

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN

(Official Minutes)

Park Commission Monthly Meeting

September 16, 2020

The Park Commission meeting was called to order by Trustee Livingston at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

Members Present: Mary Green, Trustee Livingston, Sarah Lobdell, Zina O’Callaghan, Cathy Somers, Jill Wegner

Members Absent: Robin Nuzzo

Approval of Minutes: July 15, 2020

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Green 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the July 15, 2020 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

Owner of the Coffee Mill Maryanne Bruss expressed interest in construction of a large pergola at Porter Court Plaza. She described the pergola as open but possibly with a roof or removable canvas on up to three sides to block wind during cooler weather. Bruss distributed two different photos of open-air pergolas that she stated could be left open in the summer and canvassed in the colder months and it would allow for an outdoor gathering space that provides some shade and protection from the elements. Bruss stated her customers like to sit outside but with winter coming, and in order to maintain social distancing guidelines, something like this would help to prolong the option of outdoor seating. She stated it would be approximately 40-feet by 16-feet and built over the brick pavers. She added that it could also be used for the Farmers Market in future years. Bruss stated she would be willing to donate some funds and perhaps other nearby businesses would as well. Ron Adams said building material prices have drastically increased over the past several months, but he would work together with Bruss to obtain a cost estimate and bring it back to the Park Commissioners who were in favor of exploring the concept and obtaining an estimate for construction.

Announcements

None

General Business

Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer’s report was not available before the meeting and will be presented next month.

Public Works Report

Kevin Day stated the last memorial bench has been installed by the lakefront and the dog waste bags proposed by Jocelyn Arnold have all been installed. The roof on the gazebo has been replaced and Adams will rebuild one of the bridges in Hildebrand this winter.

New Business:

Meet with TallGrass to Discuss Weed Concerns at Native Prairie and Oak Savanna (Wild Duck Bridge Location)

The Park Commission members met on-site with Tallgrass representative Jordan Rowe to discuss concerns expressed by the Garden Club. Green relayed concerns from the Garden Club which include the area of treatment and recommendations going forward. Jordan will bring his chipper for the last visit of the year and is willing to meet with Garden Club members. He stated he plans to cut buckthorn and treat for weeds as well as spray the Fen for weed control. There was discussion about putting together a guide for Garden Club members that are willing to work at the Prairie and seed gathering and sowing events. Adams can provide paper bags and gathered seeds

can be stored at DPW until sowing takes place. O'Callaghan volunteered to be the liaison between the Garden Club and Park Commission.

Memorial Bench Application Filed by Ann Martin for Little Beach

Ann Martin filed an application for a memorial bench at the Little Beach. Day expressed concern about the length of the engraved message and that it may be too long but will check and will work with Martin directly if there is a problem. Lobdell asked about placement of the bench since there are few flat areas at the Little Beach. Day stated possibly by the channel, but he was open to other suggestions.

Commissioner Green/Commissioner O'Callaghan 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Memorial Bench Application filed by Ann Martin for Little Beach and for Day to workout the working with Martin. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Proposed Clearview Contract for 2021-2022

The contract presented by Clearview is for two-years with no price increase. The terms of the contract are April 1 – November 15 for a cost of \$76,000 per year. The park commission praised their work and stated that although they are only contracted to clean the park bathrooms through Labor Day, they have continued to clean them.

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Green 2nd made a MOTION to recommend approval of a two-year contract with Clearview Landscaping Co. for 2021 – 2022, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Hildebrand Woods Conservancy Easement Update from July Site Visit

The site visit was conducted on July 16, 2020 and no prohibited activities or have occurred. The full report is on file at Village Hall.

Storywalk Proposal from Fontana Library

The Fontana Library has proposed installation of a Story Walk at Headwater Path, Hildebrand, Duck Pond and/or at the Prairie. Livingston and Loomer recommended the Headwater Path by the school as an activity for the elementary school children. Adams stated the quote provided to the Library this summer is now inaccurate because the cost of lumber has risen so quickly. He estimates that the four posts would now be about 45% more than the originally quoted price of \$300. The commissioners recommended that the project come from the Library funds and not the Park Commission funds.

Adjournment

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Green 2nd made a Motion to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 6:02 PM and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by Theresa Loomer, Village Administrator/Clerk
Approved: 11/18/2020