

Park Board Minutes
May 12, 2016

Nancy Taplin, Donna Vermillion, Roger Grove, Phil Rafalski, Malarie Pearce, Mary Ann Holston and Dan Vermillion were present, along with guests Steve Ruby, Ken Carter, Jason Quirk and Kim Land. Nancy called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Phil made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 31st meeting, seconded by Mary Ann. Minutes were accepted.

Old Business:

Electronic Information Sign -- Steve Vojtko had approached the board previously on behalf of the Library Board about putting an electronic sign at Memorial Park to announce local events. The Library Board is asking the Park Department to pay for half of the sign, which would be about \$15,000-\$16,000. After discussion, Phil made a motion to tell the Library Board no; Mary Ann seconded the motion; motion passed.

Playground Equipment -- The new equipment has been installed and the mulch has been spread on the west side of the playground under the new equipment. The east side needs to dry out before the mulch is put down there. Roger reported that since the area has been dug deeper, the concrete at the swing set poles is now at ground level, which is a safety concern. Roger recommended using our encumbered money for new swing sets at Memorial Park; this will address the safety issue and will also alleviate some of the problems with the current swing sets. The board members looked at the sets available from Parkreation, and with Roger's recommendation, decided on a swing set with 4 bays; there will be 4 belt swings and 2 flat swings and one generations swing (a two-sided swing that will hold an adult and a baby facing each other). Malarie made a motion to purchase this swing set at a cost not to exceed \$6500. Mary Ann seconded the motion; motion passed.

New Business:

Electric Usage at Hometown Days -- Jason Quirk did an analysis of average electric costs for the parks from 2011-2015 and determined that it costs about \$130 extra during Hometown Days weekend. This is based on current rates, which could be increasing in the near future. This is paid by the park department. In addition, the park department paid \$3413.69 to provide a 50 Amp double pole H-frame plug in at Memorial Park to cover the electric needs for Hometown Days. The Hometown Days committee charges vendors \$35 for electricity at their booths. The board discussed recouping our expenses for the electrical upgrade and energy costs from this money that Hometown Days collects from the vendors. Mary Ann made a motion to change the agreement with Hometown Days beginning in 2017 to read that the electric fees collected from vendors will be returned to the park department; Phil seconded the motion; motion passed. Nancy will meet with Kim Vaundry of Hometown Days committee to explain our proposed change to the agreement.

Summer Park Program -- Jacqui Wines has the summer park program ready to go. Nancy read the schedule of events. It will run from June 7 (registration) through July 21 and will be free and open to children ages 5 through 4th grade.

Fundraisers -- Aaron Rypma suggested doing the giant slip and slide at Bourissa Hills Park again during Hometown Days as a fund raiser for the parks. The board members discussed and are in favor of this. We need to locate a larger sheet of plastic (at least 20 x 100),

sandbags for the edges, and at least a case of baby shampoo. We also need to advertise it and contact the New Carlisle Fire Department to see if they are willing to help again this year.

Aaron also suggested organizing a wiffle ball tournament for children (ages 8-17) to go along with the adult wiffle ball tournament. This will take a lot of organization; Nancy will talk to Koby Keck to see if he would be interested in helping with that.

Splash Pad -- Ken Carter provided information on behalf of the Town Board regarding what is involved in this project and where to start. First steps include choosing a location, and figuring out the size and design. Then it must be determined how the utilities will connect (electric, water, sewer). If it is located at Bourissa Hills, the sewer line has to come through Tiger Court. It will need to be fenced and locked at night. We need to decide if we need permanent restrooms built along with it. After all this has been decided, we can begin figuring out costs. At that point, we need to come up with strategies to raise the necessary money. In order to take the first step, the next board meeting will be held at Memorial Park to begin scouting locations – we will invite John Mrozinski so he can answer questions regarding utility accessibility.

Meeting Date -- The board discussed meeting on a different day to accommodate current members' schedules. It was decided that going forward, the Park Board will meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Mary Ann made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Phil. Meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 29, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. at Memorial Park.