

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

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

Chairperson Sarah Lobdell called the meeting of the Park Commission to order at 6:01 pm in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Park Commissioners present: Sarah Lobdell, Sharon O'Brien, Jill Wegner, Dan Green, Nancy Krei, Melissa Colby, Trustee Diane Lewis

Park Commissioner absent: Sharon Conklin

Also present: CDA Commissioner Gail Hibbard, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, 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 October 21, 2009, as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

Big Foot Recreation Director Chuck Thiesenhusen stated that the department is looking into purchasing a sound system and a screen to show movies in the park, and plans are being made to reinstitute the day camp program for children during the summer months.

Announcements

The Village Board has approved holding the annual holiday party on Monday, December 14, 2009 at the Lewis residence, 650 S. Main Street. Trustee Lewis stated that a sign-up sheet will be distributed for the pot-luck event. Krei stated that the Fontana Public Library will be hosting its annual holiday open house on Friday, December 11, 2009 and Lewis will be providing entertainment.

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was used 14 times in October 2009.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report for October 2009 was presented by Krei.

Plan Commission Report

Lobdell stated that the updated Park and Open Space Plan is scheduled to be presented at a public hearing before the Plan Commission on November 30, 2009. Village Planner Mike Slavney is reviewing the plan to make sure all the required elements are included.

Public Works Report

The holiday decorations have been erected on the Village street lights. The new light poles on Fontana Boulevard have been erected and the construction is almost complete. The old light poles will be removed.

TID Maintenance – Items/Update

Martin stated that the Department of Public Works crew members cut down and removed buckthorn at the Fontana Fen. O'Brien stated that as well as cutting down and removing the buckthorn, the roots have to be chemically treated to prevent the invasive brush from growing back. The park bench that is broken in Pioneer Park has been painted, but it is not yet repaired. Also, the bad spots on the path that runs through Pioneer Park have been marked but not yet repaired.

Old Business

Duck Pond Tree Relocation Subcommittee – Update

O'Brien stated that the subcommittee met and took an inventory of the trees at the Duck Pond that still have to be moved out of the utility line easement area. The Park Commission is hoping to sell some of the remaining trees that have to be cut down or moved out of the easement area. Wegner stated that maybe the Park Commission could offer some type arrangement for the trees that have to be removed to be sold as replacement trees to property owners who apply for Tree Removal Permits.

Long-Range Planning for Reid Park Gazebo – Update

Funding options are still being explored and the gazebo site is being incorporated by the architectural firm hired by the CDA into the lakefront building proposal. In response to a question from Krei, it was pointed out that the Village Board has gone on record by approving a motion that states that Reid Park gazebo will be reconstructed regardless of the other pending lakefront building and construction proposals.

Potential Calendar of Events for Reid Park

Lobdell stated that the two events mentioned by Thiesenhusen are good ideas for future park events. Krei stated that she likes the idea of having events, but she is concerned about who will be in charge, and if the Village will have the necessary volunteers to run the events. Other members also were concerned about running new events and discussed contacting the local civic organizations and businesses for input.

Sledding Hill Proposal for Ball Property

The Ball property was reviewed for sledding and it was determined that the proximity of Third Avenue is too much of a safety concern. The Park Commission members decided to not pursue a Village sledding hill at this time since there are no safe options readily available. The proposal will be revisited in the future if the CDA moves forward with postponed construction plans at the Duck Pond Recreation Area.

Tree City USA Recertification Application –December 31, 2009 Deadline

Lobdell stated that she will work with Village staff to complete the recertification application and have it submitted to the Wisconsin DNR prior to December 31, 2009. Since the Park Commission decided to cancel the monthly meeting in December, the members were in consensus that Lobdell should be directed to complete the application and submit it by the deadline.

O'Brien/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to approve the submittal of the Tree City USA Recertification Application by the December 31, 2009 deadline, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Review Park Permit Application – Fees & Reid Park Designated Area Removal

Lobdell stated that the Park Commission members should review the application and make suggestions for increased fees and for the establishment of a flat-fee that could be instituted for clubs and civic organizations that use the Park House throughout the year. The Park Commission also is considering removing from the application the option for a designated area in Reid Park.

New Business

Entrance Sign Painting at Pheasant Ridge and Indian Hills Road

The landscaping project is almost complete with the exception of the Village sign. The old sign needs to be repainted, and Brush Fire Signs has submitted a quote for \$290. Krei stated that the Park Commission should find the funds in the current budget if the proposal is going to be approved.

O'Brien/Krei 2nd made a MOTION to authorize the painting of the Village entrance sign for the landscaped lot at Indian Hills Road and Pheasant Ridge Drive, and to direct staff to allocate the \$290 cost from the Park Commission budget. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Bills to Pay

Tom Cook, LLC, \$5,200 for Masonry Work & A.J. Anich Lumber Company, Inc., \$269 for Railing Materials at Mill House Pavilion; Brush Fire Signs, \$290

O'Brien/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to authorize the payment of the \$5,200 invoice submitted by Tom Cook, LLC, the \$269 invoice submitted by A.J. Anich Lumber Company, Inc., and the \$290 invoice submitted by Brush Fire Signs, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Applications

Easter Egg Hunt at Duck Pond Recreation Area, Saturday, April 3, 2010 at 10:00 am

Lobdell stated that she may not be able to attend this year's event

O'Brien/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to approve the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Duck Pond Recreation Area on Saturday, April 3, 2010 beginning at 10:00 am, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Any Other Comments or Concerns

Martin stated that a resident requested that the Park Commission consider adding Flag Day and Veteran's Day as two dates that the Village of Fontana erects the individual U.S. flags on the Highway 67 light poles. O'Brien stated that the landscaping plantings at the Mill House Pavilion were completed despite the Outdoor Education event having to be postponed twice because of weather. O'Brien stated that the Outdoor Education event will be planned for the spring. Hibbard stated that the prairie seed planting event at the Duck Pond went very well on Saturday, November 14, 2009. Hibbard stated that a total of 34 people participated, including children and families, and there was \$2,700 worth of seeds planted. Hibbard stated that Fontana Garden Club members also donated more seeds that they received when they participated in a seeding event in Barrington, IL. Hibbard stated that the event was a lot of fun and a big success. O'Brien thanked Hibbard and the Garden Club members on behalf of the Park Commission for their hard work.

Pending Item for Future Agendas

1. Park Maintenance Plan

Adjournment

O'Brien/Wegner 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 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: 1/20/2010