

**Chesterton Park Department**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Those in Attendance:** President Wendy Marciniak, Vice President Paul Shinn, Member Bob Cohn, Superintendent Shane Griffin, Liaison Jennifer Fisher, Town Engineer Mark O'Dell, Town Attorney Connor Nolan, Administrator Hilary Thomas Peterson,

Wendy called for roll – Paul Shinn, Bob Cohn present.

Wendy Marciniak called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the assemblage with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Wendy addressed the Board of the vandalism that has been frequently occurring in the Parks, and have a discussion on options. As per discussion. The need is to hold the vandals accountable. Shane stated that the camera were operational and did pick up some juveniles, which have been identified and have been contacted by CPD detectives. Jennifer Fisher suggested that this be pursued as a civil matter, and that the Board will need to hold an executive session. She also suggested that more lighting be placed on the side of the doors, since they face away from Broadway, and are isolated against the tracks. As per further discussion. Richard Riley suggested that the Board pursue legal action against the juveniles and their parents, referencing a parental responsibility law that holds parents responsible for up to \$1500 for children under 18 years, and should be enforced. As per further discussion. More lighting and motion activated lighting would be key, executive session discussed.

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve April minutes, with changes made to reflect SEH and not SCH, was made by Bob Cohn. Seconded by Paul Shinn. Motion passed. April minutes approved.

### **Comments from the Public**

Anita Wallen – recently moved from Illinois to Easton Park. Addressed the Board with the possibility of acquiring the Brassie Golf Course as a park property. As per discussion.

### **Superintendent/Engineer Report**

Mowing has started, all restrooms now open. A Spruce was planted at Dogwood. Going to Coffee Creek and tackling evasive species. Park staff completed CPR training, Dogwood picnic tables now secured. Four new soccer goals are at Dogwood. Would like permission to purchase new truck through CEDIT to replace 1999 Ford F250. List price for a new F250 would be \$47,755, but with the Town's discount \$35,762 would be our purchase price. A wood chipper, was also approved through CEDIT, and one was ordered through Hopkins Ace Hardware, and was ultimately donated by Mark Hopkins. Dickinson property is now officially park land, would like to put in a dog park and walking trails. Will apply land and water conservation fund grant next year to get new bathrooms at Chesterton Park. Grant would cover 50%, Park impact would cover the rest. Starting to take apps for four positions for summer help.

A motion to pursue dog park and trails at Dickinson Rd property, bathrooms at Chesterton Park and use of Park Impact fees and obtain CEDIT monies was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Bob Cohn.

A motion to approve the purchase of a new FORD F250 from Bosak Ford for \$35,762 through QPA was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Bob Cohn.

A motion to accept the donated wood chipper from Mark & Michelle Hopkins was made by Bob Cohn. Seconded by Paul Shinn.

Mark O'Dell stated that he would work with Shane on the bathrooms, possible go with company that put in Dogwood bathrooms. Stated that the Duneland Soccer Club had late signups, will be back in June meeting with a donation. Tournament is scheduled for June 4, 5, and 6<sup>th</sup> at Dogwood. Lost several teams in various clubs due to COVID.

### **Comments from the Board**

Bob thanked Jim Ton for the safety issue on Route 49. Would like the board to look into the pedestrian aspect and be included with any revamp.

Paul stated that the old bathrooms at Chesterton Park to be reassessed. Confirmed that the Christmas tree was delivered. Asked Mark O'Dell for a list of soccer club donations. Inquired about a steering committee for the RFP. Connor stated that only one Park board member should be appointed.

A motion to allow Wendy Marciniak to appoint a Park Board member to the steering committee was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Bob Cohn.

Wendy asked if the Duneland Garden Club helped on Earth Day, Shane replied that they delivered and helped put in new mulch at Thomas Park. Wendy thanked them for all their hard work. Asked if the car show was still on. Shane stated it will start at the end of this month. Paul asked if splash pad will be up and ready. Shane stated that it will be opened on Memorial Day pending any issues.

### **Approval of Claims**

A motion to approve May claims was made by Bob Cohn. Seconded by Paul Shinn. Motion passed. May claims approved.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Cohn. Seconded by Paul Shinn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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President  
Wendy Marciniak

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Date