

Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Board  
Minutes of May 5, 2021  
Tippecanoe County Amphitheater Rainshelter  
4449 State Road 43 North  
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Present: Board members John Gambs, Denny Mellon, Mike Gery, Karen Mitchell, Dave Luhman and Esther Chosnek. Also in attendance were VS Engineering team members Mike Peterson, Randy Strasser, Mike McClure and staff members Adam Libbers, Mary Barrett, Randy Lower and Allen Nail.

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by John Gambs.

February minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Esther Chosnek and seconded by Denny Mellon.

Claims were reviewed and unanimously approved on a motion by Esther Chosnek, seconded by Denny Mellon.

### **Old Business:**

BNA Trail Update/Next Level Trails: VS Engineering presented the preliminary plan for the trail at Bicentennial Nature Area to the Board. The winding path will be a shared use trail for bikes, pedestrians, and skaters including a path to the shore. Allen also discussed costs, professional estimates, and the need for a commitment for matching funds for the Next Level Trails grant program.

Cash Rent Lease – Ross Hills Parcel: There were 3 bids on the 25 acres across from Ross Hills Park. Tyler Anthrop fulfilled the requirements for the bid and will farm the land. The lease has been executed and recorded.

TCHA Display Document – Eagle: TCHA has requested to put the original eagle on display, allow the public to enjoy it and to tell its story. The eagle will remain Park Board property and TCHA will provide insurance. Allen requested permission to execute an agreement to loan the eagle to TCHA. Dave Luhman motioned to allow Allen to enter into an agreement approving the loan of the eagle to TCHA. Esther Chosnek seconded, carried unanimously.

### **New Business:**

- 2021 Budget Report: The Board reviewed the April budget report. There were no questions or concerns.
- 2021 Events Update: Outdoor Explore has been cancelled for 2021. Vendors preferred to wait until 2022 for safety reasons. The Feast is currently scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in October.

Indiana Fiddlers' has moved their event to August. It will be one day, limited entertainment and no camping. Camp WACK (Water Adventure Camp for Kids) will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in July at BNA. There will be smaller numbers and additional safety precautions in place.

- Superintendent's Report:

- In an effort to avoid the need for an additional salary appropriation for the new superintendent, Allen will take Tuesdays and Thursdays off until the end of June in order to use up his vacation leave prior to retirement.
- Ross Camp has an erosion problem at the back drive at the A-frame Lodge. A proposed fix is being evaluated.
- There is a property line issue on the North 9<sup>th</sup> Street property. An old RV and several inoperable vehicles are on Park Board property. Allen will contact the neighbor and request the removal of the vehicles.
- Allen shared with the Board components of the lease agreement with DNR regarding Wildcat Park property. Future discussions regarding the end of the lease will take place between the Board, staff and DNR.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Minutes compiled by Mary Barrett.