

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE  
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN

(Official Minutes)

**Park Commission Monthly Meeting**

January 20, 2021

The virtual Park Commission meeting was called to order by Trustee Livingston at 5:02 pm on Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

**Members Virtually Present:** Mary Green, Trustee Livingston, Sarah Lobdell, Robin Nuzzo, Cathy Somers, Zina O'Callaghan, Jill Wegner (5:27 pm)

**Also Present:** Gail Hibbard, Joan Iverson, President Kenny, Theresa Loomer, John Mariani, Andy Pearce, Stephanie Smith

**Approval of Minutes: November 18, 2020**

Commissioner Green/Commissioner Lobdell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the November 18, 2020 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Visitors Heard**

None

**Announcements**

Big Foot Lions Club presented a donation for \$2,500.

**General Business**

**Treasurer's Report**

There is currently \$45,363.97 in the Park Commission Funds.

**Public Works Report**

Trustee Livingston briefly explained some public works updates in Kevin Days' absence. The Park Commission budget has funds allocated to update the concession stand at Duck Pond and the beach concession stand. Trustee Livingston met with Loomer and beach manager Kate Passler to discuss budgeted upgrades for the beach. The discussion included replacing the freezer, glass and purchasing a pretzel machine. Public Works is currently working on replacing cabinets and building shelves at the Duck Pond Concession stand. Trustee Livingston stated the Ball and Glove program has donated a scoreboard and foul posts that they are no longer using.

**New Business**

**Presentation by John Mariani from John Mariani Landserve, LLC**

John Mariani stated he was asked by the Fontana Garden Club to help guide and maintain the prairie. Mariani explained that he is licensed in Landscape Design and Consulting and his charge for services is to help improve the appearance of the prairie and help improve the growth. Gail Hibbard from the Fontana Garden Club stated she believes John Mariani would be an excellent source of communication between all parties to help facilitate what needs to be done in the prairie. Hibbard stated Mariani is a wealth of knowledge regarding prairie plants. Joan Iverson from the Fontana Garden Club expressed concern over how special the prairie is and the need to preserve it for future generations. Trustee Livingston asked if Mariani would be helping with the preservation of the Fontana Fen as well and Hibbard indicated they had only discussed the prairie. Trustee Livingston stated he would meet with Mariani in February or March and discuss work that needs to be completed in addition to a cost structure.

**Park Permit Application Filed by Big Foot Lions Club for Lobster Boil and Steak Fry on Saturday, July 31, 2021 for Reid Park**

Andy Pearce from Big Foot Lions Club stated as of now they are planning for all regularly scheduled 2021 events and will monitor COVID related concerns as it gets closer to each event. Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the park permit application filed by Big Foot Lions Club for Reid Park, Reid Park Gazebo and Reid Park Pavilion on Saturday, July 31, 2021. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Park Permit Application Filed by Immanuel United Church of Christ for Fat Tire Race on Saturday, September 11, 2021 for Reid Park**

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner O'Callaghan 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the park permit application filed by Immanuel United Church for setup of a tent and concession area in Reid Park on Saturday, September 11, 2021. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Park Permit Application Filed by Big Foot Lions Club Triathlon on Saturday, September 18, 2021 for Reid Park**

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the park permit application filed by Big Foot Lions Club for Reid Park Pavilion on Saturday, September 18, 2021. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Park Permit Application Filed by GTS for Use of Duck Pond Recreation Area Ball Fields April-July 3pm-dark**

Trustee Livingston stated GTS is looking to use the ball fields as Duck Pond Monday-Friday during the period of April-July from 3pm-dark. A fee of \$1,650.00 has been paid.

Commissioner Nuzzo/Commissioner Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the use of the Ball Fields at Duck Pond April-July, Monday-Friday from 3pm-dark. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Discuss Duck Pond Field Use Application and Fee Schedule**

Trustee Livingston stated he had discussed with Loomer the need for a fee schedule and application for field use. Currently there is a park permit application but nothing specifically for field use. Trustee Livingston is going to investigate fees that other organizations charge for field use and Lobdell stated she would research costs for soccer fields. Commissioner Lobdell asked if there was a way to create a community calendar for Duck Pond. Loomer stated the events can be added to the calendar on the website but would investigate an alternative event calendar.

**Memorial Bench Application filed by John O'Neill no location preference listed**

The committee recommended Day to work with O'Neill to find a location as the bench spaces are filling up. The Commission Members discussed possibly looking at creating a list of certain criteria that needs to be met for approving memorial bench applications before all the spots are full and look at other remembrance ideas that are available within the Village of Fontana.

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the memorial bench application submitted by John O'Neill at a location to be determined, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Memorial Tree Application filed by John O'Neill for Sugar Maple at Pioneer Park**

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Nuzzo 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the memorial tree application submitted by John O'Neill for a Sugar Maple at Pioneer Park, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Memorial Bench Application filed by Laura Rozak for Lakefront (corner of Lake Street and Kinzie Street)**

Commissioner Nuzzo/Commissioner Somers 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the memorial bench application submitted by Laura Rozak for Lakefront (corner of Lake Street and Kinzie Street), and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Memorial Bench for Dennis Barr**

Trustee Livingston stated it was suggested to place the bench at Duck Pond near his sons' memorial tree and there is space available.

Commissioner Green/Commissioner Lobdell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the memorial bench for Dennis Barr at Duck Pond, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Discuss Memorial Bench Decorations**

Loomer stated she has received phone calls regarding the decorations on memorial benches. A few of the benches have so many decorations and such that there is barely any room to sit on the bench. Loomer asked the Commission members how they felt regarding this topic and it was clearly decided that once a donation for the bench is made it is then the Villages property to manage and maintain. Commission members mentioned that each bench can be personalized with a memorial message engraved to make it personal and there is no need for decorations.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Green/Commissioner Lobdell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a Motion to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 5:40 PM and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by Stephanie Smith, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer  
Approved: 02/17/2021