

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

MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION
Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Chairperson Cindy Wilson called the meeting of the Park Commission to order at 6:03 pm at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Park Commissioners present: Trustee Wilson, Sandra Hibbard, Mary Green, Gail Hibbard

Park Commissioners absent: Sharon O'Brien, Laura Coates, Sarah Lobdell

Also present: Administrator/Treasurer Kelly Hayden, Library Director Nancy Krei, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, Trustee Rick Pappas

Approval of Minutes

Sandra Hibbard/Green 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes for the meeting held June 20, 2012, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

None

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was used four times in June 2012.

Treasurer's Report

The updated treasurer's report as of June 30, 2012 was presented.

Plan Commission Report

Hayden 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. Also a Conditional Use Permit application was recommended for approval, pending the resolution of some storm water management plan issues, for a building addition proposal at Fontana Jeweler.

Public Works Report

Public Works Director Craig Workman was not able to attend the meeting. Hayden stated that the Village was contacted that day by a representative of a group of 25 people who will be attending a convention at the Abbey Resort. The group offered volunteer services to the Village for two to three hours on July 28, 2012. Hayden stated that her initial thoughts were to have the volunteers help the village water some of the stressed areas in the Village, or with painting projects.

TID Maintenance – Items/Update

The updated list was distributed. Wilson stated that the trees planted along Wild Duck Road are all dead or dying because of the soil type and the drought. Wilson stated that maybe some gator bags should be put on the trees if they are not dead already. Mary Green stated that the Village should try to save some of the trees for transplanting in other areas of the Village. Hayden stated that the Village tree reforestation fund has a current balance of \$11,000, but the Park Commission should make sure any new trees that are purchased are a good fit for the area. Hayden stated that many of the trees and plantings that village has funded in recent years have turned out to be bad choices despite the "expert" advice the Village has received in planning the projects. Gail Hibbard stated that the drought may limit the amount of seeds that will be harvested this season from the native prairie/oak savanna site at the Duck Pond. Gail Hibbard stated that she has obtained some bottle brush plants that will be planted in the oak savanna area, and one of the Garden Club members harvested some pen sedge seeds that are ready to sew at the prairie restoration area once the drought has ended. Hayden stated that the Village staff is also looking into an irrigation system for Reid Park, and the park was watered earlier in the week. Hayden stated that the park was watered in an attempt to grow a little grass

prior to the July 28, 2012 Lobster Boil and Steak Fry. Wilson stated that the Village may also want to look into an irrigation system for the triangle entrance area to the Duck Pond.

Old Business

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

Wilson stated that the Lake Geneva Regional News published two nice articles about the pig roast and Dan Green. Mary Green stated that the planning committee is continuing to finalize the plans for this year's event and she recently received confirmation of two more donations – for the paper products and the carryout containers. Mary Green stated that donations are still coming in for the purchase of food. Workers for the day of the event are being scheduled and a website to publicize the event has been created. Mary Green stated that the cost of the corn may be expensive this year because of the drought, but the committee is still working on the item. Gail Hibbard stated that she will ask the Fontana Garden Club members to volunteer to work at the event. Mary Green stated that anybody who wants to volunteer should contact her via email.

Park House Renovation Project Final Items, Donor List & Recognition Plaque/Sign

Wilson stated that the preliminary list of donors to be displayed on a recognition plaque at the Park House for their support in completing the renovation project includes Bigfoot Construction, Lowe's of Delavan, Micki O'Connell, North Walworth Heating & Cooling, Power Tech Electric, Stone Specialists, The Geneva Lake Plumbing Company, The Tracy Group, Works Plumbing, and the Village of Fontana Department of Public Works Crew. Following discussion, the Park Commission directed staff to add Roy Diblik's business, Northwind Perennial Farm, to the list. The Park Commission directed staff to contact Wolfgang Nitsch for an estimate on a plaque that will be able to accommodate more names in the future if and when donations are made. Wilson stated that as well as hooks for the walls and shelves and a mirror in the bathroom at the Park House, a screen door should be installed on the back door. Wilson stated that the landscaping maintenance also should be added to the Park Commission's list. Also, the parking stalls in front of the Park House are numbered for the Pay Station system, and they should be marked as stalls for resident "F" stickers. Wilson stated that a decision also will have to be made if furniture should be purchased in the future.

Mohr Road Park Entrance Landscaping Plan

Wilson distributed copies of meeting minutes from an August 18, 1997, public hearing at which a portion of Mohr Road was vacated and discontinued, as well as plats and surveys of the park area. Wilson stated that as part of the vacation and discontinuance of a portion of Mohr Road a stipulation was entered into by the adjacent property owners that a public path would remain open leading to the public lakefront bench area and access to the Geneva Lake shorepath. Wilson stated that the landscaping planted in 1997 has now grown so large that it is blocking the path entrance and it is no longer apparent that the path is a public access point to the shorepath. Following lengthy discussion, it was determined that the large evergreen located at the entrance to the path at the end of Mohr Road needs to be limbed-up and small signs should be erected pointing to the public paths. As well as clearing out the landscaping, Wilson stated that a bridge at the lakefront also needs to be repaired as a couple of boards are loose, and the park bench also should be replaced. Following a discussion on the location of the large evergreen tree, the Park Commission reached a consensus that staff should review the situation and determine if the large evergreen is on Village or private property; and if the tree is on village property, have it limbed-up. If the large evergreen tree is on private property, staff was directed to contact the owners and request assistance in cleaning up the landscaping and making the path entrance area more open and accessible to the public.

Wilson/Gail Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to direct staff to review the Mohr Road Park entrance area to determine if the large evergreen tree is located on public or private property; if the tree is on public property, have it limbed-up by the village crew; or if it is located on private property, contact the owners and request their assistance in cleaning up the landscaping and keeping the path entrance area more open and accessible to the public. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Big Foot Ball & Glove Program Signage Request

The Big Foot Ball & Glove Program request was withdrawn at this time.

New Business

Pea Gravel Alternative for Porter Court Plaza

Hayden stated that there is about \$2,500 available in the Park Commission repair and maintenance budget and \$5,000 in the capital outlay budget that could be drawn from to purchase new pea gravel for the Porter

Court Plaza. The Park Commission members also discussed the possibility of selling the current filter gravel that comprises the paths at the Porter Court Plaza and using those funds to offset the cost of new pea gravel. Wilson stated that the Park Commission also may want to consider establishing a grassy area at the Porter Court Plaza where people could sit and gather.

Wilson/Green 2nd made a MOTION to direct staff to investigate the possibility of selling the current filter gravel at the Porter Court Plaza, and to obtain cost and style estimates for the purchase of new pea gravel to be installed at the Porter Court Plaza. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Permit Applications Filed by Daniel Maus, Park House, Thursday, October 25, 2012, 1:00 to 5:00 pm; and University of Illinois of Chicago, Miljan Simonovic, Duck Pond Recreation Area, Monday, August 20, 2012, 2:00 to 5:00 pm

There are no conflicts with the dates requested; however, the \$75 permit fee has not yet been paid by Daniel Maus. There is no application fee to reserve the Duck Pond Recreation Area fields, which is being requested by Miljan Simonovic.

Wilson/Gail Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the park permit applications as filed, with the condition the application fee is paid by Daniel Maus. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Invoices

None submitted.

Any Other Comments/Concerns

Nancy Krei stated that as part of the Public Library's efforts to promote the Village of Fontana's Bird City designation, the library will be hosting a bird feeding program on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 beginning at 5:30 pm. Sandra Hibbard stated that she wanted to warn the Park Commission members about Oak Wilt and the fact it is spreading throughout the area. Sandra Hibbard stated that five oak trees at her residence have died from Oak Wilt and have to be cut down; and three others are close to dying and in need of treatment.

Adjournment

Gail Hibbard/Wilson 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 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: 8/15/12