

Chesterton Park Department
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August, 3rd 2021

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

Wendy Marciniak called Roll – Paul Shinn, Mark Dickinson, Bob Cohn – all 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.

Approval of Minutes

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

Superintendent/Engineer Report

Apollo multigym has been ordered for Dogwood Park with the Dunbar donation and should arrive next month. Tree grant applied for through Communitree. Bike trail bridges and ramps were attended too with help from the Street Dept. Continuing the ongoing battle with evasive's at Coffee Creek Park. Summer Fun program ended last week, had a great turnout. Blind corners on bike trail have also been cleaned up with the new chipper. Some train car bathroom ramp boards were replaced due to warping. Attended with SEH at the European Market. Dogwood Park is getting attended too for the upcoming Art Fair. Looking for permission to apply for the US Fish and Wildlife grant for Coffee Creek dredging, due in by September.

A motion to proceed for application of the US Fish and Wildlife grant was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Bob Cohn. Motion passed.

Memorial trees will be coming to Dogwood and Coffee Creek Parks.

Mark asked how the new boards were acquired, Shane replied that we happened to have some extra. Also asked if the gym equipment will be anchored down, with a reply it will be.

Wendy commended Shane for how beautiful our portion of the bike trail is.

Bob asked about the extra summer help. Shane said that they will be losing 2 next week for school, and the others will stay on for about another month.

Mark O'Dell stated that they met with the Army Corp of Engineers regarding the Westchester Liberty Trail phase 3, still moving forward. As per discussion.

Bike trail will be put in from North of 1100 from 5th street, as per discussion. Will connect Coffee Creek Conservancy to the Prairie Duneland Trail. As per discussion.

Bob asked if it will stay at 8 feet. Mark stated yes. 700' to connect to Tamarak Subdivision. As per discussion.

Dave Cincoski addressed the Art Fair agreement, needs final approval from Park Board.

A motion to approve the Art Fair Agreement was made by Mark Dickinson. Seconded by Bob Cohn. Motion passed.

SEH - Taken alternatives and shared with stakeholders, and reached out to the community during the European Market. Access is the main issue from Calumet. As per discussion. More ADA access also needed. Cleaning up of current parking, putting in bathrooms near the playground and expand current playground area. Putting in Pond boardwalk, and putting in more boardwalks around. Installing a few shade shelters. As per discussion. About 100 people were engaged at the European Market and did 2 tours. As per discussion. Would like to sit down with members with Park Board and Council since this is one of the larger projects the Town has undertaken. Connor stated that this would be an open public meeting.

Comments from the Board

Mark asked if the Chesterton Park tennis court maintenance fell to the Park or the Middle School, Shane responded that it was our responsibility. Inquired about the Bluegrass event, Hilary responded that a SUP was submitted and approved at the last meeting. Also inquired about Dickinson Rd park and Lehman.

Paul asked about the dog park, looking into doing an RFP. Asked if the grant would be able to be used for Coffee Creek, Mark O'Dell replied with a yes. Inquired about the house on 23rd St. would like to work with Mark about getting it inspected. Paul also went to the summer fun program and spoke with Laura O'Dell. COVID protocol was followed, great turn out, over 100 kids signed up. National Park Service came and did a presentation, as per discussion. New stools, card table, bins, and ice packs will be requested for next year.

Approval of Claims

A motion to approve August claims was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Mark Dickinson. Motion passed. August claims approved.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Cohn. Seconded by Paul Shinn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

President
Wendy Marciniak

Date