

PARK BOARD
ST. JOHN, INDIANA
February 16, 1984

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

Attendee 1, Bernard Ducat	Attendee 4,
Attendee 2, Ronald Estep	Attendee 5,
Attendee 3, Joel Gorelick	Attendee 6,

The following members absent:

Absent 1, Carolyn Walsko	Absent 4
Absent 2,	Absent 5
Absent 3,	Absent 6

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Ronald Estep.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 19, 1984 meeting were read. A motion was made by Bernard Ducat to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Ronald Estep. Voted upon and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Park Signs – All signs to be ready by April 1, 1984.
2. Removal of Larimer Pavilion – Will be removed when weather and time permits.
3. Picnic Tables – received a check from the Homestead Homeowners Association in the amount of \$142.00 for the purchase of picnic tables.
4. 1983 year End Report – Report to be made at the next Board meeting.

5. Town Festival – July 5th through the 8th, 1984 for the benefit of the Park System. The Park Department will sponsor a race. Another organizational meeting will be held on February 28, 1984 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. All interested parties are requested to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

1984 Park Board Goals as follows:

- 1) Continuation of Aerobic Program
- 2) Continuation of Children’s Summer Program
- 3) Continuation of Softball & Baseball Program
- 4) Re-establish five year program
- 5) Completion of Park Signs
- 6) Removal of old Larimer Park Pavilion
- 7) Complete development of Homestead Park
- 8) Continue search for large park site
- 9) New picnic tables
- 10) Identify activity for Town Festival

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Budget – Balance is \$17,016.05. Ronald Estep reported that the Park Board may be able to redistribute funds from various accounts in order to make up the cut made by the State Board of Accounts in the equipment account. The redistribution as outlined would provide for a total of \$7,484.00 in the equipment account. These cuts will be taken under advisement.

Account Number	Amount
201	75.00
210	300.00
230	500.00
301	500.00
320	75.00
350	500.00
351	30.00
386	500.0
388	1000.00
430	500.00
Total	\$4,250.00

2. Fitness Program – The Aerobic Course has been very successful with an excess of 70 applications received.
3. Park Maintenance – Pete Monix will be installing drain tiles as soon as possible in Homestead Park to aid in the drainage of the low areas.
4. Liaison to Town Board – No report.
5. Summer Program – Carol Gallett will be the Summer Director. Additional information will be available at the March meeting.
6. Winter Program – A cross-country ski program was looked into at the Indiana Dunes Lakeshore. The possibility of an ice skating pond in Civic Park will be discussed with Pete Monix.
7. Public Relations – A request will be made of the local media to highlight the Department's successful Aerobic Program.
8. Baseball & Softball – Requests are in by the Girls Softball Association for the use of the various diamonds.

PAYING OF BILLS

The chair entertained a motion to pay Nipsco \$20.95 for dusk to dawn lighting. The motion was made by Bernard Ducat, seconded by Ronald Estep. Voted upon and unanimously approved.

OPEN DISCUSSION

The chair entered into a discussion about the possibility of floating a bond issue to purchase 77 acres of property to be used as a future park site. The property is located east of Lantern Woods subdivision and south of 85th Avenue. The bonding power of the Town is 2% of the assessed valuation of the town, which approximates to \$227,000.00. The chair proposed that the Park Department, through issuance of the bond, purchase 40 acres with a five-year option to purchase the remaining 37 acres. The proposal would be contingent upon acceptance of an offer to purchase, proper appraisals, Town Board approval of the bond, legal counsel opinions as to proper procedures, and acceptance by all regulatory entities. All expenses would be capitalized into the bond issue and made part of the bond. According to Town Board member David Bielski, there are no reservations held by the Town Trustees as to the purchase of the land.

The attorney who would handle the transaction is Mr. Louis Casale, who has worked with the Lake County Parks Department on their bond issues.

Joel Gorelick requested the opportunity to see the property and meet with the attorney who is expected to handle the transaction prior to any Board action. Joel Gorelick will meet with Ron Estep on the 20th of February to view the property.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. on February 22, 1984.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Joel Gorelick
Secretary

Approved:

/s/ Ronald Estep
President
St. John Park & Recreation Board