

Leo-Cedarville Park Board Meeting

May 17th, 2021

Leo-Cedarville Pavilion 5pm

Attendance: President Dirk Schmidt, Town Manager Pat Proctor, David Gall, Ron Turpin, Treasurer Pam Spannuth, Janet O'Connor.

Dirk Schmidt called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was to welcome David Gall to the Park Board. He is replacing Bill Gravatt who resigned in April. David brings to the Board a vast knowledge of trees.

Dirk Schmidt asked if everyone had read the minutes from April and if there were any comments or corrections. Ron Turpin made a motion to accept, and the motion was passed unanimously. Dirk asked Pam Spannuth to give the Treasurer's report. Pam stated that there were vouchers in the amount of \$6,826.25. Included in the vouchers: Felgers (mulch) Heartland (landscaping services) and playground sand for the volleyball courts. Dirk Schmidt asked if anyone had any questions concerning the vouchers. Hearing no questions, the Board accepted the vouchers and the Treasurer's report.

In Tyler Witmer's absence, Dirk Schmidt said he was going to speak to the Camera Systems Quotes. He asked Pat Proctor if there was anyway the Park Board could ask the Town Council for a portion of the ARP money to install security cameras or Wi-Fi at Riverside Gardens. Pam Spannuth said the expenses for ARP money need to be related to Covid-19. In order to receive the funds, the Town Council will be preparing a plan outlining the planned distribution of the funds ahead of their June meeting. The Board agreed this would need to be an ongoing discussion with the Town for now. The new Town Manager is Rodd Hale and he will be at the June meeting.

Dirk Schmidt brought up the 5-year Plan for the Parks. Pam Spannuth stated we have until Jan of 2022 to have one in place if we want to apply for grants. Dirk asked if anyone would be willing to work on the plan with him. David Gall said he would like to be involved with the plan. Dirk S. and David G. are now formally the Sub-Committee on the Park 5-year Plan. Dirk Schmidt stated we need some analysis and some surveying on what the community feels are improvements that need to be made to the parks. And we will need to see how much money will be needed to implement the improvements. Pat Proctor suggested the Board reach out to Kristi Sturtz with the New Allen Alliance to see if they could assist with preparing the plan.

At this time Dirk Schmidt moved on to New Business. A concession stand owned by a woman in Fort Wayne was available for no cost-as a donation-if the Park Board wanted to take ownership and run it at Riverside Gardens. Discussion on liability, maintenance, hiring and staffing issues, general management of the stand were discussed. At this time the project was found to be too much for the Park Board to consider.

The next item brought up to the Board was the publication of the minutes. Dirk Schmidt asked the Board whether or not they felt it was necessary to publish the minutes in the Courier or online. Dirk Schmidt reminded the Board that it was only responsible for taking minutes and providing them upon request to any interested parties and that they had not been published in print or online for some time

now. The consensus of the Board was to continue with the existing practice of providing the meeting upon request and not formally publishing them.

Dirk Schmidt asked by Board whether or not they were aware of some projects in which the Park Board was working with an outside group to raise funds to install new features at the parks. With most members not having served on the Board for very long, they were not. It was agreed that for the purpose of recording what the Park Board specifically agreed to when such agreements are made in the future, a Memorandum of Understanding should be prepared and signed by both the Board and the outside group.


The Board requested the Park Administrator to prepare a report on vandalism and any items relating to the parks that incurred costs or replacements. This will be done monthly and presented to Board at their meeting.

At this time, Dirk Schmidt asked if there were any questions, concerns, or comments from the Board. Hearing nothing, Dirk Schmidt reminded everyone the next meeting is June 14th at the Cedarville Pavilion at 5pm. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet O'Connor

Park Administrator

Approved: 

Dirk Schmidt

Park Board President