

McCordsville

ESTD  1988

INDIANA

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Monday July 10, 2023

Present: Kim Pearson, Branden Williams, Catherine Witsman, Justin Bastin, Susie Highley

Absent: Mary Harmon

Also Present: Tim Gropp, Niki Jones

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm by Ms. Pearson.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Highley moved to approve the May 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. Bastin seconded and passed 4/0.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Path to Fitness 5K Update

Mr. Gropp explained the status of sponsorships and all costs have been covered by the sponsors. He stated that participant registration was slow at that time but that the low registration at this time seemed on par for past registrations. The route was to be redesigned by Racemaker and Mr. Gropp would follow up with them about that. A push would be made to advertise the 5K to gain more participant registration. Mr. Gropp also presented the 5K logo designed by Ninestar and discussion was had amongst the board regarding t-shirt colors.

Summer Party Event Update

Mr. Gropp stated that a few of the 5K sponsors asked to come to Party in the Park and so the vendor fee was waved for them. He stated that Ms. Jones had done the work for this event in regard to obtaining sponsorships and vendors. At that time of this meeting, there were about 30 vendors signed up that paid the \$40 vendor fee. Some local businesses have opted to walk around passing out coupons instead of setting up their own tent area. Funds raised have covered almost all the event expenses.

Ms. Jones stated that Harvest Church, one of the larger sponsors of the event, requested to sponsor the evening movie and asked to have input on which movie would be selected as they

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were wanting it to be family friendly. She also explained that the movie licensing costs with Swank Licensing were included in the contract with Big Bounce Fun House, the company that the town had rented the LED screen. The Board suggested that the new Super Mario Bros. movie to be shown as the outdoor movie. Ms. Jones stated that she would present the idea to Harvest Church for their approval.

Mr. Gropp stated that things were going well with the event and will continue to fundraise up until the event.

2024 Budget & Staffing Items

Mr. Gropp explained that he was in the process of budgeting for 2024 as the Parks Department will experience a big stride to be ready for 2025 park projects such as the renovation of Old School Park, the possible opportunity of a community center for events, programs and park offices. He explained that he would be recommending to Town Council the hiring of part-time park maintenance positions that would eventually transition into full-time as well as a Parks Director position in 2024. This position would include setting policies, procedures, administrative and legal requirements. There are many Parks grants available that would highly benefit the Parks Department which would be one of the tasks of the new position.

Programming scheduled for 2025 needs to be started in 2024. Mr. Gropp further explained that the town will need a Parks vehicle as well as new trash cans, bike racks and benches in the newer park areas that will be under construction.

Mr. Gropp also highlighted a few potential properties within the town that have potential park land. The town is in need of field space for sports such as soccer, football, baseball diamonds. He also explained future trail expansions and a new trail head including a parking lot with restrooms and bike racks.

Public Comment

None.

Next Meeting

September 11, 2023, at 6:00pm

Adjourn

Mr. Highley motioned to adjourn. Ms. Witsman seconded and passed 4/0.
Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.


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Minutes Approval

The July 10, 2023 Parks and Recreation Board Meeting minutes approved this 11th day of September 2023.



Kim Pearson, Parks and Recreation Board President

Attest: 

Niki Jones, Recording Secretary