

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

**(Final Minutes)**

**Virtual Park Commission Monthly Meeting**

October 25, 2023

The Virtual Park Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Trustee Livingston at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at the Fontana Village Hall.

**Members Present Virtually:** Sarah Lobdell, Mary Green, Susan Olson, Zina O'Callaghan, Stan Livingston, Robin Nuzzo

**Members Absent:** Cathy Somers

**Also Present Virtually:** Kevin Day, Theresa Loomer, Drew Lussow

**Approval of Minutes: September 20, 2023**

Commissioner Olson/Commissioner Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the September 20, 2023 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Visitors Heard**

None

**Announcements**

None

**General Business**

**Treasurer's Report**

Commissioner Lobdell reported that there is currently \$72,887.09 in the Park Commission Funds.

**Public Works Report**

Public Works Director Day stated he had no updates to give at this time.

**Old Business**

**Update on Memorial Bench or Picnic Table request to be Installed Near Hildebrand / Mill Street**

Administrator Loomer explained that based on the Conservancy Easement document that she provided in the meeting packet that a memorial bench would not be allowed at the current proposed site. She suggested we find an alternative location for the memorial bench. Some commissioners suggested putting the bench by the Fen or across from the Fontana School. Commissioner Green said she would reach out to the applicant and see what alternative location they preferred and bring back that information at next month's meeting.

**Discussion or Action on Never Say Never Group Building a Park Playground at Duck Pond**

Administrator Loomer stated that the Village Board has already reviewed the concept for the Never Say Never Group's inclusive playground at Duck Pond since it was brought up in the budget meeting due to the Park Commission's budget donation request. Due to budgetary constraints the Village Board suggested that it would be better if Tourism offered to donate some funds to the project instead of through the General Fund Budget, and the Tourism Commission met on Monday to discuss. The Tourism Commission expressed that they would like to see additional donors and fundraising before any commitments are made. Administrator Loomer stated she connected with other municipalities that were approached by the NSN group and some concerns were expressed about the material used to construct the playground and the ongoing maintenance costs. She stated since future upkeep and maintenance would be the responsibility of the Village, she would like to further investigate the materials used and anticipated future maintenance costs.

Commissioner Green stated that she has also reached out to some of her contacts that have done

similar work to this in the past and said there are ways to obtain grants that could help fund the project but would need to further look into that as well. Administrator Loomer suggested we bring the item back for further consideration at a future meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **Accept Donation From Dan Green's Touch a Life, Heal a Heart Inc for Pig in The Park Event**

Commissioner Green stated that her foundation would like to make a \$2,000.00 donation to the Park Commission for allowing her Pig in the Park Event at Reid Park. She stated that the event went great, and she is grateful to the Village for allowing her the space to host the event every year.

Commissioner Olson/Commissioner Nuzzo 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to accept the donation from Dan Green's Touch a Life, Heal a Heart Inc for Pig in the Park Event in the amount of \$2,000.00, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Discussion or Action on Cutting Down Walnut Trees in the Fen per the Recommendation Made by Midwest Prairies**

Public Works Director Day stated that at last month's meeting Kyle from Midwest Prairies recommended the Village cut down or remove the Walnut Trees in the Fen to prevent overshadowing and potentially harming the other plantings in the Fen. Public Works Director Day stated his staff should be able to take down the trees. There are about 15 trees, and they are only 3" to 4" in diameter.

Commissioner Lobdell/Commissioner Nuzzo 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of cutting down the Walnut Trees in the Fen per the Recommendation made by Midwest Prairies, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Olson/Commissioner Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a Motion to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 5:10 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Drew Lussow, Village Clerk  
Approved: 11/15/2023