

PARK BOARD
ST. JOHN, INDIANA
July 6, 1978

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The Park Board of the Town of St. John met on this date with the following members present:

Attendee 1, Gene Wease	Attendee 4, Darrell Mueller, Quad Town Coordinator
Attendee 2, Bernie Ducat	Attendee 5,
Attendee 3,	Attendee 6,

The following members absent:

Absent 1, Richard Spring	Absent 4
Absent 2, Bonnie March	Absent 5
Absent 3,	Absent 6

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Bernie Ducat at 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of this special meeting was to review plans submitted by Mr. Florian O'Day, which revealed his total Master Plan for development of Homestead Acres, and in particular that land which lies directly south of Lots 70 through 76.

The land in question, which lies directly south of Lots 70 through 76 in Homestead Acres, was originally proposed to be dedicated to the Town of St. John for a public park, about 17 acres. However, Mr. O'Day presently owns the property.

The homeowners directly north of the proposed body of water were concerned about its development and the aesthetic appearance of the water. The list of concerns submitted by the homeowners was reviewed by the Plan Commission.

The Plan Commission has directed the Park Board and the homeowners to propose to the Plan Commission a mutually agreeable plan for development of the proposed park, and present it to the Plan Commission as soon as possible. However, the Park Board must now get together and make a decision as to the best possible use of the land in

question, which is bounded on the east by Hedwig Drive, and on the west by Olcott Avenue.

Members also discussed the proposed green area under the high voltage lines which is 140' wide and 1800' long (12 acres). It was agreed that this land would not be the best for active recreational facilities.

Mr. Ducat mentioned that he has personally walked each of the proposed land dedication areas and commented that the land around the body of water is very low and not suitable for facility development. The water area would take up much of the dry open space. Access to the area was also a problem with Bull Run Creek bordering the south, homes on the north and Hedwig Drive on the east. Hedwig Drive was the only feasible access. If this land was accepted for a park it would have little development value, it would be a maintenance problem and might cause a problem with the neighbors with the public utilizing the park.

Members present felt that they were not in a position to accept such unusable land, which is under the high voltage lines, and the land behind Lots 70 through 76. Until the Board has a Letter of Intent to donate from the developers, a final decision on the proposed dedications could not be made. It was felt that the homeowners and Developer should determine what should be done with the body of water and future development of the area, with the Plan Commission's approval. The Park Board will make a recommendation to the homeowners and Plan Commission as their thoughts on how the area could best be utilized by the public and homeowners at their next regular meeting.

Board members present reviewed Mr. O'Day's entire development and suggested that a parcel of land bounded by Hickory Lane on the east and Olcott Avenue on the west, and Hedwig Drive on the north, and the high voltage lines on the south, which would include lots 478 to 507 and Lot 192 to 199. The entire high voltage line would then be usable as park and open space. Total request would be approximately 20 acres.

Before the meeting was adjourned, Mr. Ducat mentioned that fencing for Larimer Park would be desirable for the changes to be made this September. Mr. Ducat also requested that rope, and sackrete be purchased for the installation of the volleyball standards, and that aerial maps and needed hardware be purchased for the Park Board's use, contingent upon the availability of funds.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. by a motion made by Mr. Wease and seconded by Mr. Ducat.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Darrell Mueller
Secretary