

**Carmel/Clay Board of Parks and Recreation
Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
Monon Community Center**

Member(s) Present: Katie Browning, James Engledow, James Garretson, Joshua Kirsh, Nick Plopper, Linus Rude

Member(s) Absent: Wendy Franklin, Jenn Kristunas, Rich Taylor

Others Present: Michael Klitzing, Chief Operating Officer (COO Klitzing); Audrey Kostrzewa, Business Services Director; Debra Grisham, Park Board Attorney

Roll Call, Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Engledow welcomed everyone to the Park Board Meeting and asked Mr. Kirsh to call the roll. Mr. Kirsh stated that there was a quorum. Board President Engledow called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

The following individual addressed the Park Board voicing concerns regarding badminton at the Monon Community Center.

Fyeza Haider; 13544 Brentwood Lane; Carmel, Indiana 46033

A brief discussion followed.

Staff Reports

COO Klitzing stated that the standard reports were included in the Board packet.

COO Klitzing announced that since there were not a lot of action items on the agenda, he wanted to take some time to provide an overview of projects from last year to the present and near future. At this time, COO Klitzing presented 'The State of Parks & Recreation Address' (*PowerPoint presentation*).

At the conclusion of COO Klitzing's report, Mr. Garretson asked about the decrease in cost recovery for the Monon Community Center from 110% in 2015 to 105% in 2016. COO Klitzing explained that the Department is shifting some of its capital maintenance expenses from LOIT (Local Option Income Tax) to the 109 Fund causing a reduction in cost recovery.

Mr. Garretson asked about the provision of 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. COO Klitzing said there is no perfect answer regarding the correct number of acres per person as each community determines its need. Overall, the Department is pleased with 9.98 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents and noted this acreage includes land owned by the Department, City of Carmel, and Hamilton County Parks & Recreation. There is additional greenspace that is not included in the report, e.g., schools, Dads' Club, etc.

Mr. Garretson added he noticed that the number of senior memberships has increased, and he expressed his concern about the Department being more sensitive to this growing population. He continued to explain the problem for seniors who cannot be dropped off at the east or west doors. He suggested a valet or shuttle service to address this problem. COO Klitzing responded that when services are increased, the percentage of cost recovery will decrease. Mr. Kirsh said he had brought up the valet idea before and feels it is not necessary to offer 11 months out of the year, but perhaps a few weeks instead. COO Klitzing said he would be happy to look into it.

Mr. Kirsh said he is still interested in the Department pursuing dynamic pricing. COO Klitzing said he was not opposed to exploring this model; however, state laws do not allow for this type of creativity as a public entity. A more prudent route would be to advocate this type of pricing structure with the state legislators.

Mr. Garretson said he had raised the question about Cherry Tree Park at the last meeting and wanted to know staff's recommendations on what we should do with it. A lengthy discussion followed.

Finance Committee Report

There was no Finance Committee Report.

Minutes

January 10, 2017 Annual and Regular Park Board Meeting

Mr. Kirsh made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Garretson, and unanimously passed 6 – 0.

Financial Reports

Consolidated Financial Report for December 2016

Mr. Plopper made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the Consolidated Financial Report for December 2016, seconded by Mr. Kirsh, and unanimously passed 6 – 0.

CCPR P&L Statements for January 2017

Mr. Plopper made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the Consolidated Financial Report for January 2017, seconded by Mr. Kirsh, and unanimously passed 6 – 0.

Claims

Claim Sheet February 14, 2017

Mr. Plopper made a motion to approve the Claim Sheet as presented, seconded by Mr. Kirsh, and unanimously passed 6 – 0.

Clay Township Claim Sheet February 14, 2017

Mr. Plopper made a motion to approve the Clay Township Claim Sheet as presented, seconded by Mr. Kirsh, and unanimously passed 6 – 0.

Monetary Gifts, Grants, Partnerships, and Sponsorships for January 2017 – Audrey Kostrzewa

No action was required, as there was nothing to report.

New Business

Mr. Garretson made a motion to add new business (*to the agenda*), a discussion of Cherry Tree Park, seconded by Mr. Plopper, and unanimously passed 6 – 0.

Mr. Garretson expressed concerns about Cherry Tree Park being idle and felt that although he was not in a hurry, does not want it to get lost. He suggested that the Park Board direct staff to get a viable appraisal of the value of the property for the purpose of trade or sell. Mr. Kirsh said he did not agree and would prefer taking a different step, possibly putting together an executive committee to discuss present expenses and potential uses. A lengthy discussion followed. Ms. Browning said she lives in the neighborhood and did not know it was a park as there was no signage. She said there are a lot of things on the table and her initial reaction was not to spend any more money on Cherry Tree at this time. Board President Engledow expressed that he was not in favor of an appraisal right now. Discussion followed.

Mr. Garretson made a motion that the Park Board direct staff to report back to the Park Board alternatives for the possible use of Cherry Tree Park on or before the July meeting, seconded by Mr. Kirsh, and unanimously passed 6 – 0.

Old Business

Monon Community Center

Entrance and Fitness Expansion Project

(Update provided earlier by COO Klitzing during 'The State of Parks & Recreation Address.')

Central Park

West Commons

(Update provided earlier by COO Klitzing during 'The State of Parks & Recreation Address.')

The Waterpark Admissions Project

COO Klitzing stated that this project is substantially complete.

Attorney's Report

Ms. Grisham reported that Travelers has concluded the investigation of the incident at the West Commons project involving the 7 year old who fell. She expects a denial letter will be sent within the next week or so.

Ms. Grisham reminded the Board that the Webb lawsuit was successfully amended to include the Carmel Clay Board of Parks and Recreation and the Carmel Clay Park Building Corporation as plaintiffs. She is working with the litigation counsel on the pleadings for the response to that amended complaint.

Ms. Grisham reported that Accelerated Indiana Municipalities (AIM) sent her a legislative summary update and will email the information to the Board Members.

Director's Report

In Director Westermeier's absence, Board President Engledow stated that the Director's Report was included in the Board packet.

Information Items

School Board – Ms. Browning announced that the School Board passed the proposal for the referendum, which will be the only item on the May 2nd ballot. A pact has been started to educate the community on this continual referendum.

Plan Commission – Mr. Kirsh announced some streamlining of efficiencies within the planning processes.

Park Board Comments / Discussion

Mr. Garretson asked about renting space in the Monon Community Center. He said an acquaintance of his had inquired about the room (*Multipurpose Rooms A, B, & C*) and was told it was all rented. COO Klitzing answered that prime times are most desirable for group fitness classes and other programs offered by the Department. There may be non-peak times that are available. Discussion followed.

Board President Engledow commented on the 6,200 kids enrolled in summer camps.

Mr. Kirsh announced that the City is rolling out the Monon Boulevard and information sessions for the 96th Street Corridor. He highly recommended registering at Carmel Link 2.0 for up-to-date information.

Adjournment

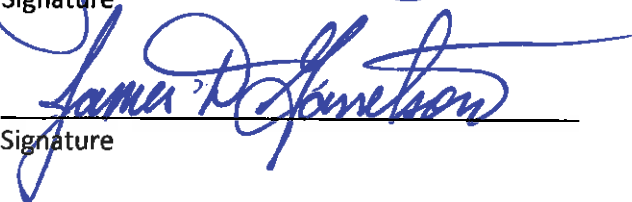
There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Kirsh, seconded by Mr. Rude, and without objection, Board President Engledow adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Approved,



Signature

3/14/17
Date



Signature

James 3/14/17
Date