Lobdell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the July 19, 2017 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Visitors Heard**

Jim Bost from Balanced Environments introduced himself and spoke about the work he has completed for the village such as the new tree planting in Reid Park. He distributed a tree care plan and stated Balance Environments is a large company with staff to fulfill all of the village's needs. Their company is interested in performing the village's landscape work in 2018 and beyond. Balanced Environments has two crews based out of Jerry's Majestic Marine and they currently maintain Geneva National and Timber Ridge. Jordan Rowe from Tallgrass Restoration, LLC out of Milton, WI, explained that his company specializes in maintenance of fens and natural prairies and he will be working with Bost. Rowe said he was part of the original seeding in the Oak Savanna and he is currently working with WE Energies on restoring the area due to damage they caused during a project completed this past summer. Rowe presented a three-year maintenance plan including eradication of invasive species in the Fen and other natural areas; he would like to expand the prairie to the triangle between Highway 67 and Dade Road.

**Announcements**

None

**General Business**

**Park House Use**

The Park House was used three times in July, August and September, 2017.

**Treasurer's Report**

There is currently \$30,681.13 in the Park Commission Funds.

**Public Works Report**

McCollum went over the revised RFP for the landscape contract which is set to be released on October 23, 2017, and stated a few changes were made to the existing RFP to clear up issues the village has experienced with past landscape contractors. For clarity, this year's RFP will provide a tree and mowing list as well as maps showing the areas to be addressed.

**Old Business**

**Proposed Demonstration Planting at Fontana Fen**

Josh Skolnick from Heartland Creations, LLC provided plans and a maintenance schedule for the Fontana Fen. He stated planting could be done yet this fall, otherwise it will be completed in the spring. Rowe from Tallgrass Restoration, LLC elaborated on his proposed three-year plan for the village and natural areas.

**Duck Pond Playing Field Soil**

McCollum went over the process of the work completed at the Duck Pond ball fields. The fields were tilled and then TurfFace mix was added which helped absorb water and kept dirt from compacting too much resulting in better drainage. It will be an annual process, but so far with the recent rains there has been no visible standing water on the fields. The cost of the TurfFace was roughly \$1,243 for four pallets.

### **Tick Repelling Plants and Lyme's Disease Information**

A list of tick repelling plants and other tick repelling suggestions was put together by Mary Green and distributed to the commissioners. The list of plants includes lavender, garlic, pennyroyal, pyrethrum, sage, American beautyberry and Eucalyptus.

### **Memorial Park Bench Proposal for Micki O'Connell**

There is currently a bench for Micki O'Connell in Pioneer Park and her friends would like to install a second bench at Mohr Road Park. The commission previously concluded that no-one has two benches and there should be an alternative memorial in place of the second bench. After discussion, the commission recommended to install brick pavers on Mohr road near the lake or install a new bench with a seatback that could contain multiple small name plates.

Lobdell/Nuzzo 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval to install brick pavers on Mohr Road and/or a new bench with a seatback which would contain multiple small name plates, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **WE Restoration Meeting**

Rowe toured the Oak Savanna with WE Energies attorneys to discuss restoration. An initial proposal was prepared and distributed.

### **New Business**

#### **Application Submitted by Steele Whowell/Gordy's to Lease Park House**

Steele Whowell filed an application to lease the Park House on a long term basis and renovate the building so it can be used as work spaces for Gordy's employees on a proposed one, three or five year lease term. Trustee Livingston will meet with Steele to gather more information on his intent and the proposed renovations for the Park House and will present it at next month's meeting.

#### **Marina Davis Park Permit Refund**

Marina Davis rented the Duck Pond Pavilion and was only able to use it for two of the five hours it was rented due to swarms of bees. McCollum went to the site to confirm the severity of the bees and sprayed several times, however, it did not help. Due to only being able to use the site for half of the permitted time, Davis has requested a 50% refund.

Wegner/Nuzzo 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to refund \$75 plus the \$50 security deposit to Marina Davis for only being able to use the Duck Pond Pavilion for half of the permitted time due to swarms of bees, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Hildebrand Nature Conservancy Monitoring Tour Report**

Karen Yancey from the Lake Geneva Conservancy and the Village DPW staff toured the Hildebrand Nature Conservancy which abuts several parcels of private property. Any dumping from homeowners on the abutting private properties will receive a notice from the Village.

#### **Tom Vanderpoel Memorial Tree Direction**

This item will be discussed at the November meeting.

#### **2018 Budget Planning – Landscape and Green Space Maintenance RFP Direction**

Items that were discussed for the 2018 budget include holiday decorations for \$1,000, TurfFace Top Coat for \$4,000, Reid Park Ice Skating Rink for \$2,500, and Duck Pond Bleachers for baseball fields for \$9,500.

#### **Update on Duck Pond Concession Sales**

Livingston reported he ran the concessions for five weeks and made roughly \$145 during each four-hour shift.

**Big Foot High School Girls Softball Games at Duck Pond**

Since the Big Foot girls softball league may play at Duck Pond next year, Livingston recommends continuing with the concessions to take full advantage of additional revenue.

**Annual Renewal Applications for Tree City USA and Bird City Wisconsin**

Lobdell offered to work with McCollum to get the correct number of trees planted and removed in 2017. This will be forwarded to the Village Board for approval.

**Roy Diblik Bulb Planting Proposal for 2018**

Roy Diblik from Northwind Perennial has \$3,000 remaining in the budgeted money allocated to him for 2017 and he has and offered to use the money to plant bulbs in the village medians in 2018.

Lobdell/Wegner 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve spending \$3,000 on bulbs to plant in village median in 2018, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Duck Pond Field Watering Project Proposal**

Livingston recommended running a water source to the ball fields at Duck Pond in order to wet the fields during events.

**Adjournment**

Lobdell/Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 7:35 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: 11/15/17