



Park Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

355 S. Washington Street

2:00pm

Danville, IN 46122

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm.

Board Present: Mike Hayden, President **(temporarily by phone)**
Brad Eisenhart, Vice President
Matt Freije, Secretary **(absent)**
Gary Emsweller
Paul Miner
Jeff Pell
Bill DuMond

Staff Present: Ryan Lemley, Superintendent
Eric Ivie, Assistant Superintendent
Robin Wambach, Administrative Assistant
Sarah Wolf, Park Naturalist

A. CALENDAR

A-1. Adopt Agenda

DuMond moved to adopt the agenda; seconded by Miner; motion passed unanimously.

A-2. Approval of Minutes from January 6th, 2021 Park Board Meeting

Emsweller moved to approve the minutes, DuMond seconds; motion passed unanimously.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS / PRESENTATIONS

B-1. Public Comments

None.

B-2. B&O Trail

Jeff Smallwood, President of the B&O Trail Association Inc., and Dave Jackson, President of the Hendricks County Trail Development Inc., gave a power point presentation and talk about the B&O Trail (which traverses Hendricks County), and these organizations' continuing trail development efforts. The boards of these organizations recently passed a resolution for developing and maintaining sections of the B&O Trail by partnering with government entities and this resolution led to the request to make the Park Board presentation. The Park Board expressed appreciation for the resolution and presentation and requested that these organizations continue to apprise the Park Board as options for development and maintenance of the B&O Trail evolve.

C. NEW BUSINESS

C.1 Vandalia Trail – Next Level Trails – Round II Restart

Lemley reported that he received an email from the DNR as they are restarting the Next Level Trails grant process for round two. The DNR is considering previous applications that were submitted. Lemley has since completed the survey to maintain future consideration from the selection committee from our round II application that was submitted in October 2019.

C-2. W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park – Shelter House Construction Bid Proposal

Lemley reported that Jessica Hartman will provide recommendations for contractors who could help construct the two (2) shelter houses and concrete work. A general construction permit is required through the Town of Avon, while Indiana Homeland Security is requiring a Construction and Design release permit. Once submitted, we expect the required permit approval process to take 2-3 weeks.

Lemley requested Park Board approval to start the bid proposal process for the professional construction of the two (2) shelter houses and concrete work. ***Miner approved for Lemley to proceed with the bid process, DuMond seconds; motion passed unanimously.***

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

D-1. Vandalia Trail – Update on Request to Purchase Park Board Property – Aaron Montgomery

Lemley reported that with the help from DuMond, we have successfully enhanced the language in the written agreement with Aaron Montgomery to sell him the vacant/non-utilized (7823 Main St., Coatesville) lot that borders his residence along the Vandalia Trail.

Lemley reported that after Aaron Montgomery's review of the purchase agreement, he would like to revise one topic regarding *Section 9: Purchaser covenants that he shall maintain a vegetation barrier consistent with the existing vegetation (trees and bushes) at least 20 feet in width for the entire length of the property adjacent to the Vandalia Trail.*

Aaron has disputed the required 20' vegetation barrier that he must maintain along the Vandalia Trail; he has required the vegetation barrier be reduced to 10'. The Park Board has voted to meet Aaron in the middle, requiring a 15' vegetation barrier. ***Miner made a motion for 15 feet in width for the entire length of the property, Pell seconds; motion passed unanimously.***

D-2. Youth Protection Policy –Discussion for Adoption

Lemley requested that the revised Youth Protection Policy be considered for approval and adoption by the Park Board. If approved, Lemley will seek legal guidance from County Attorney Greg Steuerwald, along with review from Travelers Insurance (County Insurance provider) prior to Ivie posting the policy on the HCP&R website.

Emsweller moved to approve the Youth Protection Policy, Miner seconds; motion passed unanimously.

D-3. 5-Year Comprehensive Master Plan – Update & Final Public Meeting

Ivie reported that Greg Beilfuss, Chief Planner of IDNR Division of Outdoor Recreation, provided valuable input pertaining to the recently submitted Comprehensive Master Plan draft. Ivie will make those updates prior to the April 15th, 2021 deadline.

A public meeting to review the final Comprehensive Master Plan (CMP) will be hosted on Monday, March 1 from 7:00pm-8:00pm with the Hendricks County Government center.

E. PROPERTY UPDATES

E-1. McCloud Nature Park

Lemley reported that INDOT has been backed up with the making of the McCloud Nature Center road signs. Signs should be completed/installed by mid-March.

Lemley reported that the Pancake Festival has been cancelled due to COVID-19. Sarah and the naturalist team will continue to offer altered Maple Syrup Days programming during that time. Lemley also added that new signage for the Beehouse has been installed at McCloud Nature Park.

Lemley reported that FE Moran Security Solutions will be disconnecting the maintenance barn security monitoring contract (non-penalty) on February 28th, 2021 due to the lack of service in this remote location. An alternative in-house security monitoring camera system has since been installed for our maintenance hub.

Lemley highlighted that the TRaFx counter documented 1,064 vehicles for January.

E.2. Vandalia Trail

Lemley reported that Ryan Buckley (B-L-N) has started the appraisal process for the Pringle and Reitzel parcels. The Pringle property is valued at \$5300.00; 1.50 acres. The Reitzel property is valued at \$7500.00; 1.396 acres. Lemley has given Ryan Buckley approval to approach both Pringle and Reitzel with our vision and offer.

When the situation presents itself, Emsweller will reach out to Cory Himsel to see if he can answer any additional questions that he may have regarding the land acquisition for the eastern expansion of the Vandalia Trail. Currently, Cory is not in favor of selling his land for expansion of the trail.

Lemley reported that Miner made him aware that Indiana House Resolution 3 (Indiana Year of Trails) was adopted.

Lemley reported problematic issues (continual flashing) with the solar power crosswalk flasher along State Road 75. Limited sunlight was the culprit, as the newly purchased batteries were not sufficiently charged. Batteries were removed and fully charged.

Lemley highlighted that 925 patrons used the Vandalia Trail during the month of January.

E-3. W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park

Lemley reported that we have folks entering the “closed” park to go sledding on the hill. The maintenance crew have added “no sledding” signs as a safety precaution.

Lemley reported that our maintenance team is continuing to make significant progress implementing the aggregate lined trail system at W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park. An average of 600ft of trail is being implemented per day. Additional crushed stone and landscaping fabric was recently purchased. Several boardwalks and a bridge structure will be implemented within the trail system later this spring serving as trail connectors in wetland areas.

Lemley reported additional purchasing items for W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park have transpired over the last few weeks, this includes - picnic tables, trash & recycling receptacles, shelter and individual family picnic grills, message boards, entrance/license plate security cameras, and a magnetometer traffic counter to document attendance.

Lemley reported that John Albert Hall has officially taken over John Hall Excavating from his father, John Hall.

Lemley reported that he will be reaching out to the Gibbs family regarding the fencing for their property and for W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park. The original request from the Gibbs family is to install a square knot fence.

Lemley reported good progress developing trail signs. He also advised that Freeman Signs will begin construction on the W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park entrance sign soon.

Lemley reported that the “three-year maintenance bonds” with John Hall Excavating, is being worked on through Jessica Hartman. Those three-year bonds are based on the 10% of the original contract.

E-4. W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park – Floating Dock

Lemley presented to the Park Board a drawing from Floating Docks located in Indianapolis of the proposed floating dock for W.S. Gibbs Memorial Park. Lemley is requesting that we have it professionally installed and is requesting to solicit bids to other vendors. ***Miner moved to approve the request to solicit additional bids and for Lemley to approve the lowest and most responsive bid, Pell seconds; motion passed unanimously.***

F. Reports

F-1. Superintendent Report

Lemley asked if any questions regarding the superintendent report. The report was for informational purposes only; required action was completed earlier in the meeting.

F-2. Budget Report

Ivie reported that we are still on budget for the first quarter and does not foresee any surprises coming up at this time for additional funds needed.

F-3. Parks Foundation of Hendricks County Report

Eisenhart reported that they have hired an Executive Director (Katy Cummings). She will be starting Monday, February 8 with PFOHC.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:55pm

The next Park Board Meeting will be held on March 3, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Freije, Secretary