



## HENDRICKS COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

### **Hendricks County Parks & Recreation Board Meeting Minutes** **Wednesday, February 6, 2019 \* 2 to 4 p.m.** **955 E. Main Street, Danville, IN 46122**

**CALL TO ORDER 2:00pm**

**Board Present: Paul Miner**

**Matt Freije**  
**Mike Hayden**  
**Gary Emsweller**  
**Doug Moon**  
**Jeff Pell**  
**Brad Eisenhart**

**Staff Present: Eric Ivie, Interim Superintendent**

**Jim Holtsclaw, Park Manager**  
**Carol Wickliff, Assistant Administrator**  
**Sarah Wolf, Park Naturalist**

**Guests: Meghan Stritar, Parks Foundation of Hendricks County**

**Ray Benson**  
**Mark Brennaman**  
**Scott West**  
**Ryan Lemley**  
**Dale Kruse**  
**Ted Freeman**

#### **A. CALENDAR**

##### **A-1. Adopt Agenda**

Miner moves to adopt the agenda, Emsweller seconds; motion passed unanimously.

##### **A-2. Approval of Minutes from Jan. 2, 2019 Board Meeting**

Miner suggested a few spelling and wording corrections in previous month's minutes. Emsweller moved to approve minutes, seconded by Freije; passed unanimously.

#### **B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/PRESENTATIONS**

##### **B-1. Dale Kruse, Kruse Consulting, regarding failed septic near Gibbs Park**

Kruse introduces himself, as well as Ted Freeman. He informs the board that Freeman owns property near Gibbs park that has a failed septic tank. Kruse asks for permission to search for a field tile to repair the septic issues. If a tile is found, he would like to move forward with a repair plan. Miner asks if a collapsed tile is found, how would Kruse move forward with repairs. Kruse states that he would have to run tests to diagnose the damage before he would be able to

begin repairs. If he is allowed permission to look for a tile and there is not a tile present, he would have to insert one. Freije asks about the direction of the flow and Kruse states that it eventually would flow into the farm south of Gibbs Park. Freije asks about the necessity of an easement needed to accommodate the search. Kruse states that an easement would be needed if the tile needing repair is off the property, unless the property owner gives permission. Evie asks for clarification before turning to Holtsclaw for support. Holtsclaw discusses specifics with Kruse about the potential benefits of burying the tile. Emsweller summarizes by asking if Kruse find a functioning tile in Gibbs Park property, he would attach to it. If there is no functioning tile, he would repair. Hayden notes that a third option would be to run the line above ground. Kruse asks for permission to dig and search for a tile. After that search, he will report back to the board with his findings and they will move forward on the next step towards repairing the septic issue.

Miner asks the board's opinion on a consensus from the board for Kruse to explore and report back. The board is in favor and has asked that Kruse contact the superintendent with his findings rather than wait for the next board meeting.

## **B-2. Public Comments**

None

## **C. NEW BUSINESS**

### **C-1. Approval of RFP for Gibbs Park**

Miner states that Ivie and Holtsclaw have worked together to develop the RFP. Ivie states that Emsweller had a minor correction to suggest. Ivie informs the board that he had shared it with others for revision and is confident that the RFP is ready to submit. Freije asks for clarification on advertising and Ivie states that he will make it public knowledge through social media and newspaper. He also intends to contact certain companies that have history with Hendricks County as well as other local companies so that the bidding process may begin. Freije moves to approve RFP and authorize staff to move forward with the development of Gibbs Park. Moon seconds; passed unanimously.

### **C-2. Discussion of Next Level Trails Grant**

Ivie states that he is still in the process of working on this grant so that HCP&R might create trails to extend the Vandalia Trail eastward toward Clayton. He states that the large portion of the considered land is owned by Buck Arnold. Miner states that he had received information to be able to allow BF&S to proceed with closing. Emsweller stated that he would like to have the HCP&R own the considered property before applying for the grant. Ivie expresses his concern with the preparedness of the application by the deadline of February 15. After much discussion, members of the board feel that it would be in the best interest of HCP&R to apply in the first round, even if unsuccessful. Emsweller motions to advise BF&S to proceed with the closing process prior to the February 15<sup>th</sup> deadline, Freije seconds; motion passed unanimously. Miner states that the board must vote to authorize staff to complete the application. Emsweller moves for to authorize the staff to proceed with the grant application, that includes the Buck Arnold property, with the inclusion of additional landowners that have indicated an interest to have it completed by the first cycle of the grant process. Freije seconds; passed unanimously.

## **D. CONTINUING BUSINESS**

### **D-1. McCloud Nature Park Update**

Ivie reiterates to the board what he had discussed in the council. He states that Holtsclaw had saved the park a substantial amount of money by not contracting the re-decking of the truss

bridge at McCloud. The maintenance crew was able to begin on the project with all materials only spending \$17,000. Because the board was able to ask the Foundation for a \$15,000 reimbursement through the Harlos Fund, the entire project will cost around \$2,000 out of the food and beverage fund.

D-2. Sodalis Nature Park Update

Miner states that HCP&R is waiting on Plainfield to be able to move forward before vacating the property. Ivie states that Plainfield did not approve the removal of requested HC specific signage. It was stated there is some bit of frustration in the miscommunication between the town of Plainfield and the county commissioners.

D-3. Vandalia Trail Update

Miner points out a remark in the superintendent report about attorney use. Miner was advised, by Matt Whetstone, to use county resources. The county admin, then, advised Ivie to retain a third-party attorney and not use county resources. After discussing with president of commissioners, Miner was advised to use a county attorney. Emsweller advised Miner to put proof of discussion regarding the use of county attorneys in the minutes for clarification of any future issues.

D-4. W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park Update

No update

**E. REPORTS**

E-1. Superintendent Report

Ivie addresses the rebranding of the HCP&R youth leadership group, formally known as YAB (Youth Advisory Board), now being called ACORN (Active Council On Recreational Needs). Joe Lembo proposed the idea of creating a school year long program to serve high school teens in HC. Ivie states the intent is to introduce the various paths of park careers to a younger generation and assist them in learning different aspects of the field. The Foundation has agreed to assist financially.

The naturalists are putting together a new CIT (Counselor In Training) summer program, where participants would potentially spill into ACORN. This program will allow younger teens to assist in day camps and teach leadership skills and environmental education.

E-2. Budget Report

Budget is on schedule. Buck Arnold acquisition will come from fund 1178. Miner reiterates that they are following the MOU.

E-3. Parks Foundation of Hendricks County Report

Stritar states that they had the annual meeting, when they welcomed a new member, Brian Porter, created new committees that are already meeting and working towards projects. Miner expresses his concern with the possible expansion of the Foundation over all parks in HC. Miner points out that with the addition of Brad Eisenhart, both the parks and the foundation boards share 3 members. Hayden acknowledges the concern and he states that it is being managed. Miner introduces Brad Eisenhart to the board and welcomes him.

Miner states his involvement with a transportation committee. He shared his experience at the first meeting and feels confident in future success.

Miner address the concern over House Bill 1018.

Miner points to the HC Action Plan and notes the accomplishments that HCP&R has had and states that they seem to be on track to open Gibbs when expected.

The board addresses Ryan Lemley and welcome him to his position as the new superintendent. He is expected to start February 11, 2019.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting adjourned at 3:52pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Mike Hayden, Secretary

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, March 6, 2019, at 2 p.m.