

Ferdinand Park & Recreation Board Minutes

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Ferdinand Park and Recreation Board met on Wednesday, March 2 in the Town Hall. Meeting was brought to order at 4:35 p.m. With Mike Steffe, Matt Weyer, Natalie Howard, Dolores Boeglin and Tom Lueken in attendance. Members of the high school sociology class present were Luke Steffe, Miranda Lindauer and Holly Buechler.

First item of business was the signing of leases with leagues for the coming season. Stu Bettag, Alex Mlsna and Erin and Wayne Riley were representing various leagues. Boys Little League will have 172 players. They signed lease and will supply insurance and check. They advised board they are planning a tourney for 7-8-9 year olds from June 22-26 and will require 3 fields. They will be hosting the district tourney at Pine Ridge but want to hold June 27-July 7 major league field if they will need it. The league also said they would like shelving in the equipment room. They would provide material but would appreciate if board would install. Park employees are to drag the fields. Practice starts March 28 and games from Apr. 2 to June 17. The league will mow the infield but want the town to mow the outfield.

Girls Little League (Erin Riley) stated that they have placed clay on the large field at a cost of 349.00 and will also do the small field. They would appreciate help from the board with charges. There will be 105 players for the season. Season runs from March to end of August. The board asked Wayne Riley to get an estimate to repair the dragger at Ferdinand Machine Co.

Soccer league has already started practice and will run through fourth week of October. They requested some type of fence between fields to keep the balls from running down the hill and also said since the shed was moved there is a blind spot for when girls use the restroom. They thought a mirror would help to see around the corner. This is just a precaution to hopefully avoid a safety issue for the young children.

Mike signed all the leases and gave those present an update on the park. He will send a schedule to everyone after all are in. He also stated the automatic sprinklers are not functioning at the present time and hopefully will be by May 1. He said there are issues and the tank must be cleaned.

Lisa Gehlhausen from Indiana 15 was present to discuss writing a grant for the Old Town Lake project.. She stated she charges 3500.00 to write grant and 3800.00 to administer it. Deadline is beginning of June. She felt this was going to be very tight for her. There were quite a few things to be done such as land acquisition, etc. Lisa also said she would check with Fish and Wildlife to see what they would be willing to help with on this project. Mike made a motion to present the project to the council on Tuesday evening and get back to Lisa. Natalie seconded this motion.

Minutes were read and approved with motion by Natalie and second by Mike. Expense report was approved with motion by Mike and second by Maatt. Tom reported that the pump at 5th St. was about 2000.00 less than was estimated. He also stated the 5th St. shelter house project is going very well and hopefully will be finished May 1/ Concerning the light poles that need to be installed at 18th St. only one has been done. The board has purchased a number of poles several years ago, but to date have not been able to get them installed.

Natalie reported that Anna Hagedorn and Demi Jahn would more than likely be the summer interns and she will be working with them to improve our summer program .

Ray Major was present to inform the board that he received an e-mail from DNR promoting his idea of direct seeding of trees. He said they will be here to inspect his acorn project at the park. Tom said the Scouts had planted 5 trees in the park for one of their projects.

Mike said he was contacted by Ken Sicard stating that Kim Collignon with the Girl Scouts want to install a dog park. He said he told Ken to have them do a presentation at one of our meetings for us to consider.

A discussion then took place concerning the Old Town Lake Project. Matt will contact Scott Tretter to get what he has from the previous work on the project a number of years ago.

Mike asked the board to attend a comprehensive planning meeting at the Y on Mar. 21 from 6-9.

It was decided to increase the wages of the summer help by 50 cents.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. with next meeting at 4:30 in the Town Hall on Wednesday, April 6.


Dolores Boeglin, Secretary