

Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Board
Minutes of February 6, 2019
Park Board Office
4449 State Road 43 North
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Present: Board members John Gambs, Opal Kuhl, Karen Mitchell, Denny Mellon and Mike Gery. Also in attendance, staff members Mary Barrett, Randy Lower, Adam Libbers, Brian Cook, Mary Cutler and Allen Nail.

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by Mike Gery.

December minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Opal Kuhl and a second by Denny Mellon.

Claims were reviewed and unanimously approved on a motion by Denny Mellon and a second by Opal Kuhl.

Election of Officers for 2019:

Mike Gery asked for nominations. Denny Mellon motioned to retain the 2018 slate of officers; Opal Kuhl seconded, carried unanimously.

- President: John Gambs
- Vice President: Mike Gery
- Treasurer: Scott Rumble
- Executive Secretary: Allen Nail

Appointments to Park Foundation Board:

Opal motioned to retain the Park Board Foundation appointments - Denny Mellon and Bryan Metzger. Mike Gery seconded, carried unanimously.

Old Business:

2018 Budget Report: The December budget report was reviewed along with a second report highlighting the amounts encumbered into the 2019 budget. There were no concerns.

2018 Review: Randy reviewed the projects that will be completed in 2019 using encumbered funds. The Amphitheater drives will receive double coat seals, two culverts on the south side of the Amphitheater drive will be cleaned out and excavation will take place to re-establish the swale. Battlefield Park will receive a new A/C unit at the Brier Education Center and the parking lot will receive seal coating. Dead ash trees will be removed at Ross Camp. The wood floors in the Ross House will also be refinished. Encumbered funds were also used for a gasoline purchase.

Amphitheater Lease Agreement: Matt Salsbery is now finished with 3 comprehensive lease agreements for the Amphitheater specific to the type and size of the event. Opal made a motion to begin using the new agreements, Denny seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

New Business:

Fees, Charges and Rates for 2019: Allen provided the Board with an all-inclusive list of all current rental rates and fees for the campground, buildings, grounds and shelters. The staff has recommended no changes for 2019. After review and discussion, the only area of concern was addressing an increase in the rental fees/conditions for the Indiana Fiddlers Gathering. Allen said that he will contact Karah Rawlings in regard to an increase in fees and a pending request for limited alcohol sales at the event. He will then report back to the Board. Denny motioned that current rates, fees and charges should remain unchanged for 2019. Opal seconded, carried unanimously.

2019 Budget Report: Board members reviewed the January 2019 budget report. The report reflected the funds that were encumbered from 2018. There were no questions or concerns.

Superintendent's Report:

- Kathy Smith will attend the next Park Board meeting where she will receive a plaque to commemorate her years of service with Tippecanoe County. Kathy joined the department in 1987 where she worked at Wildcat Park and Fort Ouiatenon until becoming the Wabash Heritage Trail Manager in 1988. Allen acknowledged her hard work and efforts on the trail and shared a few memories. We will plan to officially acknowledge her service at the next meeting.
- Next Level Trails: DNR will invest \$90 million toward the development of regionally and locally significant trails throughout Indiana. Local government and/or 501 (c)(3) non-profit organizations are eligible for the grant. A Scope of Services proposal from HWC had previously been shared with the Board, and it was briefly discussed. Opal expressed the need to pursue a second local proposal, particularly in light of the amount of the proposal. Allen will pursue a second scope of services proposal to look at the potential 1.5 mile long hard surfaced, ADA compliant loop trail around the big lake at Bicentennial Nature Area. In addition to numerous permit applications, the process will be complicated due to the wetlands designation, its location in floodplain, utility easements, and landfill sampling wells. It would be advantageous

to complete a topographic survey before the foliage comes in. Allen feels a proposal is not only important to have when applying for grants but will also help with long term planning and pursuing other funding sources. There is no need for the Board to take any action at this time.

- The maintenance department took delivery of a new Toro 4100 mower. The department was given a trade-in offer of \$750 on a Toro 455. Rather than trade in the equipment, Allen requested that the Board declare the Toro 455 as excess equipment so that it can be auctioned off with at least a \$750.00 (plus consignment fee) minimum bid. The staff feels strongly that the auction will result in proceeds in excess of the trade-in offer. The Board declared the Toro 4100 as excess equipment by consensus.

Miscellaneous:

- Eagle Scout Presentation: Nathan Jarboe, accompanied by his father Pat Jarboe, presented a slide presentation of his Eagle Scout project at the Hoffman Nature Area. About a year ago, Nathan, a member of Troop 335, began planning an addition to the existing mountain bike trail. Nathan worked with Allen and the Tippecanoe Mountain Bike Association to create a sustainable trail that would be the perfect slope for bikers and minimize erosion. It was a well organized two day project with approximately 30 volunteers each day. Allen complimented Nathan on his attention to safety and detail and thanked Nathan, troop 335, parents and TMBA for an outstanding job.
- Karen Mitchell introduced Amanda Galloway, Extension Educator – Community Development, to the group. The Board welcomed her to her new position and to the community.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:01 PM.

Minutes compiled by Mary Barrett.