

Pendleton Park Board Meeting Minutes July 24, 2019

I. Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Park Board President Bryan Williams. Additional Board Members attending were Stephen Bill and Steve Denny. Also attending were Park Attorney Bill Davisson, Park Director Aaron Burris, Director of Maintenance Donnie Meyer and Executive Assistant Denise McKee.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from June 26, 2019 meeting could not be approved as insufficient members present to meet quorum.

III. Bryan Williams and Park Board Recognition for Act of Heroism

- a. Words of Appreciation from Park Board President, Bryan Williams—
 1. Bryan Williams took a few moments to reflect on the 2019 Memorial Day Tornado, thanking the community and park staff—Donnie Meyer, Aaron Burris and Denise McKee & park crew for their recovery efforts and turning Fall Park around quickly despite the significant damage sustained by the storm.
 2. Bryan Williams, speaking also on behalf of the Park Board, expressed sincere gratitude for the five younger heroes that saved the life of a young lady while on duty at Browns Pool this past June. Mr. Williams stated that the Park Board and Park Staff could not be more proud of these five for the heroism they showed that day. Mr. Williams then shared his personal visit to the pool after the incident and mentioned that he spoke with Preston Dixon, one of the five staff members involved in the incident and was even more impressed that when thanked, Preston stated, "I was just doing my job."
- b. Londa Bennett introduced each pool staff, recognizing each of them for the outstanding job they did in saving the life of another on June 27, 2019. She acknowledged them for their amazingly quick response and fulfillment of the task assigned as was trained—Emily Brown, Preston Dixon, Ella Dixon, Madison Painter and Grace McKinney. Mrs. Bennett stated that from the first sign of struggle, bringing the swimmer to the top of the water, clearing pool, calling 911, getting swimmer boarded and brought to the side of the pool, providing mouth to mask CPR to swimmer that was not breathing and with only a faint heartbeat, and soon thereafter, swimmer on her way to hospital in ambulance breathing on own, it only took a total of 15 minutes and staff was in office debriefing the incident. She further stated that these 5 worked great as a team and was very efficient in treating the young swimmer.
- c. Donnie Meyer addressed the 5 lifeguards/pool staff and also commended them for their efforts. Mr. Meyer added that he had been on two similar runs out of his 36 years of service and this was the worst he had experienced. Mr. Meyer said he could not be more proud of these heroes and that they did everything they were to do in this kind of situation. He stated that their training clearly paid off in this situation and reminded that whatever you do in life, training always pays off.
- d. Beth Tharp, President and CEO of Community Health Anderson and VP Community Engagement/CFO Tom Bannon presented the five with the Community Hero Award that was established in their honor, them being the first five recipients. Mrs. Tharp further mentioned how proud Community Health is of them and how they kicked it up a notch in their service to the community as well as presented each with a plaque. After the presentation, Bryan Williams called for a fifteen (15) minute break/reception to give time for Park Board members, Park

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Staff and attendees to congratulate and thank the five pool staff members for their service and act of heroism.

IV. Public Comments-Attendees: Scott Davis, Todd Miller, Londa Bennett, Laura Meyer, Dustin Tryon, Shane Burris, Tony LeBeau, Melissa Dixon, Preston Dixon, Brad Dixon, Karen Butman, Rich Butman, Ali Butman, Rita Cooter, Jabo Cooter, Cristin Hiatt, Scott Hiatt, John Painter, Madison Painter, Emily Brown, Grace McKinney, Jeff McKinney, Annie Wills, Sandi Butler, Dick Butler, Coco Bill, George Gasparovic, Beth Tharp and Tom Bannon.

a. Tony LeBeau—Member of the community raised topic about the tall metal slide that was damaged by the tornado. Mr. LeBeau expressed interest in the slide and believes that the slide can be restored. He stated that he would love to see used as a slide and not as an art piece. He asked for the park board's consideration of him fixing the slide for is personal residence if the insurance company does not allow for it to be repaired/used in the park. Mr. LeBeau mentioned that he had spoken with Denise McKee and she mentioned the park is going through the insurance processes and that there are a few unknowns at this time- 1. Liability concerns may prevent giving to third party and 2. Property belongs to park/town and may have to go through town auction if can dispose to third party. Bryan Williams asked how soon we will have answers. Both Donnie Meyer and Aaron Burris commented that it is a waiting game and the park is at the mercy of the insurance company. Mr. Williams advised Mr. LeBeau to stay in contact with park staff for updates over the next couple of months.

V. Big Lug Update

a. Representative from Big Lug did not attend meeting; therefore, no discussions held.

VI. Golf Course Report

a. Scott Davis reported on the golf course. Mr. Davis reported the golf course is finally turning the corner with the dry/hot weather compared to May and early June. Mr. Davis further stated that June 2019 finished much less than 2018 due to the excessive rain in June, but July is going very well. He added that they are experiencing more business and all members are excited about the changes.

b. Mr. Davis also reported the following:

1. Tee work continuing to go well as have the necessary equipment and use of tractor has been very helpful in getting ready to seed.
2. Initial stages of E & B Paving already looks great.
3. Focusing on dead trees with removal and replacement as well as finish Tee work. Once all completed, they plan to boost marketing once the course is re-rated.
4. Stephen Bill suggested to auction off the three (3) golf carts versus trade-in as most profitable option.
5. Mr. Davis stated that all other aspects of the golf course is going well.

VII. Sports Complex Report

a. Todd Miller reported on behalf of the Sports Complex. Mr. Miller indicated that they are working on getting drawings to Community Hospital for sponsorship signs, to be ready by August 10th. Mr. Miller mentioned that they have yet to determine the exact name for signs, but moving forward otherwise.

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- b. Todd Miller also reported the following:
 - 1. Indiana Men's Baseball League (18+, 25+, 35+) is new business and have scheduled 24 dates in 2019 plus 2 additional dates possible—for a total \$2400 or \$2600 in revenue to be earned. Mr. Miller explained that the league has left Forest Park and plan to move program to Pendleton permanently/year-round in 2020.
 - 2. Other new business—Indiana Arabian Travel League will be leasing Diamonds 3 & 5 from August – October, with expected revenue \$1800.00-\$2000.00.
 - 3. Fall Ball and Coed Softball League registrations going on right now.
 - 4. PJFL and PHMS football camps going on right now (July 22-25) with about 350 athletes participating. Mr. Miller added that PJFL numbers are up this year by approximately 75.
 - 5. 7U, 8U & 9U All Star Tournament scheduled to take place the weekend of July 26th- 28th.
 - 6. Three baseball tournaments are still set to take place in August and September (1 in August and 2 in September).
 - 7. The World Series Tournament for July 5th- 7th was cancelled and probably a good thing per Todd Miller due to excessive firework mess that took three days to clean-up. Mr. Miller stated that he will need to have conversation with Main Street, Event Sponsor, of the 4th at the Falls in 2020. Stephen Bill asked what caused the change/bigger mess than in the past. Mr. Miller replied that the Event Sponsor let individuals inside the Sports Complex who also let off personal fireworks by the concession stand. Donnie Meyer added that winds were a big part of the redirection of fireworks. In the past, the shells/casings usually fell on the parking lot and was not aware that most had carried/landed on the ball fields.
- c. Todd Miller concluded that all is going well at the Sports Complex.

VIII. Pool Report

- a. Londa Bennett reported on the pool. Mrs. Bennett reported that we had a lot of bad weather in June with 7-8 days being partially or completely closed and therefore shows in the financial reports.
- b. Londa Bennett also reported the following:
 - 1. The month of July has been much better, other than a few heat wave/low attendance days.
 - 2. All private parties/swim lessons booked for the rest of the season.
 - 3. August 4th will be last day of the season in which she plans to bring in different parties/vendors to boost attendance.
- c. Londa Bennett stated again that pool weather has been a huge factor in low revenue this year.

IX. New Business

- a. Act of Heroism by Brown's Pool Staff---see above under Section III.
- b. Park and Community Joint Projects—Denise McKee reported the following:
 - 1. Free Library Trees –Friends of the Library under Coco Bill and Friends of the Library are working on gathering information about the cost of two free library trees to be placed in the park—using tree stumps that were damaged from the tornado. Mrs. McKee stated that the groups along with park staff have located two trees in the park (1 large at the Playground and 1 small at the Meditation Garden) that will work well if Park Board approves in the future. Picture examples were passed out to the board members for review. Coco Bill also added that during the tornado relief

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efforts, she was brought in contact with Rise Woodworking that has the expertise to build the cabinets to be placed inside the tree to house the library books. The friends groups need to locate a wood carver to hollow out the tree as well as discuss raising funds for the project. Both groups plan to discuss joint project further over the next month and intend to come with proposal at the August 2019 board meeting for park board member consideration. Bryan Williams expressed his support, but asked Aaron Burris and Donnie Meyer for their feedback. Both Mr. Burris and Mr. Meyer felt these two stumps/locations are centrally located in the park and would work very well. Mrs. Bill also added that she felt that with their current book sale program at the library, they could keep the tree libraries well stocked.

2. Denise McKee shared community member's idea (George Gasparovic) to have a spirit pole placed in the park—likewise using one of the tree stumps that were damaged from the storm. Mrs. McKee provided a picture for an example and advised that further information to come at the August Board Meeting. Mrs. McKee also explained that the symbols to be carved out of the wood will be symbols representing the Town of Pendleton. Coco Bill added that the estimated cost is about \$3,000.00; therefore, funds would also have to be raised for this project.

3. Denise McKee also reported that the Urban Forestry Committee is interested in partnering with Falls Park in tree replanting efforts at the park, cemetery and Town of Pendleton. Mrs. McKee also stated that the Committee along with the Town of Pendleton and Falls Park are going to complete a joint application for an Inventory/Tree Planting Project Grant through State funds as well as researching options to digitize/update the Memorial Tree Program throughout the town.

4. Denise McKee announced that there will be a Community Day scheduled later in the fall which will be a joint program with the Urban Forestry Committee and Falls Park. Events for that day will include tearing out old trees/bushes, planting new trees, dedication service (tornado tree) as well as park/town clean-up.

c. Grant/Revenue Opportunities 2019-2020—Denise McKee provided a list of revenue opportunities with detail for Park Board Members to consider in the course of the next year. Breakdown was provided in the following areas—Grants-Federal, State and Local; Donation Fund Payouts- Falls Park and South Madison Community Foundation; Park Generated Revenue-Park Programs, Lease Fees and Municipal and Volunteerism/Service Projects.

d. Red Barn Rental Rates—Denise McKee reported that the park soon will be ready to start renting the red barn located at the north entrance of the park and that the Board Members will want to start considering the appropriate daily rate. Bryan Williams asked about the condition of the barn and that we need to bring the facility up to meet ADA Compliance. Donnie Meyer advised that the ramp has been built and cement landing soon to be finished. Once the work is complete, Mrs. McKee reported that she will be working on getting pictures for the websites. Mr. Meyer also added that with the log cabin that will soon be built in the same section of the park, he expects that the Red Barn will generate good revenue. Mr. Meyer also suggested that the Park Board raise rental prices as weekly rates on the other park facilities as well as use the park assets such as the park office by renting out for small meetings. Bryan Williams asked Denise McKee if she can start researching other similar facilities to get idea on current rental rates. Mrs. McKee agreed to conduct search and will report further at the next board meeting.

X. Old Business

a. Park Projects- reported by Aaron Burris. Mr. Burris reported the following:

1. Capital projects are moving along very well—foundation has been poured with plumbing roughed in as well as sidewalks down. Also, Fredericks to start laying concrete blocks next week for the new restrooms.

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2. E & B Paving doing prep work and to start paving in a couple of days at the golf course with the walking trail located at Water Street & East to be completed in about 10 days to 2 weeks.
- b. Park Board Finance Committee—report to be provided next month.
- c. Friends of Falls Park- reported by Denise McKee. Mrs. McKee reported that the Friends of Falls Park busy working on getting ready for the Heritage Fair coming up in September. Mrs. McKee also reported that the group will be painting the water fountain on Saturday, July 27th.
- d. Log Cabin—reported by Aaron Burriss. Mr. Burriss advised that there is no update at this time. However, Mr. Burriss asked the Park Board Members if at one point in time they had agreed to store a Conestoga Wagon at the Red Barn. The Board Members present were not aware of any agreement made. However, community member, Kim Barnhart, advised that she believed that the wagon was donated by the Roger family and that there was in fact an agreement made between Ron Barnhart (while acting Park Superintendent), Jay Brown and the Historical Museum to store in the Red Barn. Stephen Bill added that he did not believe the topic was raised at a previous board meeting, but that he had thought he had heard of intentions to store at the old maintenance building. Mrs. Barnhart advised that she will check with Ron Barnhart to gain clarifications.

XI. Park Director Report

- a. The following was reported by Park Director, Aaron Burriss:
 1. Pendleton Lions Club will be applying for a Community Recovery Grant through the Lions Club International Foundation to help with recovery efforts/damages from the tornado. If grant approved, any funds gained will be used for stump removal and possibly new playground equipment to replace some of the pieces that were damaged.
 2. E & B Paving donated \$2500.00 for assist with tornado recovery efforts.
 3. IMI –Irving Materials, Inc. –Of the recent donation of over 300 tons of gravel, the park has used approximately 200 tons for the trail system and have a little over 100 tons left to be delivered in the near future for additional trail upgrades. Further, the park is soon to receive 50 tons of concrete in which will be used for Red Barn ramp landing and repair of sidewalk behind the Community Building.
 4. Ninestar has an access point for wireless internet, currently located on a pole in the front of the park near the new restrooms. Park staff is working with Fredericks to keep the access site, but to find alternate placement, in hopes to remove the pole from the center of the new development. Mr. Burriss advised that there will be an email that will be circulated in the near future as to mounting options to the new restrooms.
 5. Lighting for the new walking trail will be too costly to fall under the Capital Project fund, however, conduit will be installed for future projects.
 6. Clarence Hupfer and family to donate funds to replace the tall metal slide that was damaged from the tornado. The costs are estimated at \$12,000.00.

XI. Director of Maintenance Report

- a. The following was reported by Director of Maintenance, Donnie Meyer:
 1. The park staff has continued to clean-up from the tornado with removal of damaged trees & limbs.
 2. About 200 tons of donated stone have been delivered and spread throughout the trail system and have received great feedback, a savings of over \$2,200.00.
 3. Mr. Meyer added that when the donated slide is ordered/built, the park plans to announce in the local newspaper as well as place a plaque on the slide on the family's behalf.

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4. Park plans on having luminaries throughout the park, down Falls Park Drive, on Christmas Eve. The park will start to collect gallon plastic milk containers as soon as storage location determined.
5. Mr. Meyer praised new hire Charlie Miller for his hard work and dedication this past summer. Mr. Meyer reported that Mr. Miller had volunteered a full week of work after the tornado and had the opportunity to place him on payroll. Mr. Meyer added that Mr. Miller is a great asset to the park and hopes he will be able to continue employment year round.
6. The park grounds crew plans to start cleaning out around the pond at the North Entrance this fall as expects to encourage use. Mr. Meyer plans to ask the Boy Scouts to help with this project.

XII. Approval of claims from May 2019

The Register of Claims for June 2019. Motion by Stephen Bill. Second motion by Steve Denny, approval by all. Members present did sign the June 2019 Register of Claims. Denise McKee will submit to the Town Clerk.

7:41 pm Meeting adjourned by President Bryan Williams.