# Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Monday May 9, 2022

Call to Order and Roll Call - Kim Pearson

Present: Justin Bastin, Kim Pearson, Ann Kloc, Catherine Witsman, Susie Highley

Absent: Branden Williams

**Also Present:** Tim Gropp, Ryan Crum, Niki Jones, Tonya Galbraith, Evan Kloc (Boy Scout), Mary Harmon (resident)

### March 7th, Meeting Minutes -

Mr. Bastin made a motion to approve the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Ms. Kloc seconded and passed 5/0.

## 5K - Tim Gropp & Tonya Galbraith

Mr. Gropp introduced himself to the Parks and Recreation Board members.

Ms. Galbraith has offered to volunteer her time to organize the 5K event during the transition period. Ms. Jones will be the internal contact for the details for the event. Mr. Gropp asked for the boards approval and understanding.

Ms. Galbraith presented the spreadsheet of the sponsors for the 5K. She explained that as of this point, the sponsors have pledged approximately \$8,500. The board approved the black and white logo for this years 5K promotional items. Hats have been designed and order prepared for approval for a quantity of 150. GetMeRegistered.com will be the registration platform for participants to sign up and Ms. Galbraith expects to have approximately 125 participants this year.

Mr. Gropp added that Meijer had been contacted again this year to request a gift card to use for the water, fruit and food items for the participants.

Ms. Highley made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign purchase agreement for 150 hats in the amount of \$1532.50. Ms. Witsman seconded. Passed 5/0

# 5K Racemaker - Tim Gropp

The owner and representative, Lee O'Conner of Racemaker was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Mr. Gropp presented the Racemaker agreement from the last meeting for coordinating the timing of the race.

Ms. Highley made a motion to approve the contract with Racemaker in the amount of \$1184.50. Mr. Bastin seconded. Passed 5/0

Ms. Galbraith explained that she would be in contact with the emcee from last year. The services were free of charge.

Registration will be live on June 13<sup>th</sup> through the GetMeRegistered.com website. The cost of registration is \$20.

# Parks Master Plan - Ryan Crum

Mr. Crum stated that the Parks Master Plan did not get turned in on April 15<sup>th</sup> and no other grant applications were applied due to time and other projects. There was no downside of not applying this year but will look forward to next year.

Mr. Gropp presented possible future plans and concepts for park improvements and possibly use ARPA funds. He talked about the future park areas of McCord Square and features such as a nature park, splashpad, etc. He also shared an idea of expanding the north part of Old School Park at a future date and making improvements to connect or bridge the park to the entrance of McCord Square. He also mentioned adding and improving parking, adding a walking path, making the park more ADA accessible as well as improving the basketball court and baseball field. He shared ideas about improving and expanding the playground equipment.

#### **Events Update - Niki Jones**

Ms. Jones explained that the Easter Egg Hunt was successful despite the weather changing the original plans and turning it into a drive-through event. The volunteers were extremely helpful and we were very grateful for all of their help preliminary and at the event.

The ADA swing was installed at Old School Park the previous week and has been popular among residents. It was installed next to the paved walking path next to the swing set to make it more accessible. Ms. Jones explained that the mulch is very low and makes it a bit harder to use the swings currently.

Old School Park 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "Party in the Park" - Ms. Jones presented the idea to have a community event showcasing the park improvements and would like to feature family friendly activities such as the face painter, food, etc. Discussed when in July to hold the event and decided on Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Display cases were ordered and will be installed at Old School Park, one at the ballfield and one at the shelter to post notices, reservations and ball field team reservations.

Ms. Jones also discussed the possibility of moving the annual Christmas tree lighting event over to Old School Park since the two large pine trees now had electricity installed near them.

#### Old Business -

# Impact Fee Revenue update – Ryan Crum

Permit requests have increased significantly, inspectors are short staffed currently and are running behind.

# New Business - Tim Gropp

Resolution 050922 Park Board Establishing the Park Cumulative Building Fund was approved by Town Council at the last meeting.

Mr. Bastin made a motion to approve Resolution 050922. Ms. Witsman seconded and passed 5/0.

Mr. Gropp stated that a future hiring would be needed for a Park Maintenance Supervisor and a Parks Director as more maintenance and upkeep of parks with more green space will be coming in the next few years. This will be necessary to provide high quality parks for our residents and will need to be looked at for the future budget. Our budget currently is .0167 and is very limited with funds.

Ms. Kloc mentioned that she was approached by the Bay Creek HOA that they would like to install their own fitness trail and wanted to inquire to see if the Town would be involved in some way and would like to start discussions with the Town regarding installing outdoor fitness equipment along the trail. Mr. Crum and Mr. Gropp asked for them to reach out to schedule a meeting.

Mr. Crum mentioned that there were no updates regarding the Deer Crossing neighborhood in the last 3-4 months and cannot get in touch with residents. Discussion was made on how how to reach out to the neighbors.

Mr. Gropp introduced Evan Kloc, a Boy Scout earning his Eagle Scout title that attended this evening's meeting. Mr. Kloc stated that it was interesting to see the behind-the-scenes workings of the Park Board.

Ms. Mary Harmon, a resident of McCordsville explained that she was interested in becoming involved with the community and was excited to hear about the new ideas and trail plans. She was saddened to see that there weren't more residents involved and attending the Town meetings.

Next Meeting – July 11, 2022

#### Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bastin. Ms. Kloc seconded and passed 5/0.

# **Minutes Approval**

These minutes approved this 11th day of July 2022.

Kim Pearson, Parks and Recreation Board President

Attest: Milli Vanes

Niki Jones, Recording Secretary/Office Coordinator