

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

MONTHLY MEETING of the PARK COMMISSION

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Chairperson Treptow called the meeting of the Park Commission to order at 9:04 am in the Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin.

Park Commissioners present: Rick Treptow, Sarah Lobdell, Laurie Larson, Susan Geye, Brent Horvath, Sharon O'Brien

Park Commissioner absent: Rallee Whowell-Chupich

Also present: Village Administrator Kelly Hayden-Staggs, CDA Commissioner Gail Hibbard, Village Clerk Dennis Martin, CDA Executive Director Joseph McHugh, Director of Public Works Craig Workman

Visitors Heard

None

General Business

Plan Commission Report

CDA Report

Trustee Report

Treptow stated that the agenda items would be skipped this month.

Park House Use

Treptow stated that the Park House was used 14 times in November.

Treasurer's Report

Lobdell presented the Park Commission Financial Report as of November 30, 2005. Balances of the various accounts were: Fen, \$3,751; Pioneer Park, \$3,276; Duck Pond, \$287; Reid Park, \$4,911; total balance, \$12,226. The funds are in a checking account, \$157, and in a Money Market account, \$12,069.

Public Works Report

Treptow stated that the agenda item would be skipped this month.

Old Business

Duck Pond – Expense/Budget

Geye presented an update she prepared on the Duck Pond wing expansion expenditures, which have been \$49,337 to date. There is a remaining surplus of \$662. The expenditures included the Duck Pond Wing expansion, \$27,900; furnace, \$5,000; New door to replace the west window, \$2,700; insulation in ceiling, \$1,300; storage shelves in the mechanical room, \$400; kitchen cabinets and counter top, \$1,600; plumbing repairs, \$400; three picnic tables for new wing, \$1,735; two garbage cans for new wing, \$1,450; kitchen mats, storage cabinet and folding tables for window service, \$650; and Duck Pond and Headwaters signs, \$2,102. Geye stated that a grand opening event will be held at the Duck Pond shelter in the spring.

O'Brien/Larson 2nd made a MOTION to approve the expenditure report and project budget, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Way-finding Update

Treptow stated that Timber Line Sign Co., Inc., prepared a prototype way-finding sign measuring 2.5-feet-by-1.75-feet. The prototype sign has directional arrows pointing to the Elementary School,

Post Office and Boat Launch. Treptow stated that Park Commission's role was to approve the style of the way-finding signs, which will be two-sided and made out of wood. Treptow stated that the style of sign matches those in used in many of the surrounding municipalities. Treptow asked McHugh if the CDA would pay to have the signs erected. There also was discussion with regard to how many signs will be erected and the request of the elementary school administration for signage on South Main at Highway 67 and at West Main at Highway 67. McHugh will present the topic to the CDA Board for consideration.

Tree City USA Application

Treptow stated that he, Larson and O'Brien will complete the application and send it into the National Arbor Day Foundation by December 31, 2005. The Village of Fontana has earned Tree City USA designation for 17 consecutive years.

CDA Redevelopment/Third Avenue Lighting

McHugh presented schematic drawings of the lighting fixture details for the new lights that will be installed along the lakefront areas and throughout the village. Treptow pointed out that the drawing of the 19.5-foot lights that will be installed along Highway 67 are incorrect because the decorative banner located half way up the pole should be pointed out in the same direction as the light bulb on the top of the pole. Treptow stated that the village has to be careful not to install too many of the neighborhood style, 15-foot lights in the same area in order to prevent them from looking like toothpicks. Treptow stated that since the Third Avenue area is residential, the village should erect the 15-foot lights in that area, and the 19.5-foot lights should be used at certain intersections and along Highway 67. The lighting along Highway 67 will have to abide by Wisconsin Department of Transportation standards. McHugh stated that Don Dewey will work on the light layout with PDI Planning & Design Institute architect Brad Drefcinski. Treptow stated that the Park Commission determined what style of lights to use, but it is not involved with the funding, project bidding or installation of the lights. McHugh stated that the Park Commission should provide preliminary direction for Dewey with regard to what height light should be installed in what specific locations. Geye suggested that Dewey attend the January Park Commission meeting and they can discuss the lighting plan for the entire village. The Park Commission requested that McHugh obtain and provide them with a street map of the village from PDI on which they can study and create a planning layer for the installation of new lighting fixtures throughout the village.

Pioneer Park Turnaround

Treptow stated that the proposal to develop a boat launch turnaround in Pioneer Park was referred back to the Park Commission despite the matter being tabled by the Plan Commission after a motion to recommend approval of the proposal failed to earn approval, and after the Park Commission had previously voted to recommend denial of the proposal. McHugh stated that the engineers for the various lakefront projects initiated the revisiting of the proposal despite the recent votes to table the matter and to wait for a year to determine if other initiatives will alleviate the congestion in the boat launch and lakefront neighborhood areas. O'Brien stated that as the various lakefront plans have evolved and gone through the planning process during the last five years, the turnaround concept in Pioneer Park has never changed from the concept that was presented in the initial drawing. O'Brien stated that studies have never been completed on other traffic alleviating options and it has not been determined that the turnaround will even provide a solution. O'Brien stated that she has serious questions with the proposal and can't justify voting to take away park land for the turnaround if there is not proof that it will provide a solution to the congestion problem. Treptow stated that is why the Plan Commission voted to table the proposal and monitor the lakefront situation for one year, since nothing has been done to study the issue in the last five years. Geye stated that it would be best for the village to come up with an interim solution that doesn't use Pioneer Park to provide a solution for the traffic and pedestrian safety concerns stated at the last meeting of the Village Board. Larson stated that she talked to Harbormaster Sam Fredrickson and he stated that the turnaround would not provide a solution to the congestion at the launch. Larson stated that Fredrickson indicated the problem was an issue of timing, when boat launchers are driving their automobiles and boat trailers to and from the boat trailer parking lot. Hayden-Staggs stated that in order to prevent a line of traffic along Third Avenue, the boat parking lot personnel has to require boat launchers to remain in the lot and stage their boats for launching until they can drive right down to the launch and immediately

launch their boats. Hayden-Staggs stated that the other issue of the time delay for boat owners to walk back up to the parking lot to retrieve their automobiles and trailers still needs to be addressed, and the personnel needs to tell people that when the parking lot is full, it is full and they have to leave. O'Brien stated that since no new information, other than a drawing of the reconfigured turnaround lanes, has been presented to the Park Commission and she doesn't feel comfortable moving forward with approval of the proposal. Geye stated that she would recommend that a task force be appointed to study the boat launch, traffic congestion and pedestrian safety issue. Geye stated that members of the task force could be taken from all of the village committees, the Police Department, and the project engineers and architects. Geye stated that the task force could be given the direction to provide an alternative solution for the summer season while the other measures approved by the village can be monitored for effectiveness. O'Brien stated that she would like to see the issue studied further. Geye stated that she would volunteer her services on the task force, if formed. Geye stated that the village officials need to put their heads together and study the impact on all areas of the village to determine if a potential solution is just transferring the pedestrian safety problem to another area on the lakefront.

Geye/O'Brien 2nd made a MOTION to table the Park Commission's recommendation on the revised plan for the turnaround proposal until a joint meeting can be held with the Plan Commission, Park Commission and Lakefront and Harbor Committee at which other alternatives can be discussed, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

New Business

Agrecol Year-End Invoice

McHugh distributed a report on the \$35,152 invoice received from Agrecol. The village previously was billed \$103,507 for work completed in 2005. The installation of some big Oak trees, shrubs and ferns will be completed in 2006, after which the CDA will receive one more invoice totaling \$22,532 for the 2005 agreement. The Village will begin paying for the maintenance in the 2006.

Bills to Pay

Treptow stated that the Park Commission received two bills that are not currently covered in the budget. There is a \$753 bill from Northwind Perennial Farm for work completed in the medians on Fontana Boulevard, and a \$500 bill from the Brickman Group Ltd. for garland and decorations on the Park House. Treptow stated that he usually donates the garland and decorations for the Park House, but he was not able to this year. Hayden-Staggs stated that she will look for a source for the funds in the current budget. In response to a concern voiced by Geye, Hayden-Staggs stated that departmental budgets will be monitored on a quarterly basis in 2006 by the Finance Committee.

Parks/Gazebo Requests

None

Any Other Comments or Concerns

Treptow stated that a Tree City USA award presentation will be scheduled.

Adjournment

O'Brien/Lobdell 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 am, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Dennis L. Martin, Village Clerk
villageclerk@villageoffontan.com

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: _____