**Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**

**Monday January 11, 2021**

**Meeting held via Zoom due to Covid-19**

**Call to Order-**Kim Pearson, Chair

**Roll Call**-Tonya Galbraith

**Members Present**: Kim Pearson, Susie Highley, Justin Bastin, Ann Kloc, Catherine Witsman, and Council Liaison, Branden Williams.

**Absent:** none

**Also, Present** Tonya Galbraith, Ryan Crum

**Election of 2021 Officers**

* **Chair**

Ms. Highley made a motion to retain Kim Pearson as Chair of the Parks and Recreation Board. Second was made by Mr. Bastin and passed 5/0. Ms. Pearson thanked everyone for their continued support

* **Vice Chair**

Ms. Highley made a motion to nominate Justin Bastin to Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Board. Second was made by Ms. Highley and passed 5/0.

**November 9, 2020 meeting Minutes**

Ms. Highley made a motion to approve November 11, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Second was made by Mr. Bastin and passed 5/0

**Old School Park** (it is now ours)

After the tour of Old School Park that took place on Friday January 8th the discussion started with prioritizing the short- and long-term projects. The main objective would be to repair any safety issues first such as the crack sealing and repair of the basketball court and tennis court. Also, crack repairs of the sidewalks and fence repair as needed. The mill and resurface of the basketball and tennis courts can be done in 2022. Benches in the softball dugouts need repaired and stained. Beautification and upgrade of the Park Shelter needs to be addressed with paint and clean up. An ash bucket can be ordered for the grill. Mulch on the playground and brick dust on the ball field are needed as basic upkeep. The safety concerns are the priority.

General information posted and flowers planted can easily be done and possibly get volunteers, Eagle Scouts and churches involved. With COVID this remains a challenge.

Ms. Galbraith will let Ron Crider and Public Works get quotes for sidewalk and court repairs. Mr. Crum suggested that the gate at the tennis court become ADA compliant when the fence repairs are done.

An invitation will be extended to the groups that have been using the field to attend the March Parks and Recreation Board meeting. They can offer some insight on moving forward. Regarding fees to be imposed this year, Ms. Galbraith suggested that it stays the same as the current fees we use for the Community Room and the Town Park.

Mr. Williams was interested in the parking situation when 600 is widened. Mr. Crum said that parking would be lost but there are other areas to expand the parking.

**Deer Crossing-** Counter Offer to HOA

Mr. Crum informed the Board that Deer Crossing has not yet responded to the counteroffer presented to the HOA

**Tree Lighting Wrap Up**

Ms. Galbraith reported that under the COVID-19 restrictions that the Tree Lighting turned out well. We had Santa and the Elf from the elementary school to flip the switch. Brian Hurley from the Redevelopment Commission made a video of the event and it was posted on social media.

**2021 Events** (how to handle them and other ideas)

The Easter Egg Hunt is the first event of the season and Ms. Galbraith asked for suggestions on how to proceed. The board decided to table the decision but do an email check in late February to determine the COVID situation. There also needs to be a decision on the 5K made in March due to the sponsorships.

An event that could be added is an ice cream social or grand opening event in Old School Park in June or July. The scheduling of other events is unknown because of health status.

**Old Business-Ryan Crum**

* Impact Fee Revenue update (242 single family permits in 2020=$201,344 collected)

So far there are 15 new single-family permits for 2021with no sign of slowing down.

**New Business**

* 5-year update of Parks and Recreation Board Master Plan discussion.

The IDNR requires that the Master Plan be updated every 5 years. 2017 was when the Board adopted the current plan and the new update will be due in April 2022. Mr. Crum recommend that this project begin mid-year 2021 and finish by April 2022. Mr. Crum will send links to the current plan and what can be added. This can then begin the discussion and the official process at the March 2021 meeting.

Ms. Kloc inquired about any grants that may be available for parks. According to Mr. Crum the Indiana Trails Program and the DNR Land and Conservation grant are both options for 2022. The Next Level Trails Program may be reinstituted by the State, but we are unsure if we will reapply due to budget priorities.

**Next Meeting-**March 8, 2021

**Adjourn**

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