

**Chesterton Park Department
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September, 7th 2021**

Those in Attendance: President Wendy Marciniak, Vice President Paul Shinn, Secretary Mark Dickinson, Member Bob Cohn, Park Superintendent Shane Griffin, Liaison Jennifer Fisher, Engineer Mark O'Dell, Town Manager David Cincoski, Town Attorney Connor Nolan, Administrator Hilary Thomas Peterson

Wendy Marciniak called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the assemblage with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Wendy Marciniak called Roll – Paul Shinn, Mark Dickinson, Bob Cohn – all present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve August minutes was made by Mark Dickinson. Seconded by Bob Cohn. Motion passed. August minutes approved.

Comments from the Public

Ashley Ollett – Would like to host a 5K run for Wounded Warrior project out of Thomas Park on November 6th starting at 10am. Hoping to raise \$10k. The route has been turned into the PD and approved. Would start at Gazebo and end at Gazebo.

A motion to approve the SUP and waive the fee for the Wounded Warrior 5k was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Bob Cohn. Motion passed.

Jim Martin – Started playing pickleball, thinks it's a wonderful sport.

Lori Laster – still would like dedicated pickleball courts. As per discussion.

Maura Mundell for Duneland Chamber of Commerce – Would like to hold a new event Vino el Fresco at Thomas Park from 5-9 on October 23rd. Wine sampling and food vendors, 21 and over only. Would like to use mostly local business' and would be a ticketed event. Will be held rain or shine, COVID protocols would be in place. As per discussion.

A motion to approve the SUP for Vino el Fresco, pending final approval from Town Council and Legal agreement was made by Bob Cohn. Seconded by Mark Dickinson. Motion passed

Superintendent/Engineer Report

Garden Club has been continuously supporting Thomas Park beautification. The Apollo gym is on it's way, hopefully be installed in the next few weeks at Dogwood. Took a kayak out onto Coffee Creek to see about dredging, would not be necessary right now. Application in for Rebuilding Together was accepted, another clean up will be scheduled then for Coffee Creek Park. Chesterton Art Fair last month went very well. Attended a regional Superintendent meeting. Received a \$500 donation from Kiwanis, and will purchase new grills for the new Dogwood shelter. Duneland Diamonds would like to raise

money for a new scoreboard at Chesterton Park ball field, and run electric to it. Would like to run electric to the tennis courts as well. Continuing clean up bike trail and Coffee Creek. Seasonal workers are now done of the year, keeping one part time for rest of season. Splash pad is now closed for the season. More repairs on the handicap ramp at Thomas bathrooms. Ellis electric put up poles at the Thomas bathrooms for additional security lighting. Fall softball has begun. Would like to declare the following items as surplus for the upcoming Town auction.

Toro air-rater

Hydro blower

Gas Power brush

12' & 24' trailers

A motion to declare the items surplus was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Mark Dickinson. Motion passed.

A motion to accept the \$500 donation from Kiwanis was made by Bob Cohn. Seconded by Paul Shinn. Motion passed.

Wendy asked where the gym would be installed. Shane said on the West side.

SEH – Glen Peterson and John Rubel – Coffee Creek Presented the preferred Master Plan. As per discussion. Will explore grant opportunities as well. John stated that the intention was that the plans were shared with the sub-committee and CBLT, believe all check points were addressed, but have some flexibility. This will be very transformative to Downtown. Would like to seek approval for this preferred Master Plan.

A motion to accept the Preferred Master Plan was made by Bob Cohn. Motion was not accepted or passed.

Mark Hopkins interjected that the CBLT has not even seen the new plans and questioned why this was being accepted so quickly. Rich Riley also interjected that the committee has not seen any new plans. As per lengthy discussion. Bob stated he had asked if SEH has informed the CBLT committee. Mark stated that SEH has only had one meeting with them. Paul stated that a meeting needs to get set up to get input. As per discussion. Mark stated that this has been an ongoing discussion for years, and wants to make sure that everyone is onboard and going in the right direction. As per discussion.

Maura Mundell also stated that they have not seen anything since July 27th. Paul stated that Glen needs to get ahold of Maura and Mark Hopkins. Mark O'Dell stated that he and Shane would facilitate a meeting between all parties.

Comments from the Board

Bob inquired about the US Fish and Wildlife grants.

A motion to allow Shane to apply for the Lake Michigan Coastal Grant and the Land & Conservation Water Fund grant was made by Bob Cohn. Seconded by Mark Dickinson.

Also asked if other grants will be applied for. Inquired if the splash pad is safe guarded for the winter. Mark also asked if he has enough 'man power'. Shane stated that we are covered for everything. Wendy

asked if the 411 tip line has been implemented. Dave Cincoski stated that it was up, and Shane stated signs will be made.

Paul asked if we could get some lines painted at the Duneland Cove tennis courts for pickleball, asked Shane to look into it. Mark Dickinson stated that he found in an older Master Plan that the school is supposed to maintain Chesterton Park fields and tennis courts.

Approval of Claims

A motion to approve September claims was made by Mark Dickinson. Seconded by Paul Shinn. Motion passed. September claims approved.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Shinn. Seconded by Mark Dickinson. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

President
Wendy Marciniak

Date