

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

(Final Minutes)

Park Commission Monthly Meeting

November 15, 2023

The Park Commission meeting was called to order by Village Clerk Lussow at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at the Fontana Village Hall.

Members Present: Sarah Lobdell, Susan Olson, Zina O’Callaghan, Robin Nuzzo

Members Absent: Chairman Trustee Livingston, Cathy Somers, Mary Green

Also Present: Kevin Day, Theresa Loomer, Drew Lussow, Chuck Thiesenhusen (Big Foot Rec)

Elect Chairperson Pro-Tem

Due to the absence of Chairman Trustee Livingston a chairperson pro-tem was appointed. Village Clerk Lussow asked for one of the Commissioners to make a motion to appoint a chairperson pro-tem.

Commissioner Olson/Commissioner Nuzzo 2nd made a MOTION to appoint Commissioner Lobdell as Chairperson Pro-Tem for the meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Approval of Minutes: October 25, 2023

Commissioner Nuzzo/Commissioner O’Callaghan 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the October 25, 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 \$74,911.98 in the Park Commission Funds.

Public Works Report

Public Works Director Day stated the DPW staff has begun putting up Christmas decorations in the Village and that the new Christmas Tree will be going up this upcoming Monday in preparation for the lighting to take place that weekend.

Old Business

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

Commissioner Lobdell asked for any updates on this. Clerk Lussow stated that he believes that Commissioner Green, who is not present, was going to touch base with the applicant and relay the information that was discussed at last month’s meeting. He suggested that it be brought back again next month for further update.

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

Administrator Loomer stated that the Village Board has reviewed the concept for the Never Say Never Group’s (NSN) inclusive playground at Duck Pond since it was brought up in the budget meetings and recent board meetings. However, 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 it going through the General Fund Budget / Parks funds. The Tourism Commission met and discussed the potential donation and had similar thoughts as the Park Commission and liked the

idea of donating to the group but thought it would be beneficial if the group could secure additional donors and fundraising before any further commitments are made. Administrator Loomer also stated she still had some concerns about the material used to construct the playground and the ongoing maintenance costs, especially since the Village would assume all responsibility for those costs once the project is completed. It was suggested that this topic keep coming back for further updates on how fundraising is going and for ways to help continue to work with the group to secure necessary funds.

New Business

Park Permit Application Filed by Big Foot Rec and Dean Connley for Doggy Easter Egg Hunt Event at Duck Pond Pavilion and Duck Pond Recreation Area on Saturday, March 23, 2024, From 9:00AM to 11:00AM With Fees to be Waived

Chuck Thiesenhusen, from Big Foot Rec, mentioned that he has three park permit applications that the Big Foot Rec has submitted to the Village. The first two are for the annual Doggy Easter Egg and Kid Easter Egg events that have been held in the Village previously. He mentioned that there are no changes to the events and that they always have a great turnout.

Commissioner Olson/Commissioner Nuzzo 2nd made a MOTION to approve the park permit application filed by Big Foot Rec for at the Duck Pond Pavilion and Duck Pond Recreation Area on Saturday, March 23, 2024 from 9:00-11:00 AM for the Doggy Easter Egg Hunt Event with fees to be waived, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Permit Application Filed by Big Foot Rec and Dean Connley for Easter Egg Hunt Event at Duck Pond Pavilion and Duck Pond Recreation Area on Saturday, March 30, 2024, From 9:00AM to 11:00AM With Fees to be Waived

Administrator Loomer made a suggestion about limiting parents' involvement for the older age groups since it should be for the kids. Mr. Thiesenhusen agreed and mentioned trying to have more staff present to ensure less parent meddling at the event.

Commissioner Olson/Commissioner O'Callaghan 2nd made a MOTION to approve the park permit application filed by Big Foot Rec for at the Duck Pond Pavilion and Duck Pond Recreation Area on Saturday, March 30, 2024 from 9:00-11:00 AM for the Easter Egg Hunt Event with fees to be waived, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Permit Application Filed by Big Foot Rec and Dean Connley for Adult Recess Event (21 & Older) at Duck Pond Pavilion and Duck Pond Recreation Area on Friday, May 31, 2024, From 6:00PM to Dusk with Beer and Wine Permit and With Fees to be Waived

Mr. Thiesenhusen stated that this is a new event they are planning this year in the Village. They are hoping to attract younger people to get out and get active while also potentially offering alcoholic beverages at the event. Administrator Loomer explained that the Big Foot Rec would be eligible to apply for a temporary Class "B" and/or temporary "Class B" to sell at the event but would be required to fill out the proper paperwork with the Village to do so and would also need to have licensed servers on site. Mr. Thiesenhusen stated that they are still working out the details about whether they plan to offer the alcohol or not but did appreciate the feedback and direction that would be needed if they chose to proceed with it.

Commissioner Nuzzo/Commissioner Olson 2nd made a MOTION to approve the park permit application filed by Big Foot Rec for at the Duck Pond Pavilion and Duck Pond Recreation Area on Friday, May 31, 2024 from 6:00PM to Dusk for the Adult Recess Event with fees to be waived and direction on what is needed should they proceed with providing alcohol at the event, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Annual Renewal Application for Tree City and Bird City Wisconsin

Administrator Loomer mentioned that this renewal is required for the Village to reapply for Tree City and Bird City status in Wisconsin.

Commissioner Olson/Commissioner O'Callaghan 2nd made a MOTION to recommend approval to the Village Board the annual renewal application for Tree City and Bird City Wisconsin, as

presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Recommendation of Approval of IMBD Proclamation

Administrator Loomer explained that this is the annual proclamation and resolution for the Village Board to consider for recognizing International Migratory Bird Day. This is an item that is normally recommended to the Village Board as a resolution each year and goes with also being a Bird City.

Commissioner Olson/Commissioner O’Callaghan 2nd made a MOTION to recommend to the Village Board approval of the IMBD Proclamation and resolution, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Adjournment

Commissioner Nuzzo/Commissioner Olson 2nd made a Motion to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 5:15 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Drew Lussow, Village Clerk

Approved: 1/17/2024