

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN

(Official Minutes)

Park Commission Monthly Meeting

September 1, 2021

The virtual Park Commission meeting was called to order by Trustee Livingston at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 1, 2021.

Members Virtually Present: Mary Green, Sarah Lobdell, Cathy Somers, Zina O’Callaghan, Trustee Livingston, Susan Olson

Members Absent: Robin Nuzzo

Also Present: Kevin Day, Theresa Loomer, Tom Whowell

Approval of Minutes: July 21, 2021

Commissioner Green/Commissioner Olson 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the July 21, 2021 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

None

Announcements

None

General Business

Treasurer’s Report

There is currently \$48,0077.11 in the Park Commission Funds.

Public Works Report

Public Works Director Kevin Day stated he is getting cost estimates for trimming trees along Highway 67.

New Business

Proposed Revised Tree Ordinance

Loomer stated the goal of the proposed tree ordinance revision is to simplify the tree permitting process for both the property owner and the building and zoning department. There have been several modifications since the ordinance amendment was last seen by the Board including an exception for a commercial tree farm and for the management of trees on a golf course, as well as clarification to the provision which states that no tree may be removed that is located on public property. Tom Whowell commented that he would like to see “Tree Farm” become plural and a definition added. He stated he would also like for the village to provide a list of protected trees. There was discussion about hiring an arborist and how the ordinance will be enforced.

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner O’Callaghan 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Tree Ordinance, as presented, with the addition of making Tree Farms plural and adding a definition of tree farms, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Direction on Maintenance of Prairie and Natural Areas

Green stated she met with John Mariani who proposed new techniques for the prairie. Mariani suggested two to four visits per year for 1 – 1.5 hours each at \$175 per hour. The cost of four visits should not exceed \$1,050 and the purpose of the visits would be to develop a plan for TallGrass or another contractor to carry out. After discussion, the committee agreed it would be beneficial for both contractors to be invited in for a meeting and establish a procedure going forward.

Park Permit Application Filed by Kimkasi Pub for Porter Court Plaza With Beer/Wine Permit on Sunday, September 26, 2021 from 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Green stated the application is for an Octoberfest event hosted by Kimkasi Pub. The business is concerned that customers may step off the patio area and into the park. Loomer stated this is a unique event and does not fit the typical park permit application with a beer/wine permit. Lobdell and O'Callaghan expressed concern about a public park being used for private for-profit business and what type of precedent that would set, especially considering Chucks and Gordy's border Reid Park. Loomer stated she spoke with Chief Cates about safety concerns, and he recommended if approved the area be roped off and signage placed along the perimeter.

Commissioner Green/Commissioner Olson 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the park permit application filed by Kimkasi Pub for Porter Court Plaza with Beer/Wine Permit on Sunday, September 26, 2021 from 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Memorial Tree Program for Replacement of Trees Between Reid Street & High Street

Information was sent out earlier in the day about replacement trees. There were four options, and the cost is approximately \$500 each. The committee wanted to make sure the trees presented will be able to be decorated with lights as they have been in the past. The committee will review the choices and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Olson 2nd made a Motion to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 3:32 PM and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Theresa Loomer, Administrator/Clerk

Approved: 09/15/2021