



Hendricks County Parks & Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 6th, 2019 * 2 to 4 p.m.
955 E. Main Street, Danville, IN 46122

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:01p.m.

Board Present: Paul Miner
Jeff Pell
Doug Moon
Gary Emsweller
Mike Hayden
Matt Freije

Staff Present: Ryan Lemley
Eric Ivie
Carol Wickliff
Jim Holtsclaw
Sarah Wolf

Guests Present: Mark Breneman
Scott West

A. CALENDAR

A-1. Adopt Agenda

There was no adoption of the Agenda

A-2. Approval of Minutes from February 6th, 2019 Board Meeting

Miner states that he has some minor corrections. Emsweller moves to approve the minutes, Moon seconds; passes unanimously.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/PRESENTATIONS

B-1. Reveal Sealed Proposals for Phase 1 @ W.S. Gibbs

Miner advises Lemley to proceed with opening the company bids for Gibbs property. Lemley states that there were originally 5 bids on phase 1 of this project, but 1 had pulled involvement in this phase, but would like to be considered in future phases. The first one opened was Context Design that estimated the design cost at \$75,000. The seconds opened was CECON that estimated costs at

\$93,500. Third was RQAW, who asked that the bid estimate was reviewed confidentially. The final bid opened was from Hitchcock Design Group, that estimated the cost of \$164,800 with additional costs to be determined as the project develops. Emsweller moves to table decision until all bids are reviewed by the board, seconded by Moon; board is unanimous.

Emsweller asks, if after the board has a recommendation, an electronic vote would be applicable. Miner states that he is unclear on the validity at this moment. Ivie notes that it was stated in the RFP that March 22nd would be the day that any company interviews would be made for further clarification and/or interest. Also stated in the RFP, April 3rd would be the final date and a bid will be awarded.

B-2 Public Comments

No public comments

C. CONTINUING BUSINESS

C-1. McCloud Nature Park Update

Lemley notes the success of the annual Maple Syrup event and Pancake Breakfast; although attendance was down due to poor weather conditions, the overall donations were higher. He notes the continued progress of the improvements on the truss bridge with expected completion in mid-March.

C-2. Sodalís Nature Park Update

Lemley states that after speaking with Todd McCormick, there seems to be little movement in switching ownership of the property. McCormick stated that Plainfield's legal team was in the process of reviewing the agreement and the town manager is waiting for conclusion. Lemley states that the HCP&R maintenance team has continued to maintain the property.

C-3. Vandalia Trail Update

Lemley stated that several community officials have expressed concern over the drainage issues that have developed along the VT. He states that he met with Doug Valmore with BF&S and was assured that they are working on a solution that will be submitted in the next week. He states that he will be meeting with landowners in the near future to discuss the issues. Lemley states that the expectation is that an addition of a drain that will redirect around 80% of the run-off water to the north side of the treatment facility. Lemley hopes to satisfy all parties as they implement the project with the proposed plans.

Miner states that he had spoken to Bob Gentry and was informed that these plans will be presented to the drainage board. Ivie states that he was unaware of that change. Ivie stated that he was informed by Gaston that, due to its status, it did not need approval. Lemley stated that he was informed by Eric Wathen that there should be no issues, if the plans were followed.

Lemley states that a cleaning contract with Kim Cartwright has been created for the maintenance of the 2 restrooms along the VT, at both Coatsville and Amo. She has been asked to clean twice a week, for \$225 a week; this will be an annual contract. Miner states that the board will allow staff to negotiate a contract and the funding will come from the Contractual Services line in the budget.

Miner states that he has received paperwork that includes the title closing insurance. A resolution of the board is needed to allow Miner to sign this document. Miner states that HCP&R will be receiving more land at the same price. Emsweller moves, seconded by Moon; passes unanimously.

Miner suggests that HCP&R begins having conversations with landowners to encourage Parks land acquisitions.

Ivie states the Next Level Grant application was submitted and that will be awarded in April or May of 2019.

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

Lemley states that he, Ivie, and Holtsclaw have visited the property recently to assess the needs of the property as well as the community. Lemley plans on meeting with a contractor to address invasive removal efforts on the property. Lemley states that any immediate projects will be associated with Phase 1 of development. Ivie questions if the available funding of the previous year, from Gibbs Fund from the Hendricks County Community Foundation, is still accessible. Hayden states that he does not believe it to be. Ivie continues with the understanding that they are limited to this year's funding. Hayden moves to for the board to request the funds be released from the Foundation Board for the amount of \$5,729, Moon seconds; passes unanimously.

D. NEW BUSINESS

D-1. W.S. Gibbs Crop Lease

Lemley states that HCP&R and Jason Searcy have reached an agreement on tillable land. He has received a check that seemingly has discrepancies that Lemley plans to investigate. This agreement will allow the landowners to continue producing crop but not impede on the development of the park.

Lemley states that he would like to create an accessway in the west-end portion the Gibbs property, as a second entrance, that will in the future be a maintenance entrance. Avon has asked for a portion of the entry be paved. Creating this secondary entrance will not impact the tillable acreage.

*D-2 Log Barn

Miner states that he was made aware of a potential donor, Mary Lee Comer, regarding her support in the addition of the log barn to the Gibbs property. Emsweller states that if HCP&R were to acquire this structure, he would rather see it at McCloud (on the north end, in the Harlos Property) rather than Gibbs. Emsweller supports the efforts of a community member raising funds for a project on behalf of the parks. Comer would like to keep the barn within Hendricks County and have other residents utilize the structure. Emsweller asks the board to allow further discussion on possibly moving and reconstructing this barn for HCP&R. Emsweller asks for members of the board to volunteer to join him on a committee to continue exploration, Moon, and Miner volunteer. The consensus of the board is approval. Lemley states that he would like to see a clear plan of action before acting on this project.

E. REPORTS

E-1. Superintendent Report

Lemley reiterates what was in the report. He mentions a successful staff retreat and the lose of a part-time maintenance tech.

Freije asks if there is any new knowledge due to the septic issues discussed. Lemley states there is no definite feedback.

E-2. Budget Report

Miner asks for clarification of the Food and Beverage, which was estimated at \$180,000 in February and has changed to \$537,000. Ivie stated that he was able to roll over remaining funds from the

previous year. He anticipates those funds will be used for projects at Gibbs. He notes the cost of various conferences throughout the year. He notes that a portion of the Machinery and Equipment Fund has been used to acquire a laptop for Holtsclaw and the rest will be used towards the new mower mentioned in the Superintendent's report.

E-3. Parks Foundation of Hendricks County Report

Lemley states that Stritar has informed him that she will not be reporting in the HCP&R board meetings monthly as she was previously doing. Due to time constraints, the PFoHC felt her time would be better utilized elsewhere. Emsweller states the members of the Park board that also sit on the PFoHC board will share their findings and update the Park board when necessary. Hayden mentions the success of the Pancake Breakfast although attendance was lower than expected. Prior to the day of event, it was discovered that the oven in the Nature Center was not functioning properly. Hayden remedied this by purchasing a new stove and was then reimbursed by HCP&R. With the weather expecting to be nicer, the next week is expected to be a higher attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:24pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Hayden, Secretary

Next Meeting: April 3, 2019