

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

MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION
Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Chairperson Cindy Wilson called the meeting of the Park Commission to order at 6:00 pm in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Park Commissioners present: Trustee Wilson, Laura Coates, Sarah Lobdell, Mary Green, Sandra Hibbard, Gail Hibbard

Park Commissioner absent: Sharon O'Brien

Also present: Administrator/Treasurer Kelly Hayden, Library Director Nancy Krei, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, John Palmer, Andy Pearce, Kevin Racky, Chuck Thiesenhusen, Director of Public Works Craig Workman

Approval of Minutes

Lobdell/Coates 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes for the meeting held December 21, 2011, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

None

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was not used in December 2011 and January 2012.

Treasurer's Report

The updated treasurer's report as of January 31, 2012 was presented by Lobdell.

Plan Commission Report

Lobdell stated that more amendments were directed at the last workshop meeting for the Chapters 17 and 18 rewriting project and the updated drafts will be presented and possibly set for a public hearing at a joint meeting being scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2012 at 5:45 pm.

Public Works Report

Workman stated that the new sign has been erected at the Oak Savanna/Native Prairie Restoration site.

TID Maintenance – Items/Update

Wilson stated that the Public Works Department crew did a great job installing the interior ceiling on the Reid Park gazebo. Workman stated that there a few spots on the gazebo roof that will be repaired in the spring by the contractor.

Old Business

Village Tree Pruning Plan

Workman stated that he has not yet been able to have a follow-up meeting with Jeff Epping, the arborist suggested by Roy Diblik to provide tree pruning advice and/or services. Workman stated that Epping reviewed the Village's green space management work plan and took an initial tour to evaluate the trees on Village property. The Park Commission members previously discussed the use of funds from the Tree Reforestation Fund to finance a tree pruning service plan.

Park House Interior Renovation Project & Permit Fee Structure

Wilson stated that thanks to some donations of materials, the Park House renovation project is almost complete. Hayden reported that there is \$10,000 in the budget for the project, and the only expenses credited to the project so far in 2012 totaled \$131. Workman stated that the work that has been completed to date will

total about \$8,000, and there is about \$1,500 in the project budget that is yet to be allocated. Workman distributed an expense report for the project and stated that the project is near complete thanks to donations of tile from Big Foot Construction and Consulting, Inc., and a toilet, kitchen sink and faucet and bathroom faucet by Kevin Racky and his company Geneva Lake Plumbing Company. Wilson presented three options to complete the project. Wilson stated that the least costly option totaling about \$524 is to purchase generic countertops and cabinets and basic carpeting, which would have a five-year life span before it would have to be replaced. Wilson stated that option two would be to try to solicit donations or save Park Commission budget funds totaling about \$2,658 to purchase new countertops, a double bowl sink and nice cabinets that would create a very nice Park House with materials that will remain in good condition for several years. Wilson stated that the third option is to just finish up the current project with the best materials that can be afforded with the current budget. Wilson stated that Huber Dorm inmates can be used to paint the building at no cost to the Village. Wilson stated that the third option only requires the purchase of paint for the interior walls, doors for the bathroom and a mechanical closet, carpeting, and a bathroom sink. Coates stated that she would rather wait to raise the funding for the second option and complete the renovation project in a first-class manner. Sandra Hibbard stated that it may be a long time before the funds can be raised and wondered if the project should be completed so the building can be opened for public use. Wilson stated that the other part of the agenda item is to consider the adoption of a fee structure for the Park House for reoccurring events, and maybe the Park Commission can also solicit donations to raise revenue for the Park House. Hayden stated that as well as the project budget, the Park Commission could allocate funds for the project out of this year's budget from the park accounts. Lobdell stated that the Pioneer Park account includes general funds that could be allocated if necessary. Workman stated that the funds to purchase the carpeting, paint, pedestal sink and interior doors are still available in the project budget. Following discussion, the Park Commission members decided to go with "steam" colored paint and "iron stone" colored carpeting from the samples provided by Wilson.

Wilson/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to direct Workman to purchase two interior doors, a pedestal sink, "steam" colored paint, and "iron stone" colored carpeting as presented at the meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

There is a \$75 fee for Park Permit applications for use of the Park House; however, the fee is usually waived. Martin stated that the majority of the events that have been held at the Park House during the last eight years are the weekly card club meetings, a few annual homeowner's association meetings, Big Foot Recreation District programs, and the Fontana Garden Club's annual Memorial Day weekend plant sale (up until last year), and the application fee has always been waived. Hayden stated that that the Village does incur utility expenses and cleaning service fees for the Park House. Wilson stated that once the ongoing renovation project is completed, the Park House could become a popular choice for birthday parties and other private events. Wilson stated that she also talked with Big Foot Recreation District Director Chuck Thiesenhusen about a use fee for the district programs that are held at the Park House. Thiesenhusen stated that the district would be willing to pay a fee based on the total number of participants for each individual program; however, he would like the fee to be calculated and charged after the events are held as sometimes programs are cancelled due to low registrations. Wilson stated that something like \$1 per participants would be appropriate. Lobdell stated that the Park Commission could also come up with a fee schedule for reoccurring events, such as the weekly card club meetings. Wilson suggested that Hayden draft some preliminary options for a base fee schedule for Park House park permit application fees for nonprofit groups and local associations with provisions for reoccurring events such as the card club meetings and the Big Foot Recreation programs.

Wilson/Coates 2nd made a MOTION to direct Hayden to draft optional plans for a base fee schedule for Park House Park Permit applications with provisions for reoccurring events, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Arbor Day & International Migratory Bird Day Event Planning for Friday, April 27, 2012

The inaugural IMBD observance, which is a requirement of the Village's recently approved Bird City Wisconsin designation, has been scheduled to be conducted in conjunction with the annual Arbor Day Program at Fontana Elementary School on the last Friday of April. Martin stated that he sent an emailed message to the Fontana teacher, Kim Epping, who coordinates the school's Arbor Day program, to inform her of the IMBD program. Martin stated that the message informed Kim Epping of the IMBD program and invited her to participate in the planning, if desired. In response to concerns about adding the IMBD observance to the longtime Arbor Day program and possibly upsetting the school program organizers, Martin stated that the annual Bird City Wisconsin event can be changed to another date after the inaugural event if requested. Regardless of future events, Martin stated that the Village should be sure to plan a nice event for

this year as the state coordinator of the Bird City Wisconsin program is planning to attend. Library Director Nancy Krei offered to assist with the event planning and to help coordinate some of the library's children's activities to include International Migratory Bird Day items. Sharon O'Brien, who works with the school on the annual Arbor Day program, and Lobdell also will meet with Krei and Martin to plan the IMBD program.

Pig in the Park Event Planning for Saturday, September 1, 2012

Green stated that an initial meeting of the subcommittee planning the fifth annual Pig in the Park fund-raising pig roast event has been scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2012 at 2:00 pm at Park Place, 268 Reid Street. Green stated that the volunteers are anxious to start planning and everybody is invited to attend the meeting.

New Business

Big Foot Lions Club 2012 Reid Park Events

Big Foot Lions Club members Andy Pearce and Kevin Racky presented the proposals for the club's annual fund-raising events in Reid Park. Pearce stated that since the Fourth of July holiday and fireworks display will be on a Wednesday this year, the club is only proposing a concession stand tent with no beer tent. Pearce stated that the club will only include the beer tent in the proposal when the Fourth of July is on a weekend day. The menu will include brats, hot dogs, pork chop sandwiches, soda, water and popcorn; setup will begin at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, July 3, 2012; service will begin at noon on July 4, 2012; and takedown will be after the fireworks. If it rains, the tent may have to stay up until July 5, 2012. The Park Commission members did not have any concerns with the Fourth of July plans as presented. Pearce stated that the only changes to the plans for the 29th annual Lobster Boil & Steak Fry on Saturday, July 28, 2012 are a proposed new location for the main beer tent and the inclusion of tethered hot-air balloon rides on the closed off Lake Street. Pearce stated that the beer tent was relocated to open up the view to the lake. The Park Commission members did not have any concerns with the Lobster Boil & Steak Fry plans as presented. Pearce stated that the Lions Club would like to operate its breakfast tent on the morning of the triathlon event or events in Fontana. Pearce stated that the club is aware that the proposal is now to have the two triathlon events combined on one date on the last weekend of August 2012. Pearce stated that breakfast tent offerings may be more limited than the previous years, but the location has not changed. The Park Commission members did not have any concerns with the Triathlon Breakfast Tent plans as presented.

Gail Hibbard/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Big Foot Lions Club 2012 Reid Park events as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Pearce thanked the Park Commission for its support of the Lions Club and presented Wilson with a \$1,500 check from the club. Pearce stated that the extra funds could be used for the Park House renovation or any other Park Commission project.

Fontana Triathlon Joint Event Date Sunday, August 26, 2012

John Palmer of Fontana Endurance Sports, LLC stated that he is now working with Russ Larson, the director of Multisport Event Management Partners, LLC, to plan a joint triathlon event for Saturday, August 25, 2012. Palmer stated that they would setup for the triathlon on Friday evening, August 24, 2012 and be off the beach by 10:00 am on Saturday, August 25, 2012. Hayden stated that Larson had attended the February 6, 2012 Village Board meeting at which the Saturday, August 25, 2012 date was suggested by the Village Board; however, Larson requested and received preliminary approval for Sunday, August 26, 2012. Palmer asked if the Park Commission would prefer a Saturday event, since it would cause less disruption on the beach with all the setup and takedown taking place between Friday evening and Saturday at about 10:00 am. Following discussion, the Park Commission members reached the consensus that they support either date, but Palmer and Larson need to decide which date and stick with it since it will affect Village planning and the Big Foot Lions Club breakfast tent fund-raising event.

Lobdell/Green 2nd made a MOTION to recommend approval of either date, Saturday, August 25, 2012, or Sunday, August 26, 2012, for the proposed Fontana Triathlon event being run by John Palmer of Fontana Endurance Sports, LLC, and Russ Larson of Multisport Event Management Partners, LLC, as previously presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

New Holiday Decorations for Fontana Boulevard Light Poles & Porter Court Plaza

At the last monthly meeting of the Park Commission, a request by the Village Board to consider replacing the old Christmas decorations on the Fontana Boulevard light poles was reviewed and the Park Commission members were in consensus that the decorations should be replaced; however, there is no money in this year's Park Commission budget to fund the proposal. The Village recently received information that one of

the supply companies is offering its decorations for 33 percent off the regular prices through the end of February 2012. Lobdell stated that the new decorations on Highway 67 were very expensive, and it would be nice to replace the old decorations on Fontana Boulevard if the funds are allocated by the Village Board. The other Plan Commission members stated that they agree with Lobdell. Wilson stated that she also would like the Park Commission to consider having some white lights and holiday decorations put up in Porter Court Plaza for the holiday season. Wilson also showed a picture of the holiday decorations that were put up at Fontana Jewelers and stated that the Park Commission should start a program to thank local business owners who contribute to the holiday spirit by erecting nice decorations. Other nice displays were mentioned and the Park Commission members reached a consensus that some type of recognition program or competition for holiday decoration displays could be instituted next holiday season. Martin stated that he will make agenda item notes for a meeting in the fall.

Fourth of July Revenue Sources

Wilson stated that there have been suggestions made at Village Board meetings that the Village could raise more revenue if the beach admission fee is increased by \$1 on the Fourth of July, and if the admission fee is charged until 9:00 pm instead of the current practice of opening the beach gate at 6:00 pm. Lobdell stated that she thinks it's a bad idea to raise the admission fee on the Fourth of July and it would not generate that much revenue compared to the extra hassles and ill will the proposal would cause. Lobdell stated that if the Village Board does not want people to come to the public park and enjoy a family day on the holiday, then the fireworks display should not be held. Hayden stated that the beach staff already is doubled up at 6:00 pm when the gate is open for free admission. Hayden stated that the people who show up at 6:00 pm are almost all local residents, and many do not get the season beach passes. Hayden stated that the fireworks are funded by donations from residents and businesses in all the area municipalities and it would be upsetting to the people who donated funds if they also had to pay an admission fee to watch the fireworks on the beach. Green stated that a lot of residents have visiting family members who also go down to the beach to watch the fireworks and it could be very expensive for larger families. Hayden stated that the Village could consider charging an extra \$1 for admission on holidays, but it would create a lot of problems if they didn't stop charging at 6:00 pm on the Fourth of July. Wilson stated that the Park Commission does not have any jurisdiction over the beach admission fee, she just wanted to solicit input. Wilson stated that another revenue generating idea suggested by Trustee George Spadoni is to rent out picnic tables in Reid Park. Lobdell stated that the Park Commission looked at all the revenue generating ideas and the staffing and policing requirements that would be required for one day are not worth the limited amount of revenue that would be produced. Hayden stated that the Village would have to rent the table for about \$500 each in order to make any money on the proposal, and she is not sure that the Village could police the situation as Village employee manpower is already pushed to its limit on the Fourth of July and the park is congested and hectic all day. Lobdell stated that there would be too many logistical drawbacks to make it worth the effort.

Lobdell/Wilson 2nd made a MOTION to recommend that the Village Board keep Reid Park free and open for public use on the Fourth of July and that no revenue generating ideas be pursued by the Village. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Permit Applications Filed by Big Foot High School for Middle School Cross Country Meet at Duck Pond Recreation Area, Thursday, September 20, 2012, 2:30 PM; Fontana Garden Club Plant Sale at Porter Court Plaza, May 25 to 27, 2012; Paderta Wedding Ceremony at Reid Park Gazebo, Saturday, June 16, 2012, Noon to 5:00 PM; Hollenbeck Wedding Reception at Duck Pond Pavilion, Friday, August 10, 2012, Noon to Dusk; Monday Cards Club, Park House, Mondays 1:00 to 4:00 PM; Tuesday Card Club, Park House, Tuesdays 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Wilson/Coates 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit application filed by Big Foot High School cross country team coach Tim Collins for a middle school cross country meet at Duck Pond Recreation Area on Thursday, September 20, 2012 from 2:30 to 5:30 pm. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Wilson/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit application filed by the Fontana Garden Club for its annual Garden Fair at the Porter Court Plaza May 25 to 27, 2012 as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Wilson/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit application filed by Amy Paderta and Mark Sosa for a wedding ceremony at the Reid Park gazebo on Saturday, June 16, 2012 from noon to 5:00 pm, with the condition the application fee is paid. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Coates/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit application filed by Brady Hollenbeck for a wedding and reception at the Duck Pond Recreation Area Pavilion on Friday, August 10, 2012, from noon

to dusk. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Wilson/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit application filed by Ken Schuerman for the Monday Cards group to meet at the Park House on Mondays from 1:00 to 4:00 pm, contingent on an application fee to be determined at the next monthly meeting. The MOTION carried without negative vote.
Lobdell/Coates 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit application filed by Louise Sheyker for the Tuesday Card Club to meet at the Park House on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 4:00 pm, contingent on an application fee to be determined at the next monthly meeting. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Any Other Comments/Concerns

None

Adjournment

Lobdell/Wilson 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 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: 3/21/12