

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

MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION
Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Chairperson Sarah Lobdell 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: Sarah Lobdell, Jill Wegner, Nancy Krei, Melissa Colby, Sharon O'Brien, Trustee Diane Lewis

Park Commissioners absent: Dan Green, Robert Stewart

Also present: Roy Diblik, Administrator Kelly E. Hayden-Staggs, CDA Commissioner Gail Hibbard, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, Joseph McHugh, Wes Milner, Trustee Micki O'Connell, President Pete Petersen, Big Foot Recreation Director Chuck Thiesenhusen

Approval of Minutes

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

Visitors Heard

Big Foot Recreation Director Chuck Thiesenhusen stated that the construction contract for a Fitness Center addition project has been approved and construction is scheduled to commence on March 30, 2009. Thiesenhusen stated that the construction is scheduled to be completed in six weeks and the project will double the size of the facility and include new equipment.

Announcements

The annual Easter Egg hunt will be held at the Duck Pond Recreation Area on Saturday, April 11, 2009.

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was used 12 times in February 2009.

Treasurer's Report

Krei presented the treasurer's report as of February 28, 2009.

Plan Commission Report

The Plan Commission meeting was cancelled on February 23, 2009. On March 30, 2009 the Plan Commission is scheduled to consider a proposed condominium association plat on North Lakeshore Drive, filed by Steve Beers, and a Petition to Amend the ETZ Zoning Ordinance, filed by the Jean Black Barton Trust for a parcel of land off South Lakeshore Drive in Linn Township. The Plan Commission also will be scheduling public hearings for proposed amendments to the Tree Ordinance and for a condominium plat proposal filed by Barbara and William Turner for their property located on North Lakeshore Drive.

Public Works Report

Public Works Director Craig Workman was not able to attend the meeting because he was still at the site of a water main break that occurred earlier in the day.

Blue Ribbon Lakefront Building Committee Report

Krei stated that the committee's recommendation on the RFP for the structural engineering report on the current lakefront building was recommended for approval by the CDA Board Wednesday, March 4, 2009. The recommendation to approve the \$2,500 bid submitted by PDI/Graef will be considered by the Village Board at its monthly meeting Monday, April 6, 2009.

TID Maintenance – Items/Update

Martin stated that two Porter Court items were added to the list – for the installation of the four park

benches and for work on the rock facing.

Old Business

Parks and Open Space Plan 2009

Lobdell stated that the subcommittee decided to wait until the Comprehensive Master Plan is updated to finalize the update for the Parks and Open Space Plan.

Tree Ordinance Amendments

O'Brien stated that the subcommittee is still working on the proposed amendments and the members are currently researching the inventory numbers of undesirable or evasive trees in the Village. Hayden-Staggs stated that the amendments concerning the tree mitigation section and the elimination of the replacement requirements for non-desirable and evasive trees should be advanced to the Plan Commission because spring has arrived and the Village will be getting tree removal permit applications. Hayden-Staggs stated that the tree mitigation section of the ordinance has to be amended to reflect the terms of the forest rehabilitation project approved for Bill Henry in December 2008. Hayden-Staggs stated that the other amendments for the ordinance can still be reviewed by the subcommittee and acted on at a later date. O'Brien stated that the subcommittee needs more time to make a recommendation, unless the Village Board and Plan Commission do not want their input on the proposed amendment to the Tree Ordinance. O'Brien stated that the subcommittee does not want to have the tree replacement requirements for non-desirable and invasive trees completely removed from the ordinance, because those trees also comprise the Village's tree canopy. O'Brien stated that the protection of the tree canopy is the most important aspect of the Tree Ordinance. Lobdell asked if the amendments concerning the replacement requirements could just be geared to large scale projects, such as the project completed by Henry. Lobdell stated that the rest of the requirements of the Tree Ordinance could be left as is for now. President Petersen stated that the Village needs to address the replacement of nuisance or non-desirable tree species before the Village starts to receive the seasonal Tree Removal Permit applications. O'Brien stated that she will schedule a meeting of the subcommittee and come up with a recommendation on the tree mitigation section and the amendment of the replacement requirements for non-desirable and invasive trees as soon as possible.

Van Slyke Creek Trout Project Update on Abbey Resort Participation

Wes Milner of Trout Unlimited stated that he met with representatives of the Abbey Resort and they received permission to clean up the stretch of the creek that crosses the Abbey property. Milner stated that the project will be organized for a Saturday in August and volunteers will be needed. Milner stated that the Abbey Resort representatives see the project as an opportunity to contribute to a "green" project and an opportunity to work with the community. Milner stated that they also discussed a trout habitat rehabilitation project for Pottawatomie Creek and will the Wisconsin DNR will evaluate the proposal.

CDA Request to Reconsider Fontana Boulevard Light Installation Plan Recommendation

The CDA requested that the Park Commission provide comment on a proposal to have the new street lights along Fontana Boulevard be installed along the side of the street instead of down the middle of the road in the median, as initially recommended by the Park Commission. CDA Commissioner Hibbard stated that the CDA would like the Park Commission to consider a proposal to install the 15-foot poles with single heads along the sides of the street, instead of the 25-foot poles with dual heads down the middle of the boulevard in the medians. Lobdell stated that the Park Commission's initial decision was based on producing a consistent pattern, and if the lights are not going to be in the middle of the boulevard in front of the Abbey Resort, they don't have to be in the middle of boulevard in front of the beach. Krei stated that there are engineering issues with the installation of the lights both ways, one being economics. President Petersen stated that the light installation along the sides of the street will be more expensive, but the CDA has committed the funds to have the lights installed in the best manner possible. The Park Commission was in consensus that the new lights could be installed along both sides of the street or down the middle of the road, as long as a consistent pattern is established throughout the village. The Park Commission was also in consensus that the CDA can make the final decision following the review of engineering and cost parameters and there is no need to come back to the Park Commission.

O'Brien/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to recommend the installation of the 15-foot light pole models, with single heads to run down both sides of Fontana Boulevard, subject to final engineering and budget review by the CDA. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

New Business

Arbor Day Proclamation and Events

The annual Arbor Day Proclamation and program at the Fontana Elementary School are requirements of the Tree City USA designation. Lobdell stated that the fourth-grade students at the elementary school put on a skit and are given seedling trees to plant. The Park Commission makes an annual donation of \$250 to the school for the event. In previous years, the seedling trees were purchased by Rick Treptow. Village staff will secure the trees this year. The program is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 24, 2009, which will be Arbor Day in the Village of Fontana. The proposed proclamation designates Arbor Day as April 24, 2009 in the Village of Fontana.

Wegner/Krei 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Arbor Day Proclamation as presented, and to approve the \$250 donation to Fontana Elementary School for the Arbor Day Program, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Easter Egg Hunt Planning – April 11, 2009

Lobdell stated that in previous years Gordy's, the Abbey Resort and Dean's Foods has provided donated goods and services for the event. Gordy's helps with stuffing the eggs, the Abbey Resort provides coffee, and Dean's Foods and Trustee George Spadoni provide milk. Hayden-Staggs stated that there is \$700 in the budget this year for the event. Thiesenhusen stated that he will hang the promotional banner on the bridge in the Village of Walworth. Lobdell asked that the volunteers for the event arrive between 8:00 and 9:00 AM at the Duck Pond the April 11, 2009.

Schedule Spring Park Walks

Lobdell asked the Park Commission members to check their schedules for days in May or June when the annual park walks can be held.

Spring/Summer Community Events

Lobdell stated that one summer event that should be considered is a dedication ceremony for the new pirate ship at Little Foot Playground. A date will be determined after all the restoration work is completed in the Third Avenue Project. O'Brien stated that she would also like the Park Commission to organize a dedication ceremony for the Mill Street Pavilion after the final site work and landscaping is completed.

Bills to Pay

Frontier Flowers of Fontana, LLC \$55 Invoice

The Park Commission received a \$55 invoice for flowers sent to Lobdell, who delivered a baby boy on December 7, 2008.

O'Brien/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to approve payment of the \$55 invoice from Frontier Flowers of Fontana, LLC, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Requests

Easter Sunrise Service, Fontana Community Church, Reid Park- Sunday, April 12, 2009

Baseball Tournament, Big Foot Ball and Glove Program, Duck Pond Recreation Area – Friday-Sunday, June 19, 20 and 21, 2009

There are no conflicts scheduled on the dates of the proposed events. Both nonprofit groups asked that the fee be waived. The Big Foot Ball and Glove Program application also requests the use of the Duck Pond Pavilion.

O'Brien/Colby 2nd made a MOTION to approve the Park Permit applications as filed for the Fontana Community Church Easter Sunrise Service in Reid Park on Sunday, April 12, 2009 and for the Big Foot Ball and Glove Program baseball tournament at the Duck Pond Recreation Area on Friday through Sunday, June 19, 20 and 21, 2009, with the fees waived as requested. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Any Other Comments or Concerns

Roy Diblik stated that he met with the Fontana Garden Club and they discussed maintenance needs for the Village gardens. Diblik stated that he also met with Craig Workman and they discussed a proposal to add some high-impact, minimal expense plantings to help enhance the landscaped areas at the Reid Park gazebo and flagpole and the wall gardens in Pioneer Park. Diblik stated that some perennials and other plants can be purchased at a minimal price and the new plants will really dress up the areas. Diblik stated that he would like the DPW crew to plant the new flowers as a test project for some of their new landscape maintenance duties.

Wegner stated that she located a source for memorial bricks and she will update the Park Commission at the next monthly meeting.

Pending Items for Future Agendas

1. Park Maintenance Plan
2. Volunteer Opportunities (Master Gardeners Group)
3. Landscape Plans for VOF/Pheasant Ridge Corner Lot at County Highway B & Indian Hills Road
4. Brick Program
5. Pet Waste

Adjournment

O'Brien/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 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: 4/15/09