

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE  
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
(Official Minutes)  
MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION  
Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Park Commission Chairman Cindy Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

**Park Commissioners present:** Trustee Wilson, Laura Coates, Lynne Frost, Sarah Lobdell, Mary Green

**Park Commissioners absent:** Gail Hibbard, Sandra Hibbard

**Also present:** Street Director Ron Adams, Bob Ahern, Sharon Conklin, Administrator/Treasurer Kelly Hayden, Village Clerk Dennis Martin

**Approval of Minutes**

There was one correction required for the August 21, 2013 meeting minutes, on the item concerning the mums that were purchased and planted in Pioneer Park by Lynne Frost, who will be reimbursed. Coates/Lobdell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the meeting minutes for July 17 and August 21, 2013, with the one correction to the August 21, 2013 minutes, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Visitors Heard**

Village of Fontana Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Julie Olson submitted the following note: "To everyone involved with the Park Commission, first of all let me say how sorry I am for having taken so long getting this 'thank you' to you. The last three months have been overwhelming to say the least. With all of the work the Fontana Garden Club has been putting into 'Sam's Garden,' I believe it would be a good idea to 'plant some happiness' there for generations to see and enjoy. Please use Will's memorial money to purchase some perennials. Mind you, I am not a gardener so you get to pick whatever you think will work. I am sure it will be great. With thanks and kind regards, Jules and the rest of the Olson family." Martin will contact the Fontana Garden Club to determine what perennials would be appropriate for the garden located on Second Avenue across the street from the entrance to the Public Library. The Park Commission received a \$50 donation from Carol Lobdell in memory of Will Olson, who died in July.

**General Business**

**Park House Use**

The Park House was used once in August for a Big Foot Recreation District program.

**Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report as of August 31, 2013 was presented.

**Plan Commission Report**

The Plan Commission has two public hearings scheduled for its monthly meeting February 23, 2013.

**Public Works Report**

Village Street Director Ron Adams stated that it would not be a good idea to erect two metal poles on the beach for use with the relatively new recreational activity called slack-lining. Adams stated that the beach is a very busy area in the summer and it could create safety concerns. The Park Commission previously directed staff to publicize the tree protection guideline information received on the slack-lines on the Village website and in the quarterly newsletter. Adams also asked about the nine-hole disc golf course at the Duck Pond and if a map could be created. Martin stated that the initial map is still available, but they have not been distributed for the last few years because the course layout has to be verified. Martin stated that some of the hole baskets may have been moved since he created the map and he asked that the map be verified. Adams stated that he will check the map, and if it does not require changes, copies will be printed and made available in the Duck Pond

Pavilion area and at Village Hall. Adams stated that he also will be ordering a memorial tree to be planted near the Duck Pond Pavilion for Kevin Green, near the tree that was planted for his uncle, Dan Green. Mary Green thanked Adams and stated that he should forward the invoice to her as the family is going to purchase the tree and a memorial plaque.

### **Park Commission Maintenance List – Update on Beach Fence Rust Abatement**

The updated list was distributed. Adams stated that he reviewed the contract file and contacted Century Fence, and the company does not have information on methods to abate the rust on the fence sections and posts that are rusting out from the inside. There also is no warranty with Century Fence, the company that the CDA contracted with to purchase and install the fence in 2006. Adams stated that he contacted Jim Lemke at J-N-L Wrought Iron, Fort Atkinson, who warned the village that the powder-coated fence would rust from the inside out. Adams stated that to have each fence section that is rusting removed, sandblasted and repainted will cost \$550, not including the DPW expenses to remove the sections, transport them to and from Fort Atkinson, and reinstall them. Adams stated that the posts that are rusting out will have to be sandblasted and repainted on site. Adams stated that there is also no guarantee that fence will remain rust free in the future if it sandblasted and repainted.

### **Old Business**

#### **Pig in the Park Event Report**

Mary Green stated that the sixth annual event was very successful, with a net profit of \$11,196. The balance of the Park Commission Little Foot Playground fund prior to the event was \$2,917, which after transferred leaves a balance of \$1,629 to be paid back to the General Fund for the pirate ship purchase. With the \$1,629 to pay off the debt taken from the proceeds, there is a balance of \$9,567 to be split between Dan Green's Touch A Life, Heal A Heart, Inc., 70 percent or \$6,697, and the Park Commission, 30 percent or \$2,870. Following discussion, the Park Commission decided to put the \$2,870 into the Little Foot Playground fund to start saving for the purchase of new equipment.

#### **Memorial Bench for the Arnold Havens Family**

Adams stated that the Barco's Recycled Plastic Products 6-foot, in-ground Classic Style bench, with three legs, is the better alternative of the two benches preliminarily selected. Martin stated that Valerie Havens indicated that the family would like to have the bench in the green color, with black legs, and they would like it installed and dedicated in the spring. Martin stated that the family has indicated it would also like to purchase a memorial plaque to be mounted on the bench.

Lobdell/Coates 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the installation of a green and black 6-foot, in-ground Classic Style bench, with three legs on the south beach lakefront, under the willow tree, to be dedicated to the late Arnold Havens. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Mohr Road Park Projects Update & Park Sign Design Approval**

Adams stated that the pedestrian bridge has been repaired and the park bench has been repaired and repositioned to face the lake and both items just need to be painted. Adams stated that Kay O'Halleran asked if a gate or some type of posts could be erected at the end of Mohr Road by the entrance to their private driveway as people have been parking in their driveway. Adams stated that after discussing the situation with the O'Halleran family, they would like to have piping installed at the entrance to the driveway that could be easily taken out when the DPW has to drive trucks to the village lift station, which is also accessed by the O'Halleran residential driveway. Adams stated that the piping is basically removable bollards and they will effectively keep people from parking their vehicles on the O'Halleran property. Adams stated that Kay O'Halleran also provided him a copy of a \$2,152 estimate from Creative Edge Landscapes, Twin Lakes, for design services and for Wisconsin DNR permitting costs for a drainage ditch stabilization project on the creek that leads to the lake. Last month, the Park Commission approved a \$512.50 proposal from Creative Edge Landscaping to remove the invasive plant material in the creek, with the funds to be allocated from the 2013 budget. There was a lengthy discussion on whether the request is for the Village to fund just the DNR permitting costs, or the \$800 design services as well. The DNR permitting costs are \$603 for the permit fees and \$600 for the administrative services to be provided by Creative Edge Landscapes. Hayden stated that there is about \$10,000 remaining in the 2013 Park Commission budget in the Green Space Management line item that could be allocated to cover both the DNR permitting costs

and the design services costs. Following further discussion on the project and an offer by Bruce Adreani to donate funds to help pay for the creek projects, the Park Commission decided to recommend approval of the allocation of \$1,300 from the Green Space Management Account to fund the DNR permitting portion of the estimate provided by Creative Edge Landscapes; and directed staff to clarify the proposal for design services.

Lobdell/Wilson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend approval of the allocation of an amount not to exceed \$1,300 to pay for Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources permitting costs for Creative Edge Landscapes, Twin Lakes, drainage ditch stabilization project on Mohr Road as presented. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Hayden distributed images of the Mohr Road Park sign with directional arrows incorporated on the bottom of the existing sign. Following a lengthy discussion on the location of the current sign and on what side of the driveway the new arrow sign should be installed, and on whether the item should be tabled until the next meeting so that the Park Commission members could visit the park area, the Park Commission directed staff to order the shorter and wider arrow sign to be erected on the east side of the path, pointing west to the pedestrian path that leads to the lakeshore path.

### **Little Foot Playground Lighthouse Replacement Project Update**

The new lighthouse has been constructed and installed by Home Design Mfg. at Little Foot Playground; however, the memorial plaques that were purchased and installed with the original lighthouse still have to be taken out of storage at the DPW and installed on the new lighthouse.

### **South Beach Boardwalk Replacement Proposal – C.C.E. Homeowners Association Funding Offer**

Adams stated that he received a cost estimate totaling \$3,450 from C.J.'s Concrete & Excavating, Burlington, to install a 93-by-4-foot stamped concrete walkway, 4-inches thick, to replace the current boardwalk on the small beach. It was previously stated at the Lakefront and Harbor Committee and the Public Works Committee meetings that Country Club Estates Homeowners Association has offered to pay for the project. Adams stated that a DNR permit will not be required if the new sidewalk is located above the high-water mark, and that is the plan. A Village of Fontana Building Permit will be required for the project.

### **Identify Areas for 2013 Fall Tree Pruning Services**

Following discussion on any other possible uses of the budgeted funds, Hayden stated that there is about \$5,500 left in the Park Commission budget to allocate to Jeff Epping for tree pruning services. Besides the trees in Pioneer Park that still need pruning, the Park Commission directed Epping to select the trees that are in need of the most attention from the village tree pruning plan that was approved last year. Lobdell asked Adams to have Epping also look at an ash tree by the south beach area because she noticed weird looking white bugs on the tree this past summer and now the top of the tree looks dead.

Lobdell/Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to direct Jeff Epping to work with Street Department Director Ron Adams to determine what trees to prune from the Village of Fontana tree pruning plan, for a total amount not to exceed \$5,000. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Holiday Decorations Direction for 2013**

Adams stated that the street pole holiday decorations to replace the old ones on Fontana Boulevard will cost about \$100 each for the supplies for the DPW crew to create. Adams stated that he will erect the street pole decoration he made earlier this year for the Park Commission to review. The Park Commission members reached the consensus following discussion that the DPW crew should make eight of the holiday decorations for this year's holiday season and then determine if more should be created in following years.

Wilson/Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to direct the DPW crew to create eight street pole holiday decorations as presented at the Park Commission meeting to be displayed on the street light poles on Fontana Boulevard, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **New Business**

#### **Removal of More Dead Trees**

Adams stated that eight of the trees planted along both sides of High Street by the boat trailer

parking lot have died. The Park Commission directed Adams to check with Epping when he is in the Village if there are other trees that would be more suitable to plant in the locations of the dead trees, which will be cut down.

### **Proposal to Reroute Boat Trailer Traffic Through Pioneer Park**

Laura Coates stated that she requested that the item be added to the agenda because she would like to see the boat trailer traffic rerouted through Pioneer Park from the boat launch and back up Third Avenue instead of the current route up Lake Street to Kinzie Avenue. Coates stated that Kinzie Avenue has a lot of residences on it and all the boat trailer traffic also passes by the Buena Vista subdivision. Sharon Conklin, 123 Big Foot Street, stated that there was a proposal in a lakefront plan several years ago that called for the development of boat trailer traffic lanes to run from the boat launch through Pioneer Park and back onto Third Avenue, where the boat trailer parking lot is located. Conklin stated that the current route takes vehicles and boat trailers past 60 plus homes, including the condominium units in the Fontana Shores building on Lake Street. Conklin stated that the boat trailers are actually driven up Kinzie Avenue at least twice per trailer, when boats are launched and then taken out of the lake. Conklin stated that large trucks delivering food and beer are also driven through the residential area every weekend. Hayden stated that she wanted to point out that the proposal to develop boat traffic lanes in Pioneer Park is one of the items that the FROG group had placed on the list of CDA lakefront projects that require referendum approval. The Pioneer Park proposal that was extensively discussed by the CDA, Plan Commission and Village Board in 2005 and 2006, was removed from the Third Avenue reconstruction proposal at the urging of the FROG group prior to it receiving referendum approval, and the proposal was not included in the subsequent CDA referendum that failed to earn approval for a new lakefront building, parking lot reconfiguration and Lake Street reconstruction proposal. Bob Ahern, 338 Kinzie Avenue, stated that as well as the safety concerns caused from all the boat trailer traffic, the one-way traffic patterns and other traffic laws are not enforced in the area, and boaters create even more congestion on Lake Street and Kinzie Avenue staging their boats and putting them back on the trailers. Ahern stated that the three-way stop sign at the intersection of Kinzie Avenue, North Lakeshore Drive and Reid Street also is a safety concern. Following further discussion on police enforcement and Protection Committee and Lakefront and Harbor Committee issues, Hayden suggested that Conklin and Ahern attempt to have a petition circulated to determine if there would be enough support from registered voters to get a referendum approved for the Pioneer Park proposal.

### **2014 Budget Planning**

After going through the numbers, Wilson stated that the 2013 contracted services budgeted amount will remain the same in the Park Commission's 2014 proposed budget; however, she would like the maintenance work at Porter Court Plaza transferred from Blackstone Landscaping, LLC to Roy Diblik. Wilson did not bring up her proposal to add to the 2014 budget the purchase and installation of window awnings for the north side of the Park House. As far as budgeting for a new safety fence to run along the alley and the backyard of the Park House, there are funds in the 2013 budget; however, Adams stated that he can erect a temporary fence during the summer season with materials already in storage at the DPW. The Park Commission directed Adams to plan to erect a temporary fence next season along the alley, and to leave the money in the 2013 budget unspent at this time. Gail Hibbard submitted the following message to the Park Commission with her budget comments because she was unable to attend the meeting; and most of the items are part of the contracted services budget: "Some of the things I would like to spend some money on are garlic mustard abatement (like a huge amount of money to the group that pulls the most garlic mustard in one weekend in Fontana, maybe \$1,000 that might get some folks out there), keeping the prairie, fen and savanna going. Keep using Roy Diblik for the boulevards and for advice on other areas. Tom Vanderpoel was going to spray the goutweed behind the conservancy today and we are going to have to plant something else in its place. I called Prairie Nursery in Westfield and some suggestions are ferns, baneberry, astilbe, jack in the pulpit. We may also have to cut some trees in that area so more sun can get to the ground, just the junk trees no good trees. Maybe we should start a fund for playground equipment, as the stuff we have now ages we should get some new cool stuff." As far as budgeting for the future purchase of new playground equipment, earlier in the meeting the Park Commission decided to put the \$2,870 donation from Dan Green's Touch A Life, Heal A Heart, Inc., from this year's Pig in the Park proceeds into the Little Foot Playground fund to start saving for

the purchase of new equipment. Adams stated that one project that Park Commission may want to consider is reconstructing the steps that lead into Pioneer Park from Bay View Street. The only items left from the 2013 Park Budget Planning list are the holiday decorations for the Fontana Boulevard light poles and new playground mulch for the Duck Pond Recreation Area. Also, Epping will not be able to complete the tree pruning plan list with the 2013 budgeted funds, so additional funding will have to be budgeted in 2014. Earlier in the meeting, the Park Commission directed Adams to create with 2013 budgeted funds eight street pole holiday decorations for about \$100 each to be displayed on the street light poles on Fontana Boulevard. Following discussion, the Park Commission decided to request in the 2014 budget \$4,000 for the purchase of new playground mulch, and \$3,000 for tree pruning services, which are the same amounts as this year. Items that are on the Park Commission list of future potential projects are baseball/softball scoreboards, a sand volleyball court, a sledding hill, and playing field lights for the Duck Pond; an observation tower and shelter in the parking area at the Fontana Fen; and a pedestrian path, bridge and parking stalls at Headwaters Park.

### **Payables**

Hayden stated that there were payables submitted for the final payment to the General Fund for the Little Foot Playground equipment purchase, \$2,917; for Savanna Landscaping, Barrington, IL, \$600 for spraying and herbicide in the Oak Savanna and Native Prairie Restoration Area at the Duck Pond; for Lynne Frost, \$26.32 for the purchase of mums for Pioneer Park; and for Roy Diblik, \$3,600 for the purchase of shrubs and bulbs and for work on the Fontana Boulevard medians. Lobdell/Wilson 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the payables as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

### **Any Other Comments/Concerns**

None

### **Adjournment**

Wilson/Coates 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 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: 10/16/13