

St. John Park Board Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2003

Trustees:

Rhuben Pittman, President
Joan Millis, Vice President
Patrick Philbin, Member at Large
Dave Wickland, Town Attorney

Bob Pharazyn, Director of Public Works
Kristie Aldridge, Town Council Liaison
Steve Kil, Town Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER –
The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m., with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. ROLL CALL –
In attendance were Rhuben Pittman, Joan Millis, Patrick Philbin, Bob Pharazyn, Kristie Aldridge, Steve Kil and Dave Wickland.
3. APPROVE OR AMEND THE MINUTES –
Ms. Millis made a motion to approve the March 25, 2003, Regular Meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Philbin. Motion carried.
4. OLD BUSINESS
St. John Heartland Park
 - 1.) Babe Ruth Field – update
Mr. Pharazyn reported that the SLOW CHILDREN PLAYING sign has been installed and they're waiting for warm weather to paint and rough grade. Outfield has been fertilized and watered a few times. Rough grading has been completed on the perimeter of the field.
 - a. Landscape exterior
Mr. Pharazyn reported that he met with two companies that do landscape services, Redbud Landscape Services of St. John and Diehl's Landscaping, Inc. of Griffith, Indiana. **Ms. Millis made a motion to accept the proposal from Redbud Landscape Services in the amount of \$5,000.00, for hydro seeding and seeding of the outer perimeter of the Babe Ruth Field. Seconded by Mr. Philbin. Motion carried.** Mr. Wickland pointed out that Redbud's document is called an Estimate and make sure this is in the form of a Proposal or get some confirmation that the job will be done for \$5,000.00.
 - 2.) Babe Ruth Field Lighting Cost
Mr. Kil reported that the Town Council has proposed a 50/50 split between the Council and Park Board to bear the electric costs of lighting the field. Mr. Pittman said that if that's the case, the council is going to have to sweeten the annual park budget. Mr. Kil pointed out that the Park Board should get together with the people from baseball and hash out some terms of a rental agreement. Ms. Aldridge explained what happened at the Town Council Study Session that

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OLD BUSINESS CONT'D.

lead up to the 50/50. Originally, Ms. Aldridge was under the impression that the Council pays for the lights, being that the Council paid for lights at Civic Park. It was brought up at the Study Session that the Town doesn't own Civic Park and that is why the Town pays the Utility bill. The majority of the Council felt that because this is parkland property and is under the control of the Park Board that it should be 50/50. Further discussion ensued. Ms. Aldridge wants the record to show that the majority of the Council says 50/50, but not the entire Council. **Mr. Philbin proposed that the Park Board will help pay fifty-percent of the lighting cost for the Babe Ruth field for 2003, with the understanding they be reimbursed by the Town Council for any expense related to the lighting costs. Seconded by Ms. Millis. Motion carried.**

- 3.) St. John Girl's Softball League Agreement – Concession/Storage Facility
Mr. Wickland stated that there were a few minor changes to make to the Agreement. Basically, it says we are going to supply the materials and the Town is going to supply the labor. The Storage Shed will become the property of the Town once it's done and Girls Softball will maintain it and if there is a permanent concession stand constructed then the temporary concession stand here will be closed. **Ms. Millis made a motion to accept the Agreement between Girl's Softball and Park Board and the construction of the Concession/Storage Facility at Heartland Park. Seconded by Mr. Philbin. Motion carried.**
- b. Bike Trail - Update
Mr. Kil read a letter from the Army Corps of Engineers that basically recapped the outside perimeter.
- c. Haller Park (in memory of Paul Haller, former Park Board President)
Mr. Pittman wanted to name Homestead Park after Mr. Haller and is unable to get a majority vote so another motion was taken. **Ms. Millis made a motion that we name Haller Park out of the two parks at Heron Lake and Heron Park to rename those Haller Park once we get deeded the property. Seconded by Mr. Philbin. Motion carried.**
- d. Impact Fee Ordinance – Update
Mr. Wickland reported that the committee met and approved everything. Plan commission met and they had no additions to the Ordinance. Mr. Wickland is in the process of preparing the Ordinance and hopes to have it in everyone's hands close to the end of the week or early next week. He also asked the Board if they had any comments about the Ordinance to try and call him right away.
- e. Heartland Park
 - 1.) 10616 White Oak Avenue – Park House Repairs - Update
Mr. Pharazyn reported that the company is going to start the work tomorrow.

- f. Lancer Park and Larimer Park – completion of Project
Lancer Park needs a sign, seed and a little dirt.

Larimer Park needs black dirt and seed and to redesign the sign to the memorial. Volleyball court should be moved or eliminated temporarily. Basketball court is in bad shape. Mr. Rhuben requested to get prices to see how much it would cost to replace the court. Discussion ensued to move the volleyball court to a better location.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Prairie West Park –

Storm drainage – U. S. 41 & 93rd Avenue Intersection Project (INDOT)

Mr. Pharazyn reported that the Town recommended to INDOT that they move their storm water in a different direction. INDOT's original plans show running the storm drain from an intersection down to Prairie West Park and with that volume of water the pond would be enlarged by 25%. Some discussion ensued.

Mr. Philbin made a motion that the Park Board rejects INDOT's proposed storm drainage to Prairie West Park Pond per their drawing submitted to the Town. Seconded by Ms. Millis. Motion carried.

- b. Fairway Park

Sewer interception location

Mr. Pharazyn reported that plans are taking shape and that they will be cutting thru Fairway Park on the north end of town. At this point this is only for information purposes.

- c. Donation of Lot – 12504 Patnoe Drive

Mr. Pittman reported that Wisconsin Pipeline wanted to donate a lot. Mr. Pittman talked to a representative from Wisconsin Pipeline and he was going to donate this land to the park. After some discussion it was decided to offer something in writing without any deed restrictions.

- d. Kilkenny Estates Park - Road to water tank

Mr. Pharazyn reported that some preliminary discussions were talked about to put a road in from the end of the cul-de-sac out to the gate that presently goes around the water tank.

6. REPORTS

- a. Programs

Ms. Millis reported that basketball is still continuing and should be finished up next week.

7. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ms. Millis made a motion to approve Invoice Nos. 1016-1021 in the amount of \$1,043.12. Seconded by Mr. Philbin. Motion carried.

8. ANY AND ALL BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Ms. Millis would like to see a representative from boy's baseball to form a committee to start working on Rules and Regulations for Heartland Park along with the Park Board.

Mr. Juretic reported that Schererville Soccer put a field mark at the left center field at East Park and its right over center base. Mr. Juretic would like to see this moved.

Mr. Hero suggested to the Park Board that they pass a resolution and send it to the Planning Commission asking for any development on the eastside that they make some consideration for a park. He also suggested to the Park Board that they go back to the Land Dedication Ordinance. Mr. Wickland responded that St. John did have a Park Dedication Ordinance that required the donation of land or money in lieu of land. Up until a few years ago it was considered lawful, that is to say, the Town could require a developer to either donate land or give money to purchase land for park use. This changed when cases started coming out of the various courts including the Supreme Court. Some discussion ensued. See tape recording incorporated by reference.

Mr. Pittman asked if we are going to get another Park Board member. Ms. Aldridge will bring this up to the Town Council again and see what they say and maybe advertise in the newspaper

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Philbin made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Millis. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Falaschetti