

MINUTES

**City of Warsaw
Parks and Recreation Board
Regular Meeting (Parks)
Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm
Council Chambers**

In Attendance

Bill Baldwin; Diane Quance; Heather Frazier; Jill Beehler; Joe Thallemer; Larry Plummer; Michelle Boxell; Shaun Gardner; Sheila Wieringa; Steve Haines

Not In Attendance

Larry Ladd

I. CALL TO ORDER

Park Board President Steve Haines called the meeting to order.

II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

1. *Approval of September 2019 Minutes*

The September 2019, minutes were approved on a motion by Board Member Baldwin, seconded by Board Member Beehler.

Move: Bill Baldwin Second: Jill Beehler Status: Passed

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. *Ice Rink (Rich Haddad)*

Rich Haddad from the K21 Health Foundation advised he wanted to inform the Park Board about the K21 Board's pledge and intent for the monetary aspect for the ice rink. K21 pledges to give \$1 million towards the construction of a permanent ice rink facility. Rich advised the Board is aware that the overall cost of the facility may exceed the \$1 million thresh-hold; however,

their pledge amount remains the same. The Board would like the ice rink to be located in Central Kosciusko County or the greater Warsaw/Winona Lake area. The final consideration for the pledge is the facility should bring 12 months of value to the community. When the ice rink is not used for ice skating in the warmer months, they hope the facility can accommodate summer programs/events to allow for year round use.

Haddad then left it up to Board to ask any questions they may have regarding this opportunity. Board Member Boxell asked Haddad if there was a time limit placed on the pledge, such as an expiration date. Haddad advised there is no time limit on the pledge; however, the first obtainable plan turned in would be considered. Haddad further advised he does not want to make any assumptions the City of Warsaw Parks Department is the only interested party. If numerous plans are turned in, the K21 Board would vote on which plan would benefit the community best.

Park Board President Haines stated the ideal location would be at Bixler Park, where the current tennis courts are located. Essentially the courts would be removed, a building placed over the area, the coolants and mechanical aspect placed in the ground and then the courts re-poured to be used during the warmer months. Additionally, he would like to see the potential instead of four tennis courts, having it reduced to two courts and also add in two pickleball courts. The need for a storage unit to house necessary equipment would also be needed. The overall cost for the project is estimated between \$2-4 million.

Board Member Beehler asked Haddad about why they considered an ice rink over some other options. Haddad stated that over the course of several years, he has been approached about winter activities lacking within the community. After considering several options, he advised they determined an ice rink facility would help both motivate and increase families to engage in winter activities.

A gentlemen named John Warren had asked Haddad if the K21 Board had a specific size they were interested in for the facility. Haddad informed the Board and public that an ideal size for the facility would need to be beneficial enough to help support the community and future events/programs that may occur at the location. Park Board President Haines stated they had met with Mike Holley, the Events Coordinator for Headwaters Park in Fort Wayne, and he advised an adequate size for the facility would be roughly 140X80. This size would accommodate about 150 skaters at one time.

Rob Parker, President and CEO of Kosciusko Chamber of Commerce and WCDC, read a letter from the WCDC Board expressing their support for the ice rink facility.

A motion to approve the decision to look further into the placement of an ice rink facility being with in the City of Warsaw Parks Department was approved by Board Member Baldwin, seconded by Board Member Boxell.

Move: Bill Baldwin Second: Michelle Boxell Status: Passed

2. Amphitheater Progress/Fees

Maintenance Director Shaun Gardner stated the original contract with Roche Contracting for the amphitheater has been completed and they did a great job. The Park was able to find the additional funding to continue with the last row at the amphitheater. Bradford is currently completing that portion of the amphitheater now. We have planted some shrubs and flowers along the walk ways and round the amphitheater as well as have placed a sidewalk both at the bottom and top of it. Grass seed has been placed around the facility and we have one more sidewalk to place next week. 100 amp service has also been installed at the amphitheater.

Superintendent Plummer advised at last month's meeting, he asked the board to consider possible rental rates for the amphitheater in preparation for possibly being able to determine an amount at tonight's meeting. Additionally, Larry requested the Board considers dropping the damage deposit fee of \$250 for the Plaza as well.

Board Member Boxell advised she would like to set the rental fee for the amphitheater at \$100 and assess it after a full seasonal rental season to see if it would need to be lowered or even raised. Additionally, Boxell stated she would like to drop the damage deposit of the Plaza to \$100 and have the amphitheater match that rate.

A motion to approve the rental fees for the amphitheater at \$100 in addition to making the damage deposit fee for both the amphitheater and plaza \$100 was approved by Board member Boxell, seconded by none.

Due to a lack of second approval, the discussion was tabled until November's meeting.

Move: Michelle Boxell Second: Status: Tabled

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. *Maintenance Report*

Maintenance Director Gardner advised the campground is all packed up and winterized for the season. The designated parking area at Kelly Park has presented some issues which we are currently working on with G&G Hauling. While digging, we have found some natural springs and the worry is that it could ultimately affect the integrity of the parking lot. G&G is working on some plans to see if anything can be done in this area.

We are still going through the Christmas lights in preparation for setting them up. Lucerne Park has had numerous updates from the amphitheater, new fencing and an ADA compliant ramp for cabin number two, which is currently being installed.

2. Recreation Report

Recreation Director Wieringa advised that the skate park has been closed for a few weeks now. We are currently working on getting the Sponsorship Guides out for 2020.

V. OTHER MATTERS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

VI. MEETING REVIEW

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Move: Bill Baldwin Second: Jill Beehler Status: Passed



Heather Frazier
Park Board Secretary