

CITY OF NEW CASTLE PARK BOARD MINUTES

JUNE 4, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patty Broyles, Dave Nantz, Sandy Scott, and John Henderson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Greg York, Mayor's Assistant Kendra Kennedy, and Park Superintendent-Mike Bergum

Mayor Greg York opened this meeting at 5:30pm.

Mayor York asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the former meeting. Patty made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Second by Sandy. Motion carried (4-0)

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Patty noted the food and beverage grant has been filed and extended until December 31, 2018. Patty made a motion to use remaining grant money to hire Hunger to seal and protect the skatepark before winter this year. Second by Dave. Motion carried (4-0)

Two new security cameras have been added with additional to follow. Patty also noted that the Henry County Community Foundation will have a grant available for the park board to apply in August. John made a motion for Patty and the park board to explore this grant opportunity. Second by Sandy. Motion carried (4-0)

Trojan Woods came up for discussion whether to close or open to the public for use. After the board discussed their thoughts and opinions, the board agreed to open the trail to the public for use as a walking/bike trail. Patty made the motion. Second by Sandy. Motion carried (4-0) Councilman Koger expressed his concern over signage at Trojan Woods so patrons would know the rules as far as open and closing times. Mike informed the board and Councilman Koger proper signage would be placed.

Patty thanked Brenda Grider for all of her efforts in helping sort through the caps for the park benches. So far there are 6 orders for benches. Once all the caps are bagged and sorted we will take them to the company that makes the benches and we will know how many we have and how many benches we will be getting. The benches are \$225 for 400lbs of caps.

Patty noted that there is a balance of \$7,215.72 in Riverboat/Grant funds. Hospital Heights is still in need of installing the new/used equipment and remove 1 swing set and slide. The board

agreed to use the remaining funds to finish Hospital Heights project. John made the motion. Second by Dave. Motion carried (4-0)

Osborne Park, Phase 1 is still in need of security system, basketball goals, a 4-bay swing set, installed with mulching and paint. The board discussed the option of going to the Council to request additional Riverboat funds to complete Osborne Park for \$18,000. Sandy made the motion to ask the council for the additional funds. Second by Dave. Motion carried (4-0)

Phase 2 at Hospital Heights will require an additional \$4,200 for security cameras, stump removal, volleyball posts/nets. Also, the fence needs installed, baby swing needs replaced, and repair basketball post. Mayor York noted we already have the fence/posts to install. Patty made a motion to proceed to council to ask for the additional \$4,200. Second by John. Motion carried (4-0)

Terri Pyle from Little Blessings will be placing the 3 benches/book boxes at North Main Street Park, Hospital Heights, and Lowe Park this Saturday, June 9th. They will begin at North Main Street park at 9:30am, Hospital Heights at 10:00am, and Lowe Park at 10:30am. The benches are dedicated to certain individuals, North Main Street park bench will be dedicated to Miss Indiana, Hospital Heights bench will be dedicated to Tony Personett, Wilbur Wright Principal, and Lowe Park bench will be dedicated to Mayor York. Jacks Donuts will be passing out donuts at each location. The public is welcome to attend each locations dedication.

Chief Matt Schofield came before the board to talk about public safety and how his police force is adamant about keeping our parks safe and welcoming. All parks are patrolled 24-7 to ensure the rules are being followed. The skatepark is being patrolled more regularly since there seems to be more traffic and younger kids present. Chief Schofield has asked his patrolmen to get out of their cars and interact with the kids to make it friendly and show their presence and be visible. So far there has not been any major incidents to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor York thanked Todd Thalls for his tree donation to the Little League Diamonds. A total of 7 trees have been planted. Also, Mayor York noted the canopy for Bonnie Peckinpaugh is still being worked on and the welding will begin soon. Osborne Park will have the concrete poured to the new equipment and asphalt will be poured for ADA accessibility at the shelter house and the basketball goals are being worked on also. At Hospital Heights, the fencing will be installed along with the basketball goals, and the volleyball posts placed as soon as possible. At Baker Park, the foundation for the new bathroom will begin next week weather permitting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mike noted the pool has officially opened for the season. There have been a few minor repairs but other than that it is working well and attendance is very good. Mike added the new pool manager, Jeremy and himself has written a new pool manual for policy and procedures for employees and patrons to follow. It has been presented to park board and Dave Copenhaver for approval. There is no vote needed at this time as it has just been presented and there may be changes.

Mike thanked all the park staff for their efforts in making the parks look exceptional for Memorial Day weekend.

The Armory will be hosting its first Lunch and Leisure day this Thursday from 12-1pm in conjunction with the schools summer free lunch program for kids 18 and under.

CITIZEN CONCERNS

The board discussed the citizen concern from last meeting, Wes Huddleston. He requested to have his wedding reception at the skate park deck. After much discussion, the board agreed it is a public skatepark and cannot be rented. He is more than welcome to reserve a shelter if they are available.

Scott Frost came before the board to express his concerns over the area behind the basketball courts at Baker Park. It used to be tennis courts and currently is ran down and needs attention. Park Superintendent Bergum noted that it is currently a work in progress and is being cleaned up as we speak.

Nancy Paul came before the board to express her concerns over Trojan Woods and the boards' decision to go ahead and open it. Nancy felt it was not handled professionally and the woods should not be used as a bike trail, walking only.

Jonathon Mock from Remnant Church asked permission from the board to have his church give away popcorn and water at the skatepark as an outreach to the teenagers. They are wanting to do this once a month. The board suggested contacting the Health Department for a food permit. The board agreed to allow this and thanked him for the church's generosity.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:18PM, NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY 2, 2018