



PARKS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2023

Attendees

Matthew Weyer
Jill Schipp
Natalie Howard
Tom Lueken
Mike Steffe
Jeff Warren
Ben Messmer
Jeff Durlauf

The meeting started at 4:30 pm. We read over the meeting minutes. Mike made a motion to approve the minutes; Jill seconded. All were in favor of approving the minutes. We read over the finances. Mike made a motion to approve the finances; Matt seconded; all were in favor.

Lease Discussions

Girls Softball

Jeff Warren with the Ferdinand Girls Softball reviewed the girls season and made note that it will end sometime in July. They bought extensions for the pitching rubber and asked if we could install them. It's in the equipment room and installs just like the bases.

Brett Schipp (Universal Design) is laying out some options for the netting, shading, fencing, etc. Jeff mentioned that they need something to get the water out of the dug outs when it rains. Mike asked Jeff to send him some ideas. Softball does have an electric pump and shop vac.

There is a gap between the batting cages and the oak trees look bad and are dying. The electric company is going to trim them.

Boys Baseball

Jeff Durlauf with the boys baseball league informed us that Carter Lumber is willing to provide a donation for the door/lock system and he has a suggestion for us. Jeff will provide some information. The system will not be as robust as what was originally planned.

He informed us that the league is no longer affiliated with Little League and this decision was made based on the numbers. They were losing kids due to kids having to age up. He's talked to the district and Dubois dropped out too. Southridge is going to stay in and Jasper is on the fence. We will be independent for now.

Tenbarge completed the work on the Weyer field and the drainage is much worse than expected. We



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are wondering if anything was said about the tile or anything being crushed. After the field improvements last winter, the Ruhe field never puddled. Mike is still following up with Tenbarge.

The press box/storage area in the boys building needs a bigger door and a less partitioned storage area. Brett Schipp will talk with Jeff Durlauf about this. The lock in the garage building does not work.

We haven't heard anything from the Linament League, Folk Fest, Soccer, Heimatfest, or Football. Do we have the YMCA and SE Dubois

18th Street Park

Ben Messmer with the men's horseshow league informed us that the backboards for the horseshoe area are in pretty bad shape. He stated it would cost between \$260-\$300 to repair. Matt made a motion to repair the horseshoe backboards with a cost not to exceed \$300, Jill seconded. The board approved the purchase of lumber for new back boards for the 18th Street Park horseshoe pits. The horseshoe league will graciously donate their time and install them. All were in favor. Tom will get the material. There is also a bench around the horseshoe area that needs repaired.

5th street park

We need to look at the bigger trees around the baseball and softball fields and see if they need to come down. We need to trim the oaks and keep an eye on all of them. Jill will look into pricing for new trees and we will shoot to plant new ones this fall.

Matt got the dimensions for the playground resurface so we are waiting on pricing for that and for 18th street. There are more issues with 5th street so we need to get it looked at.

Old Town Lake

The pet waste containers are all in. We hope to have them installed within the next few weeks.

We are thinking of putting the tree for Shirley Olinger near the fishing pier.

Jill stated that the invasive species work day has been moved to the November meeting.

Other News

The park board approved the purchase of a John Deere commercial lawn mower which was quoted for \$17,777.76. Three bids were received and the low bid—Hutson John Deere—was accepted. The mower was budgeted for this year and is under the budgeted amount. According to the salesman, ordering the mower now will allow us to receive by May 2023 which will allow the mower to be put into



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service this mowing season. We have budgeted \$18,000 for a new one. Gas mowers are cheaper, with a price of \$13,515.81 but we haven't had a gas one so would prefer diesel. We will put the old ones up for surplus and try to sell them. The money we get for them will be put back into the park budget. Mike made a motion to approve purchasing a lawnmower for \$17,777.76; Jill seconded, all were in favor.

The water sprinkling system is on schedule. The stat is reviewing it now. Todd and Ben will go through and make sure all is ready to go. We need to make sure that all lines are operable.

Tom will get new cores reinstalled in the door locks that were recently installed in girls softball.

Matt made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Jill seconding; all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:52 pm. The next meeting is March 8, 2023 at 4:30 pm.

Minutes submitted on 7 March 2023

Natalie Howard