

NORTH MANCHESTER PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

March 20, 2024

MINUTES

The North Manchester Parks & Recreation Board met in regular session at the Strauss-Peabody Aquatic and Fitness Center Conference Room. Members present: President Mel Sautter (28), Bobbi Lautzenheiser (27), Becky Kreps (26), Jack Vineyard (25) and Rick Espeset (24). Also present were Jennifer Hotchkiss (Director), Linda Miller (Assistant Director) and Noah Cain (Park Facilities Manager).

CALL TO ORDER

Mel Sautter called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were none.

MINUTES

Minutes from the February 28, 2024 Regular Meeting were presented for approval. Motion for approval (JV/BK) was passed by a voice vote of members present.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

The Maintenance Report was reviewed. (Copy attached)

DIRECTOR REPORT

The Director's Report was reviewed. (Copy attached)

MRA REPORT

Jack reported that the Concession Stand is up and running and everything is going well. They have 260 youth registered up through Little League plus 50 youth in the Jr. High Program. Akron, Roann, South Whitley, Pierceton and Wabash are all sending teams to play in our Program. The schedules are being revised and they may have to play games on Friday night and Saturday to get everything in.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL PAYMENTS

Claims and Allowance Docket

The March Claims and Allowance Docket in the amount of \$58,205.98 was reviewed. Motion to approve the March Claims and Allowance Docket in the amount of \$58,205.98 (BK/BL) was passed by a voice vote of members present.

Monthly Park and Recreation Financial Reports

The March Claims Summary, Utility Comparison Report, February Expense Reports and February Revenue Report were reviewed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dog Park

Jennifer reported that she is just waiting to hear back from an electrician regarding running the electricity from the outfield to the gate for the unit.

Outdoor Pickleball Courts

Since the proposal from JPR was so expensive, Jennifer talked to Adam and Carrie about it and Adam suggested going a different route and doing an RFP (Request for Proposal). Adam found examples of communities in Indiana who did this very same thing. Jennifer emailed the information to the Town Attorney and he is going to get it all drawn up, advertised, and hopefully get some bids. The RFP will be specific, including design, size, fencing, etc. We could possibly have bids to open at the April Park Board meeting.

The board then discussed the Corporate Level Suggestions that Tim sent, with the top level and naming right to the facility, listed at \$150,000. Motion to approve the Corporate Level Suggestions but giving Tim the ability to adjust those amounts if he receives feedback from businesses saying they are too high (JV/BL) was passed by a voice vote of members present. Discussion continued. Motion to amend the \$150,000 and replace it with "half the cost of the total project" with the understanding the total cost is estimated at \$400,000-600,000 (RE/JV) was passed by a voice vote of members present. Further comments were made and discussion continued. Motion to add \$250,000 or half the cost of the total project (BK/JV) was passed by a voice vote of members present.

New Dehumidification System for Pool Area

There was no update at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

New Mower/Leaf Blower

Noah addressed the board. He explained that our current mowing equipment consists of a Scag Cheetah purchased in 2020 and a very old John Deere which is leaking oil and needs replaced. The board reviewed the quotes from Eel River for both new and used replacements. Motion to recommend the purchase of the Scag Cheetah II and a new Windstorm Leaf Blower (JV/BK) was passed by a voice vote of members present.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

APPROVED _____

Mel Sautter, President

Jack Vineyard, Vice-President

Becky Kreps, Member

Bobbi Lautzenheiser, Member

Rick Espeset, Member