

June 3, 2020

President Wahlig called the meeting to order at 10:00am. Attending via teleconference were President Wahlig, Vice President Selman, Members Adam, Carpenter and Poor. Also attending were Park Superintendent Matt Hanna, Event Coordinator Nina Burlingame, and Ashlee Hoos from the Herald Republican.

The minutes of the March 4, 2020 were approved with a motion by Member Poor and second by President Wahlig.

OLD BUSINESS

Covid-19 Update – Superintendent Hanna informed the group that he has been working with the Angola COVID-10 Task Force working on ways to bring people back to work and get the community up and running again. The Parks Dept. has brought back the staff full time, including seasonal maintenance. They are split into shifts keeping lunches and break times at a maximum of three people at a time. Burlingame has been working from home but was brought back on June 1 and the office will open by appointment only on June 15. Visitors are required to wear a mask and fill out the COVID-19 Visitor Questionnaire. There is also a sneeze guard at Nina's desk and hand sanitizing unit at the entrance. We have placed new soap dispensers at each restroom along with hand washing signs. There is also social distancing signs at each pavilion and on the

playgrounds. Member Selman asked about signage on the office door about making an appointment and what number to call. Hanna informed the group that yes, we have signage and we are encouraging to complete their business via telephone or email if at all possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Rescheduling of Events – Event Coordinator Burlingame informed us that all cooking classes that were scheduled in March, April and May were canceled. The Birdhouse Workshop was moved from May 2 to August 8 pending board approval. Burlingame felt that with these being smaller classes that they could socially distance. Back to School Bash is scheduled for Saturday, July 25 and The Hubie Ashcraft Concert is on Friday, August 14th. Pickleball and Yoga are supposed to start during the week of June 15. We need the board's approval. Matt explained these programs are all held outdoors, we can socially distance people and safety precautions are being taken. Selman asked how the Back to School Bash will be separating kids by 6 feet because it is such a large event. Matt said that the Task Force is asking outside events to submit a plan for their safety procedures and how they are going to comply with CDC guidelines. President Wahlig stated that because July 4th is coming up and people are already not adhering to the guidelines, a decision cannot be made today whether or not we allow the Back to School Bash to happen. Matt asked if the board would vote on June 26 Painting in the Park and June Yoga and Pickleball classes. Member Poor asked if the Parks Dept. were taking temperatures. Matt said no, we are asking people to self-monitor. Member Selman stated that she could see how Painting in Park could be safe. Wahlig asked if people would be required to wear a mask. Burlingame said not as they are painting but when they are gathered up to listen to instructions, yes. Member Adams asked if we could postpone. Member Carpenter asked about the restroom usage and safety. Matt informed the board that we are opening restrooms on June 14 and we have gotten quotes for them to be disinfected with fogging on Mondays and Fridays. The Board decided to postpone June 26 Painting in the Park, June Pickleball and June Yoga classes until a later date. Will discuss at the July meeting.

Summer Recreation Program – Burlingame stated June was cancelled and the Task Force has not announced their decision on the months of July and August, but she believes they will cancel. Nina has looked into “camp in a box” that other communities are doing but this route would be extremely costly. Superintendent Hanna would like to hear what the Park Board has to say about this program so that he can pass their thoughts along to the COVID Task Force. He stated that their reasons for canceling so early in June was that it is impossible to keep kids socially distanced. He states that he does believe that if we cancel this will have a negative impact on future years. Burlingame stated that she has listened to what other communities are doing for their programs and the procedures they are taking will take way so much that it will not be fun for the kids. Member Adams asked Burlingame if we had kids from other counties in the program. Nina explained that yes, we have had participants from Coldwater and Fort Wayne in the past. Superintendent Hann brought up that we have had to tell our Summer Rec staff that if they need to find other jobs, they should because we do not know if there will be a program. Burlingame stated that she has stayed in contact with the employees. President Wahlig, Vice President Selman, Members Adams and Poor vote to cancel. Member Carpenter would still like to see something at the end of the season.

Balloons Aloft – Superintendent Hanna said that this event is still happening, but it will be very different than years in the past. They are planning the illumination show on Friday, July 10th and the City of Angola is having their fireworks display included in this event. People will be asked to stay in their cars and Hanna said that they are not going to enforce but are recommending they practice the social distancing guidelines. Matt is asking that the board decide whether or not people can park in Commons Park. The Parks Dept. will have a limited staff just to keep people away from the Selman Timber Frame where the fireworks are being shot off. He stated that because we are opening the parks on June 14 – restrooms, playgrounds, basketball courts, etc. will be open and we cannot stop spectators from walking into the park. Burlingame stated that if we do not invite people through our website and social media, this will cut down the amount of people walking into the park. Member Poor and President Wahlig agreed. Member Selman said that people will most likely stay by their car. Superintendent Hanna stated that the Task Force has asked the Balloons Aloft Committee to advertise as a drive-in fireworks show. President

Wahlig asked if the Parks Department would be having their staff or volunteers park people. Hanna said he would be looking for assistance and this will be a bigger project than the original Independence Day Celebration. Wahlig asked if there would only be parking on Smurr Field, not in Commons Park. Hanna stated that is up to the Park Board. Member Carpenter said that we should put information on the new sign about where to park. Member Selman says that it will send a bad message if we do not allow people to park in Commons Park and we should allow people to park there. Hanna said he will take everyone’s concerns to the Task Force and give an update after he has spoke with them.

OTHER BUSINESS

Budget – Hanna stated that most of our budget has been suspended. The 2021 budget will be the same as what was planned for the 2020 year but Hanna will bring it to the board before submitting.

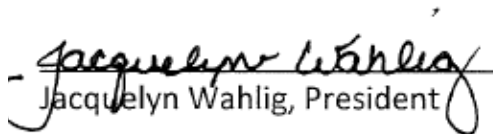
Trees – Member Selman asked about the trees that were planted many years ago in between the cemetery and Friendship Playground, she wanted to know if the cemetery was cutting those branches off. Hanna said yes, the cemetery was doing that, he also stated that we also got our new white vinyl fence south of Friendship Playground.

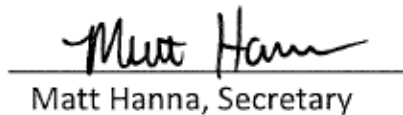
Meetings – Superintendent Hanna asked the board what their thoughts were on doing the Park Board meetings in person next month versus teleconference. It was decided that it would be teleconference in July but those who want to attend in person can.

Rentals – Burlingame informed the board that all renters would be signing an Assumption of Risk form that was approved by our insurance and City Attorney. She will send out the form to Park Board members.

YMCA – Member Carpenter asked what was going on with the YMCA partnership. Hanna said this project has been on hold since COVID19 started.

No further business, meeting adjourns at 11:17 AM.


Jacquelyn Wahlig, President


Matt Hanna, Secretary