

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

MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION  
Wednesday, June 20, 2012

Chairperson Cindy Wilson called the meeting of the Park Commission to order at 6:00 pm at the Park House, 329 Third Avenue, Fontana, Wisconsin.

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

**Park Commissioners absent:** Sharon O'Brien, Gail Hibbard

**Also present:** Administrator/Treasurer Kelly Hayden, Rob Ireland, Library Director Nancy Krei, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, Big Foot Recreation District Director Chuck Thiesenhusen, Director of Public Works Craig Workman

**Approval of Minutes**

Lobdell/Coates 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the minutes for the meeting held May 16, 2012, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Visitors Heard**

Big Foot Recreation District Director Chuck Thiesenhusen stated that there are 20 children registered for the upcoming summer camp program. Thiesenhusen also stated he was recently informed that the movie licensing fee the district has been paying for its movie program does not cover the outdoor movies at the Fontana beach. Thiesenhusen stated that the district has had to purchase additional licensing rights to show the movies and it has resulted in about \$3,000 in unbudgeted expenses. Thiesenhusen asked if the members could spread the word that donations or program sponsorships are being sought by the district to support the popular program.

**General Business**

**Park House Use**

The Park House was used once in May 2012 for an annual homeowner's association meeting.

**Treasurer's Report**

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

**Plan Commission Report**

Lobdell stated that the Plan Commission scheduled the public hearing for the Chapters 17 and 18 rewriting project for Monday, August 6, 2012 at 6:00 pm. A Planned Development amendment application has been filed by the Lake Geneva Yacht Club to construct a new sailing school/clubhouse building.

**Public Works Report**

Workman stated that DPW crew has been busy.

**TID Maintenance – Items/Update**

The updated list was distributed. Workman stated that the Fontana Fen buckthorn and invasive tree abatement is ongoing, and the dead trees at the Hildebrand Nature Conservancy Mill Street park entrance have been cleared out. Workman stated that he met with a representative from Gerber Leisure Products and the new equipment needed to repair the flip-tiles on the old Little Foot Playground equipment has been ordered. Mary Green stated that she visited the Mohr Road park entrance to the Geneva Lake shorepath, and she could not tell what was open to the public. Green stated that it is very confusing and the entrance area needs to be more open. Wilson stated that the initial landscaping has grown very large over the years and she asked all the members to take a look at the area for discussion at the next monthly meeting.

**Old Business**

**Dan Green's Pig in the Park Planning Update for September 1, 2012**

Mary Green stated that the planning committee is getting a lot of donations, but the event plans are still being finalized and there are still many items that are needed.

### **Park Walks Update**

Wilson stated that when she walked through the Hildebrand Nature Conservancy she noticed that the Purple Loosestrife is proliferating again. Wilson stated that the native plants in the conservancy also seem to have been overgrown. Following discussion, Workman stated that he will contact Adam Ingwell from Madison and have him come and take a look at the area and determine if any of the native plantings have survived. Coates stated that when she and Green walked through Reid Park and along the lakefront they noted that some of the benches and playground equipment that is painted red is very faded. Workman stated that he discussed the faded paint with the Gerber Leisure Products representative, and it is very expensive, nonstandard paint. Workman stated that repainting the equipment also needs to be done professionally. Workman stated he will get a cost estimate and the Park Commission can determine if it would be worth the expense. Coates stated that some areas around the playground also need to be weeded and the bark/fill material by the swings is getting low and needs to be refilled. Workman stated that the swing area fill material is very expensive and it is not in this year's budget; however, he will look into the matter and review the budget to determine if something can be done this season. Wilson stated that because of the ongoing construction on Dewey Avenue, she has not yet toured Headwaters Park. Lobdell stated that she also has to walk through the Fontana Fen, but the planting beds do need some attention.

### **Fontana Garden Club Activities Report**

Gail Hibbard was unable to attend the meeting, but she submitted the following report: the Memorial Garden has been planted and Pioneer Park has been weeded and composted by the Garden Club. The little island by Pioneer Park was weeded and composted and bushes donated by Jim Carsten were planted. A thank you note to the Carstens from the Park Commission would be a good idea. The Garden Club is planning on planting some other plants in the island area – maybe hostas. The Garden Club is also going to have a work day at the conservancy this week. Tom Vanderpoel is going to be here next Monday and I will go with him up the hill on Highway 67 to flag plants for harvesting for the Oak Savanna. The Park Commission directed Martin to draft a thank you note to the Carstens.

### **Park House Renovation Project & Thank You to DPW for Work**

Wilson stated that the monthly meeting was held in the Park House in order for the members to tour the renovated space, which has a fire capacity of 28 people. There are still some small items that need to be finished, and new tables and chairs have to be purchased. Wilson stated that the exterior windows also need cleaning. The Park Commission members reached a consensus that the new tables for the Park House should be longer, banquet type tables similar to the ones that were borrowed from the Safety Building for the meeting. The chairs were borrowed from Village Hall. Wilson stated that the Village and the Park Commission owes Workman and the DPW crew members a big thank you for all their hard work on the renovation project. Some type of plaque or sign will be created to list all the project donors in a permanent display at the Park House. The Park Commission directed staff to prepare a list of donors for review at the next monthly meeting. Sandra Hibbard stated that maybe a sign could be erected in front of the Park House stating that it is available for public use.

### **New Business**

#### **Park Permit Applications Filed by Beth Family Birthday Party, Duck Pond Pavilion, Saturday, July 7, 2012, Noon to 4:00 PM; Keith Kinerk Picnic, Duck Pond Pavilion, Sunday, August 12, 2012, 11:00 AM to Dusk**

There are no conflicts with the applications. The Kinerk application is for a picnic with a band, and a tent may be set up depending on the weather conditions. Kinerk will be reminded that the village parks close at dusk, at which time the area will have to be cleaned and everybody will have to get out of the park.

Lobdell/Coates 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the park permit applications as filed, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Big Foot Ball & Glove Program Signage Request**

The Big Foot Ball & Glove Program requested that the Park Commission authorize a sign or signs to be erected at the Duck Pond Recreation Area. A photograph of the signs reportedly donated to the program by Mercy Health System are the only thing the Park Commission received from the program director; there were

no sign specifications or other details submitted, such as how many signs, how they would be erected, and where the signs would be located. Wilson and the other Park Commission members also expressed concerns that the sign only refers to “little boys” and there is no mention of girls, who also play baseball. Workman stated that he will try to get more details on the proposal for next month’s meeting.

**Invoices**

None submitted.

**Any Other Comments/Concerns**

Nancy Krei stated that an Emerald Ash Borer infestation has been reported at locations in Lake Geneva and Linn Township and she asked if the Park Commission wanted to post advice and information for residents. An article will be posted on the village website and in the next village newsletter. Wilson stated that the pea gravel that is used in the fountain area at Porter Court Plaza causes a mess, especially if the park has a lot of visitors. Wilson stated that the Park Commission should consider at next month’s meeting other gravel alternatives to replace the pea gravel.

**Adjournment**

Lobdell/Coates 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 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: 7/18/12