

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN
(Official Minutes)
MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION
November 19, 2014

Park Commission Chairman Rick Pappas called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Park Commissioners present: Trustee Rick Pappas, Mary Green (arrived at 6:08), Sarah Lobdell, Sandra Hibbard, Gail Hibbard

Park Commissioners absent: Laura Coates, Lynne Frost

Also present: Clerk Theresa Linneman, Administrator Dennis Martin, Micki O'Connell

Approval of Minutes

Sarah Lobdell/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to approve the meeting minutes for September 17, 2014, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

None

Announcements

Martin stated all of the Park Commission budget items made it into the budget with the exception of the sand volleyball court.

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was used three times in October 2014.

Treasurer's Report

Martin stated due to Treasurer Scott Vilona being out of town last week, the treasurer's report is not complete and will be presented at the next meeting.

Plan Commission Report

A Public Hearing for the Plan Commission is set for Monday, November 24, 2014. The public hearing is to address the Planned Development zoning proposal by the Shodeen Group to authorize the construction of townhomes between on the lots located at 180 and 190 Third Avenue. In order for approval to be granted, the zoning district has to be changed from Village Center to Planned Development. There also are three anticipated zoning amendments; Martin stated Building Inspector Ron Nyman has drafted an amendment regarding the method of measuring building height, which will be scheduled for a public hearing. The other amendments concern accessory structure setbacks for new buildings greater than 600 square feet, and the reestablishment of the property maintenance ordinance, which was inadvertently omitted from the Zoning Code when it was rewritten a few years ago. Several concerns were mentioned among Park Commission members regarding the townhome development proposal density and the amount of impervious surface, potential problems with underwater storm water retention and capacity of the zoned area. Pappas stated he has noticed inconsistencies in potential problems or concerns discussed by the village engineer and planner only at the Plan Commission staff meetings but not at the public meetings.

Public Works Report & Park Commission Maintenance List

Director of Streets Ron Adams was absent on vacation so Martin gave an overview of the most recent park maintenance list. He stated the maple trees in front of Village Hall have been replaced. Deer mesh was put up to protect the arborvitae in four places including the boat trailer parking lot and adjacent to Little Foot Playground. According to Martin, Adams indicated there are still a couple trees that he would like to have pruned this fall and asked if there is still money in the budget for Jeff Epping's services. Pappas stated that it might be too late in the year for any more tree pruning. Gail

Hibbard stated the illuminated steel Christmas Trees that were constructed last year by the public works department look great and suggested that if time permits that the village put up more for this year's holiday season to replace the remaining old holiday decorations. The task was added to the park maintenance checklist. Gail Hibbard also mentioned that an individual who recently rented the Park House twice in the past month noticed a foul smell that seems to come and go. During the first day it was rented he had to open the windows in order to air out the house; however, the second time there was no odor. Martin stated he would have Adams look into it.

Old Business

Dan Green Foundation Pig in the Park Event Donation

Mary Green stated she would have the check for approximately \$2,700 ready to drop off next week. Gail Hibbard asked when the Big Foot Lions Club donation would come in, and Lobdell replied that it typically happens at the January meetings.

Set Dedication Date for Mill House Pavilion

Martin initially suggested tying the dedication ceremony to honor the late Ron Pollitt and David Coates together with the annual Arbor Day observance in April. Micki O'Connell stated she spoke with Peg Pollitt who said her daughter would be flying in from California at the end of January and wondered if the dedication could be done over the weekend of January 31, 2015. The Park Commission was in consensus that was a good idea and would check with Laura Coates to confirm whether that date worked for her. The group discussed contacting the Coffee Mill for large urns of coffee and hot chocolate and discussed potentially having some other food there. Lobdell stated there is \$1,200 in the Mill House fund which would cover the cost of food and beverage. Martin stated he believes there is electricity available at the pavilion, but he will double check. O'Connell asked about an initial proposal to mount the dedication plaque on a large rock or the mill stone and suggested the \$1,200 in the fund would leave enough money to cover that as well. O'Connell was also concerned with the location of the bench donated by the Fontana Garden Club. The bench faces the south on the side of the pavilion and she believes no one uses it due to its positioning. O'Connell recommended moving it to a different location, and Martin replied that he will investigate the situation with Ron Adams.

New Business

Vintage Triumph Register National Convention Request to Use Duck Pond on August 14, 2015

Martin provided the history on the request from Bob Streepy who requested earlier in the year to use the Reid Park ball diamond for the site of a panoramic photograph for the Vintage Triumph Register National Convention on Friday, August 14, 2015. That request was denied but the village recommended the Duck Pond site as an alternative location. Streepy has now requested to use the far north side of the Duck Pond and requested the gate be opened to allow cars to park with the succession of trees in the background. Martin stated that Adams has no concerns with the requested location and he indicated it will work well. Lobdell stated that she agrees with Adams and the proposed site should work well for the group photo. Pappas stated that the convention organizers should file a park permit application for the proposal.

Sarah Lobdell/Gail Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the request submitted by Bob Streepy for the Vintage Triumph Register National Convention to use the Duck Pond site for a group photograph on Friday, August 14, 2015, with the condition a park permit application is filed, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Approve Annual Tree City Recertification Application

Martin stated the Tree City recertification application will be filed online. Pappas asked if it needed Village Board approval and Martin stated he will double check the approval process from past years. Lobdell/Gail Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the filing of the annual renewal application for Tree City USA designation, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Approve Bird City Wisconsin Recertification Application/IMBD Resolution

Martin asked the Park Commission to recommend approval to the Village Board for the Bird City

Wisconsin recertification. The recertification requires Village Board approval due to the required \$100 application fee and the adoption of an International Migratory Bird Day Resolution. Gail Hibbard asked about the status of purchasing more bird houses for the Hildebrand Nature Conservancy and the Duck Pond areas and Martin stated he will confer with Adams.

Gail Hibbard/Green 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the annual IMBD Resolution and to file the renewal application for the Bird City Wisconsin designation, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Approve Invoice for Seed Sowing Event

An invoice in the amount of \$110 was submitted by Novak's for the pizza served at the seed sowing event that took place November 8, 2014. Gail Hibbard stated in addition to the Park Commission funding the meal, at the last meeting they voted to donate \$300 toward the purchase of seeds. In addition, the Garden Club donated \$350 as well as had many of their members there to volunteer.

Gail Hibbard/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to approve payment for the invoice from Novak's and for the seeds, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Any Other Comments/Concerns

There were 34 people who turned out for the volunteer seed sowing event on November 8, 2014, according to Gail Hibbard, and she was introduced to two new resources from George Williams College who participated that day. She asked the status of the Friends of the Park Group and O'Connell stated the group, which was a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, had completely dissolved and the board of directors, Rick Treptow and Sharon O'Brien, are entirely out of it. Green thought if a new board of directors was put together the group could be reestablished; however, there was uncertainty among the commission whether they would have to refile with the IRS. Gail Hibbard mentioned she was contacted by someone who would like to donate to the Fontana Fen, but only if the five-year natural areas maintenance plan is adopted and the person wants to make sure the donated money is used only for the purpose of the Fen. Martin stated the Commission had voted at a previous meeting to endorse the five-year maintenance plan which includes the Fen and donated money could be allocated to the segregated fund for the Fontana Fen.

Adjournment

Lobdell/Green 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 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: 01/21/2015