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Subject to Approval

Approved as corrected

Approved as submitted

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes June 22, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: The zoom meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL: **Present:** Jason Keppler, Amy Huey, Theresa Kovak, Carolyn Sullivan
Absent: Brian Stulak

OTHERS PRESENT: Debbie Bluso Rogers, Assistant to the Mayor, Gary Domanick, Council representative, Bobbie Beshara, Council Member

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Mr. Keppler to approve the February and March 2020 minutes as amended. Ms. Kovak seconded. Motion approved by majority present. *

*Minutes will need to be approved at the July board meeting. The June Agenda was not posted 24 hours ahead of time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Status and discussion of the feasibility study

The current recreation center is closed indefinitely due to Covid19 and is simply not functional. The two part time employees for the Rec Department will begin working from the Town Hall. Employees will begin taking inventory of items in both the old Rec Center and in Johnson Barn. Richfield officials are working out a deal to allow Richfield residents to use the Broadview Heights rec center while the Village is without a rec center of its own. Mr. Domanick will make a motion for council to approve the extra \$5,000 needed to pay for the feasibility study. The study is on schedule to be completed this year.

Status of 2020 Tree Giveaway

The 2020 tree giveaway has been canceled. Richfield will have its 2021 tree giveaway on April 24, 2021 at 9am. One hundred of the following trees will be offered: Bald Cypress, Norway

Spruce, Red Maple, White Flowering Dogwood, rooted Butterfly Bush, Rose of Sharon, River Birch, Balsam Fir. Two hundred Redbuds (the unofficial Richfield Tree) will be offered as well.

Status of fall programing

Summer camps and concerts are all cancelled. Most if not all field trips sites were closed even before Richfield cancelled their camps. JumpStart will offer an August sport class. Outdoor space is available for rent, but all indoor space is not available due to Coved state guidelines. Village is undecided on the status of the Fall Fest in September. Parks and Rec Board still needs to determine how to bill for use of facilities. Mr. Keppler said that Strongsville allows the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs to use their space for free for meetings but charges for them to use city facilities for events. Mr. Wheeler is still considering a community service component for nonprofits to use village space. Ms. Beshara stated that Kelly Clark uses a Village building for her Lamplighters program, which adds to the community. Board discussed the importance of being thorough to ensure that all for-profits pay equally and that all nonprofits pay equally. Without a rec center, the Haunted Rec will now be a collaborative effort between the Village and RJRD and will take place at Gund Hall. Trick or Treat on the Trail is cancelled.

Status of Recreation Director vacancy

RJRD and the Village discussed sharing a park director. This was preliminary and is not being seriously considered at this time. The Village is not hiring a Parks and Recreation Director this year.

Status regarding the repair of the trails at Richfield Woods

The Village is repairing the asphalt path around the lake at Richfield Woods. It is not repairing the trails in the woods.

Status on 2019 Park Board member affidavits

Ms. Bluso Rogers sent out the Park Board affidavits via email requesting members fill out their attendance.

Discussion regarding the name of the Hawkins Road Park

Two parcels of land were donated for the Hawkins Road Park. One was from the Baab's family, and the other was from the Labolzo family. The husband in the Labolzo family requested that his wife be honored. Mr. Domanick would like for the Parks Board to consider naming either the park or a structure after each of the families who donated the land.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

MAYOR'S REPORT

No Mayor's report

INTERIME DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

No report.

TREE COMMISSION LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Domanick discussed the adopt a spot for next year. They would like for all sites to have on site water access and be ready to be planted in early spring. Plaques will be created for about \$23 each and will honor the steward and sponsor. There will be some new site locations.

Rob Morgan will lead an effort to beautify the center of Richfield and connect downtown to the Pedigo Trail. Council will meet with him on July 15th. Tree and Landscape will do a walkthrough downtown on August 10.

AGENDA REQUESTS

Hawkins Road Park Name

Facilities fees (need past years' fees)

COMMENTS

Mr. Keppler asked if Petros Home trucks were still dumping dirt at Hawkins Rd Park. Debbie was unaware of any recent dumping.

Mr. Keppler offered, if allowed, to use his canoe and reader to read the depth of the lake at Hawkins Park Rd. There was concern if the lake would need to be dredged.

Mr. Domanick would like to see something done with the mound of brown dirt at the park. It is unsightly. Ms. Kovak suggested the dirt be used to build the sledding hill. Mr. Domanick suggested covering it in grass to make it more attractive if the dirt is needed for the hill.

Park and Rec Department will begin to collaborate with RJRD instead of being on its own.

Public works will hold a meeting about what to do with the old rec center property. The sale of the property could help fund a new rec center.

Ms. Kovak asked what will happen to all the items in the old rec center. Ms. Bluso Rogers stated that Ruth Jocek has some personal items there that she will clear out, and the rest may need to be auctioned or stored at the Johnson Barn if there is room.

The cattail clearing at Hawkins Rd Park has been put on hold due to budget restrictions.

The Village acquired 4 acres of land across from Hawkins Rd Park, just south of Apple Ridge.

Unless one falls on a holiday or a quorum cannot be reached, Park Board meetings will be the first Monday of the month at 6pm.

Future Park Board meetings will be as follows: July 6, August 3, August 31.

Meetings will be held via zoom until otherwise stated.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Keppler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:53. Ms. Kovak seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



Jason Keppler, Chairperson



Amy Huey, Secretary

Date: 9/21/20