

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

(Official Minutes)

Park Commission Monthly Meeting

January 17, 2018

The Park Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Stan Livingston at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, January 17, 2018.

Members Present: Trustee Livingston, Sarah Lobdell, Mary Green, Jill Wegner, Robin Nuzzo, Gail Hibbard, Sandra Hibbard

Also Present: Joe Abell, Brett McCollum, Andy Pearce, Josh Skolnick, Chuck Thiesenhusen

Elect Secretary

Lobdell/Nuzzo 2nd made a MOTION to elect Gail Hibbard as the Park Commission Secretary, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Approval of Minutes December 4, 2017

Lobdell/Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes as submitted for the December 4, 2017 meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

Josh Skolnick from Heartland Land Creations distributed a proposed three-year site restoration and management plan for the four natural areas in Fontana.

Announcements

None

General Business

Park House Use

The Park House was not used in December, 2017.

Treasurer's Report

There is currently \$32,685 in the Park Commission Funds.

Public Works Report

Park Commission members commented that the Christmas decorations looked great this year. There was discussion about when to take the decorations down and whether to leave the lights up on the pavilion for a while longer.

Old Business

Tom Vanderpoel Memorial Plaque Wording – Gail Hibbard

Gail Hibbard proposed a memorial plaque for Tom Vanderpoel that would read, “Thomas Vanderpoel, 2/10/1951 - 8/8/2017, an inspirational teacher, loyal friend, patient mentor and dedicated restoration conservationist who was instrumental in establishing, nurturing and maintaining this beautiful prairie and oak savanna.” Gail requested that the plaque be affixed to a large rock and placed at triangle area at the Oak Savanna.

Request for Proposal to Lease Park House

After approval at the December Village Board meeting, Trustee Livingston approached Steele Whowell with the recommended lease rates for the next three years which were proposed at \$850 for the first year, \$900 for the second year, and \$950 for the third year. Whowell indicated the prices were too high and he was no longer interested in renting the Park House. The Village Board approved the concept of publicly advertising the Park House with the objective of entering

into a long-term lease at the last monthly meeting. Thiesenhusen stated the Big Foot Rec. Dept. no longer uses the Park House for any of their programs because they have outgrown the space. Wegner/Nuzzo 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval to advertise the Park House for a long-term lease agreement at an amount not less than \$800 per month, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

New Business

Big Foot Rec. Dept. Update and Annual Report – Chuck Thiesenhusen

Chuck Thiesenhusen from the Big Foot Rec. Dept. introduced himself and went over the annual report which included information on adult and social programs, pickleball and future goals of the department.

GTS Baseball Field Practice Proposal for Wednesday Nights

GTS is a new baseball league out of Elkhorn that would like to practice at the field at Duck Pond on Wednesday nights during the summer months. Since GTS is a club league, it is common for municipalities to charge for use of the field. Trustee Livingston stated he would communicate with GTS and establish an appropriate fee for using the field. Additionally, Livingston and staff will create a calendar in order to keep track of field usage at Duck Pond throughout the spring, summer and fall.

Recommendation for Bench Replacement at Lakefront

Several of the benches at the Lakefront are deteriorating and will need to be replaced. The Village will cover the cost of the donated benches, but staff asked how to handle the other benches. Since it is unknown how many benches are down at the Lakefront, McCollum was directed to get an actual count of how many dedicated and non-dedicated benches need replacing and report back at the next Park Commission meeting. Members thought that advertising for the replacement of the non-dedicated benches on the Park Commission Facebook page or Village website would be a good idea.

Storage Shed Replacement Proposal at Duck Pond

The storage shed purchased from Sam's Club last year was blown to pieces in a windstorm shortly after it was assembled. The Park Commission recommended putting up a permanent shed with a concrete pad for an amount not to exceed \$5,000. The Park Commission will donate \$2,500 and the Soccer Club will donate the other \$2,500 towards the purchase of a new shed and concrete pad.

Commissioner Nuzzo/Commissioner Sandra Hibbard 2nd made a MOTION to donate \$2,500 from the Park Commission Fund for the purchase of a new storage shed at Duck Pond Recreational Area, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Long Term Plan for Recreation Area at Duck Pond

Several ideas were discussed as long-term goals for the area at Duck Pond including adding another volleyball court, which could be used for league games as suggested by Chuck Thiesenhusen, additional lighting, enclosing part of the pavilion and the creation of a dog park.

Proposed Splash Pad for Reid Park or Beach Area

Staff introduced the concept of installing a splash pad at Little Foot Playground at Reid Park, or at the beach. Park Commission members agreed the beach area would probably be the best location since families are already there to swim and it would be a way for parents to enjoy the beach while their kids play at the splash pad. They volleyball court, which would be relocated, was identified as the best location for the splash pad. Staff was directed to look into the cost of a splash pad and if it could be located where the volleyball court is currently set up.

Park Permit Application Filed by Big Foot Lions Club for the Reid Park Pavilion with Beer/Wine Permit on Saturday, July 28, 2018 for the Lobster Boil and Steak Fry

Joe Abell and Andy Pearce presented their application to the Park Commission for the Big Foot

Lobster Boil on July 28, 2018. Pearce stated nothing has changed from last year's application and they will be keeping the fence within the same area. There were concerns about the condition of the pavilion prior to last year's Lobster Boil and Pearce asked the Village to monitor for future problems. There was discussion about putting up signs that indicate no grilling is allowed under the pavilion and that it is for seating only. Pearce also recommended having an opening ceremony sometime in the spring to recognize all of the people that have donated money. Abell presented a \$2,000 check from the Lions Club to the Park Commission.

Commissioner Gail Hibbard/Commissioner Green 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit Application Filed by the Big Foot Lions Club for the Reid Park Pavilion on Saturday, July 28, 2018 for the Lobster Boil and Steak Fry, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Park Permit Application Filed by Dan Green's Touch a Life, Heal a Heart, Inc., for the Reid Park Gazebo and Reid Park Pavilion with Beer/Wine Permit on Saturday, July 14, 2018 for Pig in the Park

Commissioner Gail Hibbard/Commissioner Nuzzo 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Park Permit Application filed by Dan Green's Touch a Life, Heal a Heart, Inc., for the Reid Park Gazebo and Reid Park Pavilion on Saturday, July 14, 2018 for Pig in the Park, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Adjournment

Lobdell/Green 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the Park Commission meeting at 6:35 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Theresa Loomer, Village Clerk

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: 03/21/18