

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes – November 17, 2016

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10p.m.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Present: Tracy Thomas, David Gibbons, Chuck Steuer, Jennifer DeLisle, Sam Iaquinto, , Tim Saville, Doug Wilbur, Khyrsaundt “CiCi” Koenig.

Also Present: Howard Fink, Twp. Manager; Tami Averill, Community Center Director;

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Iaquinto. Second by Gibbons. Passed.

4. First Call to the Public

Mary Christianson and Phyllis Lindblade attended to discuss their concerns and some ideas for the Bark Park. There are 17 to 20 people and their dogs visiting the park most evenings. There is concern about safety. Howard Fink reported that he had spoken with School District Superintendent , Tom Dekeyser. Mr. Dekeyser was going to put in a request to have the light turned on and possibly add a light. Howard suggested waiting a few weeks to see what happens.

There was discussion regarding purchasing LED solar lights w/ motion detectors. Tracy Thomas expressed his concern that putting in lighting on our own is contrary to the school district’s rules of the park.

There were concerns about water jugs lying about in the park. Approval was given to purchase a locker to put the jugs in. Dave Gibbons may build something to hold them.

5. Minutes of Oct. 20, 2016 Meeting.

Motion was made by Iaquinto to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Thomas. Passed.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Planning Commission Update

Iaquinto reported on the Commission’s recent activities.

8. Project Review & Discussion

a. Community Garden

Clean-up Day – CiCi is calling people.

J&M estimated \$200.00 for the removal of the large branch and \$600.00 to do all the trimming needed. Tim Saville could possibly do the trimming.

Compost – Tim will take the compost to his property.

Winterizing – Cici and Tim will work on winterizing the garden.

Howard Fink suggested that a committee be organized to oversee the garden.

A delivery of leaf mulch is needed. New compost will be needed in the spring.

b. Nature Trail/River Walk/Trail Plan

Gibbons reported that there are wood chips for the first 50 yards and the trail is partially outlined with logs.

Howard Fink met with Tom DeKeyser regarding the lease. He is hopeful that it will be signed soon.

c. Dog Park

Additional discussion included winter plowing issues, grass seeding (will take place in the Spring), and the issue of a source of water (will revisit in the future).

d. Structure and membership of Parks & Rec Board

Discussion regarding a recommendation for a Board of Trustee member to be appointed to the Parks & Recreation Board.

e. Park Project Behind Public Safety Building

Mailings have gone out to property owners asking them to consider donating their property.

Thomas will construct large map so that the group can get a handle on the geography and the progress that is being made.

f. Van Curler Property

Fink reported that integration between the Parks & Recreation Board and the Downtown Planning Group is needed. The Parks and Recreation Board would very much like to be involved with the Community Park. Tim will attend the Downtown Planning Group meetings as a P & R representative.

Tree removal quotes: Benchmark Outdoor Services (Tim Saville) - \$1,150.00. J & M - \$1,200.00.

laquinto moved to accept Benchmark Outdoor Services Quote. Second by Gibbons. Discussion:

Thomas expressed concern regarding the appearance of a possible conflict of interest. The Benchmark quote was submitted before J & M's was submitted. Members felt it was a fair and reasonable quote.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Saville abstained from voting.

9. Financial Report and Financial Action Items

Fink distributed the Operating Statement for the Bark Park funds.

10. Board Member Comments

Saville – Will watch for a job box at auctions for Bark Park water jugs.

Gibbons – Reported that he will build a stand for the water jugs. A job box would be a good thing for the Community Garden.

Koenig – Wants to take a look at the area for possible trail plan. She would like suggestions of who to talk to, etc. She would like an aerial map.

Fink – Mentioned that this was Tracy Thomas' last meeting as Chairperson of the P & R Board. He mentioned how much he values his judgement, intellect, discussions and his measured approach to things. Very proud of all that the group has accomplished.

Thomas – Reported that he is not really going anywhere. Even though he will no longer be a voting member of the group, he does plan to attend meetings as an interested citizen and volunteer.

11. Second call to the public.

None.

12. Announcement of Next Meeting – January 19, 2017 @ 7:00p.m.

130. Adjournment.

Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Iaquinto. Passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:52p.m.