

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE  
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
(Official Minutes)

MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION  
Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Chairman Rick Treptow called the meeting of the Park Commission to order at 6:00 pm at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

**Park Commissioners present:** Treptow, Dawn Sammons, Jill Wegner, Sarah Lobdell, Laurie Larson, Trustee Joe Bidwill

**Park Commissioners absent:** Brent Horvath, Sharon O'Brien

**Also present:** David Coates, Rob Ireland, Library Director Nancy Krei, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, CDA Executive Director Joseph McHugh, Trustees Micki O'Connell and Ron Pollitt, Frank Santagata, Bob Stewart, Village President Tom Whowell, Director of Public Works Craig Workman

**Approval of Minutes**

Wegner/Sammons 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the minutes for the meetings held December 13, 2006 and January 9, 2007 as submitted, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Visitors Heard**

Village President Tom Whowell presented a \$2,369.05 check from Gordy's Boat House to the Park Commission for the Mill House Pavilion Fund. President Whowell stated that the funds were raised at Gordy's annual end-of-the-season charity event Sunday, January 14, 2007. Gordy's donates the gross receipts from the last day of its restaurant season to charity, and this year the proceeds were divided between the Park Commission's Mill House Pavilion project and the St. Benedict Catholic Church Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund. President Whowell stated that the Mill House Pavilion project is an important endeavor that merits support, and he urged the other officials to keep the fund-raising momentum going. There has been about \$8,000 donated by private individuals, companies and organizations to date. Trustee Pollitt will pursue the Kikkoman Foundation to solicit some grant funding a second time now that the fund-raising initiative is off to a good start.

**Announcements**

Treptow stated that the CDA will hold a Duck Pond planning meeting Friday, January 19, 2007 beginning at 10:00 am, and the Park Commission received a thank-you letter from the Buena Vista Association recognizing the free trees the association received from the Village. The trees were donated to the Village by Gerdes Nursery, Harvard, IL, and distributed by Sharon O'Brien to interested subdivision associations.

**General Business**

**Park House Use**

Treptow reported that the Park House was used 10 times in December 2006.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Financial Report as of December 31, 2006 was presented by Lobdell.

**Old Business**

**Parks Projects/Completion Dates**

Workman stated that a final coat of exterior paint is needed to complete the construction of the bathrooms and pavilion in Reid Park. Workman stated that the painting will have to be delayed until spring because the temperature has to be 45 degrees or higher for the exterior paint to properly cure. Roy Diblik will be directed to plan for landscaping plantings around the Reid Park restrooms and pavilion with the future sidewalk layout in mind. Workman stated that the excavation work is complete in the beach house parking lot and the new lift station in Reid Park is scheduled to be operational and put online by the first few weeks of February 2007.

### **Mill House Pavilion Update**

Coates and Santagata presented a slide show of the Mill House Pavilion conceptual plans with historic images and images of the current site. The show was presented on a looped basis at Gordy's throughout the fund-raising event on January 14, 2007, and at Fontana Elementary School on January 17, 2007. Trustee Pollitt stated that the faculty and students are excited to be involved with the project and they indicated they will support the fund-raising initiative. The students also expressed their desire to help with the development of the site, the trails and the exhibits. Trustee Pollitt stated that potential bonding requirements for the municipally owned structure may cause a 20 percent increase in the total cost estimate; however, the situation will be further studied by Village Attorney Dale Thorpe. Coates stated that after a site visit, it was recommended by an engineer that the portion of the old Mill House foundation that still is at the site should be removed and an entirely new foundation constructed for the pavilion. The old foundation stones can be cleaned and used in the structure. A list of all the private donations received for the project to date was distributed. Including the funds allocated by the CDA, the project currently has accumulated \$43,500.

### **Street Signs Update**

Treptow stated that the quantities for the new street signs have been determined and the color scheme has been worked out with Tapco Signs. McHugh stated that the street sign colors have been matched to the street light poles and the new signs are scheduled to be delivered by the end of February 2007.

### **Bird and Bat Houses**

Workman stated that the Public Works Department will install the poles for the bird and bat houses in the Hildebrand Conservancy in the spring. Sammons stated that McHugh has provided the plans for the construction of the houses to the Fontana Elementary School shop teacher, and students will be building the houses to be placed on top of the poles.

### **Tree Ordinance Update/Set Up Subcommittee**

Treptow stated that he would like to establish a Park Commission subcommittee to draft Tree Ordinance amendment language from the ideas presented at the January 9, 2007 joint workshop meeting. Following discussion, Treptow, Larson and Wegner were assigned to the subcommittee and a meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 23, 2007 beginning at 5:30 pm in the Village Hall Conference Room.

### **Porter Court Plaza Update**

McHugh stated that PDI and Ruckert-Mielke are preparing the construction drawings and bid specifications from the landscaping plans previously approved by the Park Commission. McHugh stated that a Con-Span, prefabricated bridge section can be used to create the pedestrian bridge called for in the plans. McHugh distributed a photograph of a Con-Span bridge, which drew praise from the Park Commissioners.

### **Fencing Recommendation Update**

Treptow stated that the Village is still finalizing its options for the wrought iron fencing to be proposed for the lakefront and beach areas. Treptow stated that the fencing subcommittee still wants to take a tour to view installed examples of the wrought iron fencing. Treptow stated maintenance, upkeep and initial cost concerns prompted the Park Commission to change its initial recommendation from a wrought iron fence to a steel component fence, and the recommendation was subsequently changed back to the initial wrought iron selection when steel fence met so much criticism and opposition. Treptow stated that new information indicates that a wrought iron fence will cost more for initial installation and the maintenance expenses will be substantial -- which also was a major consideration when not recommending wrought iron in the first place. Trustee Bidwill asked why a project cost estimate for a possible referendum question is lower than what was proposed in last year's failed referendum. McHugh stated that the amount of fencing for the current proposal has been reduced to only include the area adjacent to the public beach, and it does not include the areas across the road from the beach by the Abbey Resort or on the lakefront by the boat launch, Little Foot Park and the boat trailer parking lot. Treptow stated that the subcommittee will be taking a field trip to look at wrought iron fences.

### **Retaining Wall Facing Material**

McHugh stated that he wanted to be certain that the Park Commission approved the use of split-face, cut stone for the Village Hall parking lot retaining wall. The Park Commission was in consensus that the cut stone was previously approved. McHugh stated that there still are some punch-list items that have to be

completed on the Highway 67 project in the spring, at which time the retaining wall also will be completed.

### **New Business**

#### **Children's Garden/Library Entrance Plan**

Treptow stated that the preliminary plan calls for taking the large bench in front of the library out and replacing it with one of the smaller benches at the beach house. The large bench will be used at the beach house. The smaller bench will be installed on the other side of the library entrance, and the new sign will be installed between the two trees currently located on the sides of the large bench. Treptow stated that there may be a mural painted on the large retaining wall, and a children's garden children's garden will be planted in front of the wall around the statue. Roy Diblik will determine what plants will be used to landscape the entire area. Nancy Krei stated she will discuss the plan at the Library Board meeting scheduled for January 24, 2007. Sammons/Larson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the library entrance area concept plan as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Christmas Decor Subcommittee**

Treptow stated that he would like to form a subcommittee to facilitate the \$10,000 budgeted for new Christmas decorations. Treptow stated that the subcommittee also will make a determination on the banner arms currently installed on all the new light poles along Highway 67. Treptow stated that the Park Commission members should think about serving on the subcommittee, and he will appoint the members at next month's Park Commission meeting.

#### **Adriani Donation to Parks and/or Pavilion**

Treptow stated that Bruce Adriani's foundation recently made its annual donation to the Village, and the Park Commission has to direct where its portion of the funds will be allocated. The Park Commission received \$1,000 of the funds. Following discussion, the Park Commission was in consensus that the \$1,000 should be directed to the Mill House Pavilion Fund.

Larson/Wegner 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to allocate the \$1,000 donation from the Adriani Foundation to the Mill House Pavilion Fund, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Early Plant Sale - Agrecol**

Treptow stated that the Village received a flyer from Agrecol that promotes its early plant sale. The Village will need some plants to replant some areas in the Fontana Fen and other park lands that will need attention.

#### **Bills to Pay**

Treptow stated that the Park Commission received three bills that require approval. Agrecol submitted a bill for \$935 for hand-hoeing the gardens in the Fontana Fen; Brickman submitted two bills totaling \$837.75 for the Christmas decoration garland used at the Gazebo and at the Park House; and JT Landscaping submitted a bill for \$500 for planting 25 of the trees donated by Gerdes Nursery. The funds for the Agrecol bill will be taken from the Fen account, and the funds for the Brickman and JT Landscaping bills will be taken from the Pioneer Park account.

Larson/Lobdell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve payment of the bills as submitted, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Park Requests**

Treptow stated that the Village received three applications for the use of park facilities after the meeting agenda was posted. The Big Foot Lions Club is seeking approval to hold its annual Lobster Boil and Steak Fry on July 28, 2007, and to operate its Fourth of July concession stand in Reid Park. Treptow stated that the Park Commission also received an application from the Fontana Community Church to hold its Easter service in Reid Park, and for a private wedding to use the Gazebo on July 27, 2007. The requests will be acted on at next month's Park Commission meeting.

#### **Any Other Comments or Concerns**

Lobdell stated that the Park Commission should take a look at its current application fees for the Park House, Gazebo and the Duck Pond Pavilion to determine if the rates should be increased.

#### **Pending Park Commission Items for Future Agendas**

1. Landscape Plans for Mill House Pavilion, Wild Duck Road, Beach House, VOF/Pheasant Ridge Parcel, Reid

- Park Restroom
- 2. Frisbee Golf - Duck Pond
- 3. Village Irrigation Systems
- 4. "Summer Breeze"
- 5. Chuck's Landscaping
- 6. Park House, Gazebo, Duck Pond Pavilion Application Fees

**Adjournment**

Larson/Lobdell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Park Commission the official minutes will be on file at the Fontana Village Hall.

APPROVED: 02-21-07