

December 4, 2019

President Wahlig called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Attending were President Wahlig, Vice President Selman, Board Members Adams and Poor. Absent was Member Carpenter. Also attending was Superintendent Matt Hanna, Event Coordinator Nina Burlingame along with Tom and Angie Fredrick from the Civil War Days.

The minutes of the November 6, 2019 meeting were approved with a motion by Member Poor and a second by Vice President Selman. Motion carried 5-0.

President Wahlig thanked Tom and Angie Fredrick for attending the meeting and invited them to speak. Tom handed out copies of a letter that his brother Tim Fredrick had drafted as a result of the Boards letter to the group. Tom felt like his group complied for the most part with the rules that were set forth prior to the event. He mentioned that a Park employee had told a reenactor that they were close to kicking this group out of the park for this event. The employee stated they didn't like this event and didn't want them here. Tom stated that this employee also stated things that contradicted what Superintendent Hanna stated during the initial meeting with Angie. The other topics of the letter were discussed including trash removal, bus parking, committee formation, new dirt work and seeding along trail and an information table available at all times. Superintendent Hanna explained that the list given out prior to the 2019 Civil War Days and the letter sent by the Board after the event were not new items. Most of the items had been discussed for years, Hanna felt he needed to have them written down and distributed to the group, so everyone was on the same page. Vice President Selman suggested that the group contact Superintendent Hanna whenever they have an issue. Selman stated that she has never not been able to reach Superintendent Hanna when she needed something. Tom Fredrick stated that he did call Matt once for something and he sent an employee up instead. Superintendent Hanna explained to Tom that his position is to delegate maintenance tasks to the staff, that is what they were there for. President Wahlig stated that the big take away is that someone be available at the registration table at all times. She also felt better communication between the group and Superintendent Hanna needed to take place. Wahlig stated that the Civil War Group now knows the Boards expectations, they want the event to continue so long as the expectations are met.

OLD BUSINESS

Firemen's Pavilion- Supt. Hanna stated that the contract with Wagler & Associates has been signed and the project is now in their hands. Hanna spoke with them earlier in the week and if the weather holds out, they could start the concrete work before the end of the year. Hanna said they have until April 15th to complete the structure. Hanna also stated that Nina and himself had contacted everyone that has rented it next year to inform them of the changes.

Sign Marquee- Supt. Hanna reported they have told him they were going to be here several times and have not shown up yet. Hanna was not happy with the service on this project. The sign is in Fort Wayne and now in the hands of the sub-contractor. President Wahlig asked if they have been paid for this job yet. Hanna said they have paid for the constructed sign, but not for the install.

NEW BUSINESS

Center Lakes Property- Supt. Hanna said that he met with Nate Simmons and Fred Wooly of Blue Heron Ministries after Nate had a meeting with the Mayor. Nate wanted to know if the Park Board would be interested in accepting this property in the future and work with Blue Heron Ministries on obtaining more of the properties within the Center Lakes region. Hanna stated that the property could offer access for fishing and a walking trail, but little other development. After some discussion the Board made it clear that they would be interested in looking into this further and possibly taking ownership of this property if made available in the future.

Invasive Weed Control- Supt. Hanna told the Board that after his meeting with Nate Simmons he asked that Blue Heron Ministries look at some invasive weed problems the Park is having near some of their wetlands. Hanna said Phragmites has taken over several acres of wetland on both the Hornbacher Property and the newer portion of Commons Park. Hanna told the Board that Nate quickly came up with a plan to control the weeds with a mow/burn, herbicide applications over three years and then reseed back to native grasses and plants. Hanna said he would like to begin this in 2020 and felt he could find the money for the mow/burn and first herbicide treatment. This would allow them to budget for the remainder of the contract in the consecutive years. Hanna said the three-year plan would end up costing \$12,000 at most but could be less depending on methods used by Blue Heron. Hanna said coincidentally he received an email from the Indiana DNR Division of Forestry stating that they had done a site visit of the WRP tract that was purchased from Hornbacher and recommended that invasive weed control take place at that location. Supt. Hanna said they are responsible to be good stewards of the land and control the

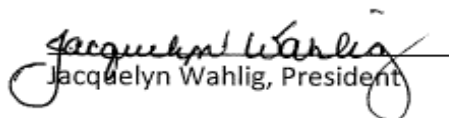
undesirables. Member Poor made a motion to contract with Blue Heron to control invasive species on portions of the park. President Wahlig seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

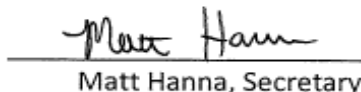
County Trail Maintenance Agreement- Supt. Hanna said he was approached by the County wanting to know if the Parks had any interest in extending the mowing and snow removal contract for the new portion of the trail. Hanna responded that he would have to speak to the Mayor and Park Board before he could answer that. He spoke to the Mayor, who gave his blessing if the staff felt they could handle it. Hanna said the new portion is slightly longer than the portion they do now. Hanna figured \$10,500 for the additional portion, plus the \$10,000 for the portion they already do. Hanna stated that the amount of time between snow fall and removal would have to be increased from 24 hours to 48 hours in order to finish all their City responsibilities first before the contracted work. Vice President Selman made a motion to contract the new county portion of trail if an agreement was met. Member Adams seconded the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADA Playground- Supt. Hanna said he was approached by the Mayor regarding a Sensory All-Inclusive Playground that was put in by Richmond Indiana Parks & Recreation. The Mayor stated that they have had tremendous feedback on this and were willing to talk to us regarding the project. Hanna said part of the Mayor's campaign for re-election even included discussing this project. Hanna said with the number of kids with autism or physical disabilities in our area and surroundings, should justify a project like this. Hanna wanted to know if the Board would consider allowing Hanna to investigate this and possibly visit some of the closer playgrounds with this concept. President Wahlig and others stated they would love to go along during a visit and would be willing to support the idea. Hanna said there is one in Fort Wayne called Taylor's Dream Boundless Playground designed by Mid-States Recreation, which is a local organization. There is one in Wabash as well, Harper's Playground assisted in that build.

No further business, meeting adjourns at 11:35 AM.


Jacquelyn Wahlig, President


Matt Hanna, Secretary