



PARKS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2023

Attendees

Matthew Weyer
Jill Schipp
Natalie Howard
Tom Lueken
Mike Steffe
Debbie Johnson
Daryl Schmitt
Kenned Staton
Michelle Kieper

The meeting started at 4:35 p.m. 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. Jill made a motion to approve the finances; Mike seconded; all were in favor.

Matt noted that the townships raised their annual donation which was up \$2,000 from last year.

Daryl Schmitt with the Dubois County Council announced his attendance just to observe to see how things work.

5th street park

We reviewed the master plan for the park. Mike explained the plan to Town Council member Debbie Johnson. We reviewed the added cost and dimensions of the dugouts. Tom believes he can do most of the work on the dugouts and will provide a cost estimate for the next meeting.

The most immediate plan would be to start striping the parking lot. Hopefully, we can do that soon. The cost for surveying and striping is around \$9,000.

We do have some money from the Mobile Foundation we can use towards this. The very first structure was donated by Aristokraft and the Ruhe family donated the grill area. Universal Design has donated its time to creating our plan and design. We would like to show Jeff Durlauf the plans to see what he thinks about it.

Jill stated that she sent Tammy the bill for the trees we purchased which totaled \$8,800. Tom wants to start planting the trees soon. He will put some around the softball field, and replace a few dead ones. The plan is to plant 6 at 18th Street, 4 at the Old Town Lake (including the one for the Olingers) and the rest will be planted at 5th Street.

18th Street park

Kennedy Staton was in attendance to inform us that she has completed her human sundial at 18th Street Park for her Eagle Scout project. She informed us that it will be easy to maintain and will preen the gravel in the spring. Michelle Kieper will take care of it while Kennedy is away at college next year. Michelle thanked the board for allowing Kennedy to complete this project.

Old Town Lake

We need to get rid of the wooden sign that is at the old town lake. The board voted to remove it and place any required signage elsewhere.

The invasive species day went over well. Emily Finch said that it was one of the biggest turn outs she has ever seen.

Splash Pad

Matt, Debbie, and Mike spoke with Moake Park (a company Mike saw at a YMCA conference) virtually. They do have a higher price than Councilman-Hunsaker but their plan was very clear and specific. Councilman-Hunsaker will charge \$1800 every time they come down. Jasper Park worked with Councilman. Mike said he could reach out to Holland and Dale to see who they used. Debbie said that the Park Board does need to recommend someone and bring it to the town council meeting. Sharon said we do not need a third option. Mike said we need to shoot for approval of a company in January or February.

Other News

We did receive a copy of the ordinances and the only adjustment made was if someone rents the entire park.

All buildings have been winterized; Tom just needs to go through the equipment.

Sharon asked if they could use the concession stand at 18th Street Park on April 8 for the eclipse event.

The Police station now has a fob system now and is enjoying the setup. When we decide to move in this direction we may be able to piggyback off of the system. We also may be able to use ARPA money as this falls under safety. The money will have to be committed for 2024.

Discussed when we should have the lease meeting. We agreed that we would have it in February but that meeting needs to be February 7th as Mike is out of town February 14.

Jill motioned to adjourn the meeting; Matt seconded and all were in favor. The meeting ended at 5:29 pm. The next meeting is January 10 at 4:30 pm at the Town Hall.

Minutes submitted on 20 December 2023

Natalie Howard

