

PARK BOARD
ST. JOHN, INDIANA
March 12, 1996

Document Title PARK BOARD OF ST. JOHN, INDIANA
Document No.
Approval Date March 12, 1996
Archive Date
Published In
Document Type Park Board Minutes

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

Attendee 1, Joan Millis	Attendee 4, Shirley Hawkins
Attendee 2, Mary Anne Koke	Attendee 5, John Taylor, Council Liaison
Attendee 3, Paul Haller	Attendee 6,

The following members absent:

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President, Ms. Millis.

BUSINESS

Ms. Millis reported she had spoken with Scout Troop #550 leader, Chip Williams, who indicated the troop would refinish the park signs at the following locations: Larimer, Lancer, Homestead and East Park Complex. They will also be willing to install railroad ties at White Oak Manor detention pond for the purpose of stairs to access future ice-skating. The project will commence as weather permits.

Mr. Haller indicated regarding Troop 550 future projects, that planting trees and bushes might be considered. The project would first involve a study of what plantings would attract wildlife and birds to the area and if there is a source to obtain the donations of plantings for park use. Mr. Haller will further investigate the feasibility of such a project.

Larimer Park Pond – Project is complete and grading-seeding will soon be handled.

Ms. Koke made a motion the Board actively pursue the hiring of a Park Board recording secretary, seconded by Mr. Haller. Ms. Hawkins felt a Board member, acting as

recording secretary, consumed too much of that person's time during the meeting and detracted from that person's active participation in the meeting. Ms. Millis will investigate securing the services of one of the individuals already doing similar work for the town. If none is found, newspaper ad will be placed. The agreed upon cost would be \$30.00 per meeting including transcribing. Passed 4-0.

Ms. Millis advised that on March 8th she had met with Mr. Monix and a representative of U.S. Department of Interior Fish & Wildlife at the Sun Meadows Park (wetland). Mr. Kraus, Town Engineer, supplied topography maps of the areas. The joint feeling was the raising of the water level by 2 ½ to 3 feet would not be feasible. In event of a major flood in the area the land lying to the south would experience flooding in the opinion of Mr. Kraus and U.S.D.I.F.W. Mr. Monix indicated to undertake the project by an outside contractor would amount to approximately \$25,000.00. After discussion the matter was tabled with a suggestion the site be reexamined.

Regarding the Five-year Master Plan Survey – Ms. Koke suggested the survey sheets remain available in the Clerk's Office. Ms. Millis said Schererville had conducted a similar survey by mail, which might have been handled through NIRPC. She will investigate further through Mr. Andonov as to cost or possible handling at no charge.

Ms. Millis advised that at the February Town Council meeting, regarding Resolution 96-02-22(c), two appraisers had been appointed to appraise the property at 10616 White Oak Avenue for the purpose of considering purchase for the use of Central Park. Mr. Haller questioned what other sites were considered, in particular the site on west side of U.S. 41 near the shrine. Mr. Taylor indicated this site had been checked out and found only 2% suitable for building. Also, the owner would expect full payment at time of purchase. Mr. Taylor also advised there are plans toward having more community involved committees working on this project.

Kilkenny Estates Parkland Dedication Site – Ms. Millis said a letter, dated March 12, 1996 from attorney Michael Muenich (copy attached), regarding a parcel of land 7.8 acres had been received and was read. Ms. Koke asked if preliminary approval had been granted. Mr. Taylor indicated it had not. Ms. Koke questioned if the 100' x 100' land necessary for the water tower was a part of the 7.8 acres. Ms. Koke made a motion to table the matter until utility overlay is submitted through B.Z.A. and Plan Commission, and that a letter be written to the Plan Commission stating our deferral and a concern as to the placement of the water tower. Seconded by Mr. Haller. Passed 4-0.

Addition Parkland for Ventura Estates – Ms. Millis read a memo from Mr. Andonov (copy attached) regarding a donation of land by Mr. Arzumanian. Mr. Haller made a motion that the land described as Lots 91, 92 and 93 of Ventura Estates be accepted contingent of our not being responsible for the extension of Dena Court into the area and that no land be either dumped or taken out of Heron Lake, and does not reduce the Heron Lake Park. Seconded by Ms. Koke. Passed 4-0.

Ms. Millis advised the St. John Youth Baseball will assume the \$235.00 on leasing of Keilman Field.

Mr. Haller raised the question regarding the well at Homestead Park having been unusable for a lengthy period of time. Mr. Monix said he will investigate the feasibility of

repair. The well had experienced extensive damage due to vandalism. The filling of holes created by animal diggings between the pond and Bull Run is to no avail.

Fitness Program – Has seen the most success in the “Fit for Kids” segment. Mr. Haller made a motion to close the aerobic class commencing April 29th for this season due to lack of interest, commencing in the spring season. Seconded by Ms. Hawkins. Passed 4-0.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ms. Koke made a motion the bills be paid as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Haller. Passed 4-0.

#462	McCann	\$325.00
#463	Liz Feeney	\$42.00
#464	Pam Zych	\$80.00
#465	Pam Zych	\$144.00
#466	Pam Zych	\$260.00
#467	Kevin Gates	\$40.00
#468	Bekan Inc.	\$16.00
#469	Nipsco	\$17.54
#470	Nipsco	\$25.08

Mr. Derezinski of Girls Softball questioned the condition of three fields at East Park and one at Larimer Park. Mr. Monix advised they would be ready.

Ms. Koke made a motion to charge a fee of \$3.00 per table for the use of tables, other than those already on site rented for personal use. The fee would also apply in the event of the park tables taken to another site for personal use. Seconded by Ms. Hawkins. Ms. Millis indicated the motion would have to be in the form of a resolution. Voted 4-0 against.

Ms. Millis indicated a resident had offered a 10’ willow tree to be transplanted to a park site. Ms. Hawkins made a motion to decline the offer due to the difficulty of transplanting and need of equipment to do so. Seconded by Ms. Koke. Passed 4-0.

Chuck Hall, Youth Baseball, questioned what needs to be done to acquire additional practice fields and if there was a possibility to use Prairie West. Ms. Millis responded the playing is not allowed at Prairie West and that White Oak Manor has a parking problem.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Koke made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Haller. Passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Shirley Hawkins

Secretary