

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE  
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**(Official Minutes)**

**Park Commission Monthly Meeting**

November 18, 2015

The Park Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Whowell at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, November 18, 2015.

**Members Present:** Trustee Whowell, Sarah Lobdell, Gail Hibbard, Mary Green

**Members Absent:** Sandra Hibbard, Laura Coates, Lynne Frost

**Also Present:** Administrator Dennis Martin

**Approval of Minutes October 14, 2015**

Lobdell/Trustee Whowell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the October 14, 2015 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

**Announcements**

Martin stated that the invitations have been sent out to all the Village committee and commission members for the annual Holiday Party to be held Monday, December 14, 2015 from 5:30 to 9:00 pm at Gordy's Boathouse.

**General Business**

**Park House Use**

The Park House was not used in October 2015.

**Treasurer's Report**

Lobdell reported there is \$18,205.50 in the Park Commission fund.

**Plan Commission Report**

The Plan Commission held public hearings at its last monthly meeting and recommended approval of proposed amendments to reinstate a section of the old code which imposes a 30-day filing deadline to apply for a variance, and to reestablish a property maintenance ordinance that was inadvertently omitted from the code when it was rewritten in 2012. At its rescheduled monthly meeting to be held Monday, November 23, 2016, the Plan Commission will consider a recommendation on a certified survey map application filed by the Fontana Holding Company for the residential parcel on the Willow Bend Road lot it recently approval for rezone and CUP applications. Martin stated that the CSM had already been reviewed without concern during the approval process for the rezone and conditional use permit.

**Public Works Report**

Martin stated that the DPW crew has been busy with leaf and brush collection, and preparing the park facilities for winter. The crew also planted about 20 trees this fall, and the trees along Mill Street were trimmed by a certified arborist, who was working off a municipal court citation plea agreement. The last item on the expiring contract with Blackstone Landscaping is the erection of the holiday lights. Gail Hibbard suggested that since the lakefront bridge is under construction maybe some of the light pole decorations and tree lights that are usually used in that area could be added to other areas this year, including Fontana Boulevard and Porter Court Plaza. Mary Green suggested that maybe some of the trees in Porter Court Plaza could be decorated with lights in the same manner as the trees in Reid Park. Green also suggested that maybe the fountain area in Porter Court could be decorated with a large evergreen tree.

**Old Business & Pet Projects**

**5-Year Management Plan for Fontana Fen and Native Areas: Fontana Fen, Duck Pond Recreation Area, Well No. 1 and Well No. 3, Headwaters Park**

An updated draft of the plan prepared by Tom Vanderpoel was distributed for review. Gail Hibbard stated that she would like to go through the plan one more time with Vanderpoel before Whowell forwards it to local resident John Anderson, who is considering making a donation to the village to fund the plan for up to a five-year period. Whowell stated that the plan needs to be reviewed by the Park Commission, as well as the other contracted service agreements to make sure the financial resources are being allocated properly. Hibbard stated that she would like Vanderpoel to add something to the plan for the Hildebrand Nature Conservancy. Whowell stated that he will wait for Hibbard to update the plan before he send the final draft to Anderson. Whowell stated that he would like one of the Park Commission members to take over oversight of the individual nature areas not being handled by Gail Hibbard and her group of volunteers, who take care of the Oak Savanna and Native Prairie Restoration Area at the Duck Pond.

### **New Business**

#### **Park Permit Application Filed by Dan Green's Touch A Life, Heal A Heart, Inc., for Saturday, July 9, 2016 at Reid Park**

Mary Green presented the application she filed for the annual Dan Green's Touch A Life, Heal A Heart, Inc., Pig in the Park fundraiser in Reid Park. The Park Commission members discussed the proposed change in date from the Saturday of Labor Day weekend to the second Saturday in July and some of the preliminary concerns Martin has received from Village Board members. Martin stated that he has received inquiries from some residents about another local nonprofit organization potentially planning a fund-raising event for the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, which would address one of the concerns that the Pig in the Park has become a good end-of-the-season family event for the local residents. The Park Commission also briefly discussed Green's proposal to terminate the initial agreement that her organization has with the Park Commission that calls for a split of the event profits with 70 percent retained by the Foundation and 30 percent donated to the Park Commission. The Pig in the Park event was initially planned and operated by the Park Commission as a means to pay back a loan from the Village General Fund to purchase new equipment for Little Foot Playground. The Foundation took over the event several yeas ago, and Green stated that the Foundation Board would like to have the initial financial agreement terminated. Following discussion on the use of Reid Park by local nonprofit organizations during the summer season, the commission reached the consensus that the financial agreement should be revisited at the next monthly meeting in January.

Lobdell/Gail Hibbard 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the park permit application as filed by Dan Green's Touch A Life, Heal A Heart, Inc., for the Pig in the Park event to be held Saturday, July 9, 2016 in Reid Park; and to direct staff to have an item on the next monthly meeting agenda to discuss a recommendation on the financial arrangements for future events. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

#### **Mohr Road Park Easement Expansion Proposal**

Martin stated that a private funding proposal the Village Board is negotiating with the O'Halleran and Adreani families for a Village lift station improvement, Mohr Road reconstruction and multifaceted storm sewer installation project includes the extension of the current permanent parkland easement and development of two permanent parking stalls on Mohr Road. Martin stated that the two parking stalls are proposed to be installed next to the Village lift station generator building by an extended entranceway to the park path that leads to the Geneva Lake shorepath and lakefront bench. Martin stated that the proposal includes the abandonment of about 150 feet of Mohr Road up to the generator building, and a portion of the abandoned area will be added to the permanent parkland easement. Lobdell stated that it will be important for the Park Commission to make sure the parkland is added to the existing permanent easement if an additional portion of the road is abandoned by the Village. Martin stated that the proposal includes an extensive landscaping plan drafted by Creative Edge Landscaping to be planted along the entire length of Mohr Road to the current parkland entrance. Creative Edge is the company the planted and has maintained the natural plants along the creek that runs down to the lake, and that plan has been funded by donations from the O'Halleran and Adreani families.

### **Bird City Wisconsin Resolution**

The annual resolution is required for Bird City Wisconsin designation, and the Park Commission schedules the International Migratory Bird Day observance for the same day as the Arbor Day/Tree City USA program held annually on the last Friday of April. Martin stated that Arbor Day and the Village IMBD Observance are scheduled for Friday, April 29, 2016.

Lobdell/Green 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Resolution Recognizing International Migratory Bird Day as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

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

Howell stated that due to the holiday schedule, the monthly meeting in December will be cancelled; so the next meeting will be held Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

### **Adjournment**

Lobdell/Trustee Howell 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 pm, and the motion carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Dennis Martin, Village Administrator

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Park Commission, the official minutes will be kept on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: 01/20/16