

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

MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION
Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Chairperson Sarah Lobdell called the meeting of the Park Commission to order at 6:02 pm in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Park Commissioners present: Sarah Lobdell, Jill Wegner, Dan Green, Nancy Krei

Park Commissioner absent: Sharon Conklin, Sharon O'Brien, Melissa Colby, Trustee Diane Lewis

Also present: Joe Abell, Wally Bullard, Bill Grunow, Lynn Ketterhagen, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, Trustee Micki O'Connell, Andy Pearce, Kevin Radtke, Jessica Schmiedicke, Director of Public Works Craig Workman,

Approval of Minutes

Wegner/Krei 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes submitted for the meeting held November 18, 2009, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

Big Foot Lions Club – Recommendation on 2010 Events

Big Foot Lions Club members Andy Pearce, Joe Abell, Kevin Radtke and Bill Grunow presented the plans for the annual events held in Reid Park on the Fourth of July, the last weekend of July and in conjunction with the Lake Geneva Triathlon in September. Abell presented the plans for the Fourth of July concession stand. Abell stated that following meetings with the Lions Club members and Village Administrator Kelly Hayden and Village President Arvid Petersen, the proposed plans for the Fourth of July have been expanded to include Saturday and Sunday, July 3 and 4, 2010. The concession stand would be expanded to include more food items and a beer tent and area for live music would be added, with the event to be conducted from noon until 9:00 pm on both days. Abell stated that Reid Park would be closed off and the Village would be organizing a craft fair, a children's area and the musical entertainment. Abell stated that with the exception of an area that would be designated a picnic area, there would be no grills or cooking allowed in Reid Park during the event. Lobdell stated that she is concerned about designating the entire Reid Park for the event. Lobdell stated that a lot of people have picnics in the park on the Fourth of July, and she is not sure how many local residents would attend a craft fair during the busy holiday. Also, the proposal for a kid's area will take up quite a bit of the park. Krei asked the Lions Club why it wanted to add a craft fair to the typical events, and Pearce stated that the live entertainment, children's area and craft fair were ideas presented by the Village at the initial planning meetings. Pearce stated that the Lions Club is mainly interested in receiving approval for the addition of a beer tent and the food items. Workman stated that the Village administration and Village Board members have been talking about having the Village take a more active role in the Fourth of July celebration in an attempt to produce additional revenue, as the Fourth of July produces a lot of additional expenses and very limited revenue for the Village. Following discussion, the Park Commission members stated that they did not have enough information to make a recommendation on the craft fair proposal and the closing off of the entire park; however, they did not have any concerns with the Lions Club proposal for the food and beer tents and area for live music to be located between the Reid Park path and the lake. The Park Commission members stated that if the Village Board wants to pursue the craft fair, more details are needed.

Green/Krei 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Big Foot Lions Club proposal for July 3 and 4, 2010, with food and beer tents and an area for live music to be staged in Reid Park as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Pearce presented the plans for the 27th annual Lobster Boil & Steak Fry to be held Saturday, July 31, 2010 in Reid Park. There also will be the drive-through service operated out of the Park House. Pearce stated that the plans are exactly the same as last year, when the club served more than 2,200 lobster or steak dinners, plus more than 1,000 hamburgers and hot dogs.

Krei/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the plans as submitted for the 27th annual Big Foot Lions Club Lobster Boil & Steak Fry on Saturday, July 31, 2010, and the MOTION

carried without negative vote.

Grunow presented the plans for the second annual Breakfast Booth Fundraiser held in conjunction with the Lake Geneva Triathlon on Saturday, September 11, 2010. Grunow stated that the inaugural event was a mild success last year, and the proposal is to conduct virtually the same event this year. Grunow stated that the site map and equipment list are more accurate this year, and more details have been provided.

Wegner/Green 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Big Foot Lions Club Breakfast Booth Fundraiser on Saturday, September 11, 2010 in Reid Park as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Abell presented to the Park Commission a check for \$1,500 as a gift for the Village allowing the Lions Club to conduct their annual fund-raising events in Reid Park. Abell stated that the club also will be making its annual appropriation of \$6,000 for the new pirate ship at Little Foot Playground. The Park Commission members thanked the club for its generous donations.

Announcements

Lobdell stated that as part of its annual \$4,000 donation to the Village, the Adreani Family Foundation allocated \$1,000 to the Park Commission. Lobdell stated that she will write thank you notes to the Big Foot Lions Club and the Adreani Family Foundation.

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was used 16 times in December 2009.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report for December 2009 was presented by Krei.

Plan Commission Report

Lobdell stated that the updated Park and Open Space Plan was adopted following the public hearing before the Plan Commission on November 30, 2009. Jessica Schmiedicke from Vandewalle and Associates was contracted to add some required elements to the adopted plan.

Public Works Report

The holiday decorations have been taken down.

TID Maintenance – Items/Update

The park bench that is broken in Pioneer Park that has been painted, but not yet repaired, has been added to the list.

Old Business

Park and Open Space Plan Direction – Jessica Schmiedicke, Vandewalle & Associates

Jessica Schmiedicke of Vandewalle and Associates presented her recommendations to make the updated Park and Open Space Plan compliant with the state requirements and to make it consistent with the recently adopted Village of Fontana Comprehensive Plan. Schmiedicke stated she would recommend using the same population projections that were used in the Comprehensive Plan. Lobdell stated that the population estimate figures should be consistent; the Park Commission just assumed that the figures in the Park and Open Space plan again had to be provided by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission (SEWRPC). Schmiedicke presented the other recommendations including park designations and Fontana-specific level of service projections; future park and recreational facility needs; and impact fee components. The Park Commission members provided direction and made some minor amendments that Schmiedicke will incorporate and present to the Park Commission for a final review at its next monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 2010. The Park Commission will make a recommendation to the Plan Commission on the Park and Open Space Plan additions and another a public hearing will be scheduled before the Plan Commission. Schmiedicke will attend the Plan Commission meeting on Monday, February 22, 2010 in case there are questions on the Park Commission's recommendation. The public hearing could be scheduled for Monday, March 29, 2010 if the Plan Commission favorably reviews the proposed additions to the Park and Open Space Plan at its February 2, 2010 meeting.

Long-Range Planning for Reid Park Gazebo – Update

Workman stated that the site plan for the new gazebo is being taken into consideration by the CDA architect planning the lakefront building proposal.

Potential Calendar of Events for Reid Park

Lobdell stated that nothing new has been suggested besides the Fourth of July events. There also has been a suggestion that a farmer's market would be a good event or series of events.

Park Permit Application Amendments – Fees & Reid Park Designated Area Removal

Following a discussion on the condition of the Park House, the Park Commission members were in consensus that the \$75 fee is appropriate and may even be a little too high. There was a suggestion to only collect the fee when the kitchen facilities are being used; however, it was pointed out by Trustee O'Connell that the kitchen facilities at the Park House are in very poor condition and not even operational. The Park Commissioners decided to consider requests for the waiver of the park permit application fee on a case by case basis. The Park Commission did reach a consensus that the option to rent a "designated area" in Reid Park should be eliminated from the Park Permit application, and no other amendments should be made at this time.

Krei/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to recommend to the Village Board that the Park Permit Application be amended to remove the option for a designated area in Reid Park, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Update on Eagle Scout Project Completed by Karl Nelson

Martin stated that local Boy Scout Karl Nelson has installed the nesting boxes at the Duck Pond Recreation Area. Nelson submitted to the Village on November 23, 2009 information on the boxes and where they have been installed.

Duck Pond Inventory & Sale

Wegner stated that she and Sharon O'Brien completed an inventory of the trees that have to be removed from a utility easement area. Workman stated that the Park Commission could contract with a company or the DPW could rent the proper equipment to dig up the trees and prepare them for transplanting. Green stated that once the trees have been dug up and prepared for transplanting they have to be kept watered and transplanted in timely fashion. Workman stated that maybe orders could be taken first and trees to be transplanted could be marked prior to being dug up and prepared for transplanting.

Duck Pond Disc Golf Course

Lobdell stated that she has met with Wally Bullard to discuss how to get the disc golf course at the Duck Pond in shape for play this year. There currently are only four of the initial nine temporary golf hole baskets that are still in playable condition. Bullard stated that he was part of a club at the Abbey Resort last year that had 10 members who played on area courses. Bullard stated that the club members would be interested in soliciting funds for the development of a permanent nine-hole course at the Duck Pond, with better signage for permanent T sites and permanent hole baskets. Bullard stated for about \$3,000, the Village could purchase nine permanent hole baskets. Following discussion, the Park Commission directed Lobdell to solicit funding from the CDA as part of its Duck Pond redevelopment project.

New Business

Request for Additional Dates to Display U.S. Flags on Highway 67 Light Poles

A resident requested that the Village display the small U.S. Flags on the Highway 67 light poles on Flag Day and Veterans Day. Flag Day is June 14 and Veterans Day is November 11. The initially established dates that the small U.S. Flags are displayed on the light poles are for the Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day holidays. The holiday decorative flags are displayed from Thanksgiving through the New Year. Lobdell stated that the initial dates were selected with wear and tear and labor expenses in mind. Following discussion, the Park Commission reached a consensus that the U.S. Flags should remain on display on the Highway 67 light poles from Memorial Day weekend through the Fourth of July holiday, so that they will be on display for Flag Day. With regard to Veterans Day, the Village's official U.S. Flags at the Village Hall, Safety Building and lakefront already are lowered to half-mast on the day of remembrance.

Krei/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to have the small U.S. Flags displayed on the Highway 67 light poles from Memorial Day through the Fourth of July and for the Labor Day weekend, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Fontana Garden Club Request to Donate \$200 from Whowell Family for Memorial Tree to Honor George Polkow

The Fontana Garden Club would like to donate a \$200 memorial the club received from the Whowell family in honor of the late George Polkow to go toward the purchase of a memorial tree to be planted in his honor somewhere at the lakefront. Lobdell stated that the Plan Commission appreciates the generous donation; however, an exact location and species of tree will have to be determined once the lakefront project proposal plans are finalized. Lobdell stated that the Park Commission will want to be sure the tree will be planted in a permanent location.

Wegner/Green 2nd made a MOTION to accept the \$200 donation from the Fontana Garden Club on behalf of the Whowell family for a memorial tree to be planted for George Polkow in a lakefront location to be determined. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Bills to Pay

Arbor Day Foundation, Tree City USA \$15 Annual Membership Dues

Krei/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to approve payment of the \$15 invoice for the annual Tree City USA Arbor Day Foundation membership dues, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Application

Women’s Community Coop Park House Application for First and Third Thursdays January 2010 through November 2010 (Excluding July)

Krei/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit application filed by the Women’s Community Coop to meet at the Park House from 6:00 to 9:00 pm on the first and third Thursdays of each month from January 2010 through November 2010, excluding July, with the application fee waived for the nonprofit organization, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Any Other Comments or Concerns

A Park Permit application was filed on January 19, 2010 for the Tuesday Bridge Club to use the Park House from 12:30 to 3:30 pm, with the exception of holidays. The item was not on the agenda because the application was not filed in time, but the Park Commission approved a motion to recommend approval of the application with the application fee waived. The application will be on the agenda for next month’s meeting.

Pending Item for Future Agendas

1. Park Maintenance Plan

Adjournment

Lobdell/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 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: 2/17/10