



ZIONSVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION

Zionsville Board of Parks & Recreation

Meeting Minutes

For

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

At 7:00 P.M. EST

ONSITE MEETING

1100 West Oak Street

In Attendance: John Stehr, President, Jill Pack, Vice President, John Wollenberg, Tim Casady, John Salewicz, Sarah Moore, Kris Barksdale

Staff attending: Superintendent, Jarod Logsdon, Amy Nooning, Attorney, John Emery - IT

OPENING

Call to Order/Roll Call

Stehr Call to order the meeting of the Zionsville Board of Parks and Recreation for Wednesday, May 11th. We have, uh, quite a few people in the audience tonight. We're glad you're here. Sorry we're a little bit late. We were in an executive session, uh, discussing a few issues. So, um, we're happy to get started now and thank you for your patience. We appreciate that. Okay the first thing we're going to do is call the roll.

Vice President, Jill Pack?

Pack Here.

Stehr Secretary, John Wollenberg?

Wollenberg Here.

Stehr Tim Casady?

Casady Here.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Here.

Stehr Sarah Moore?

Moore Here.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?

Barksdale Here.

Stehr And I, John Stehr, am here as well. Uh, the next question has to do with the minutes from April 13th and you'll notice when you got your packets that, uh, they were separated in a separate attachment. That was a suggestion by Sarah Moore and that certainly makes it a lot easier to look through those minutes and we appreciate that. It was a good suggestion and, uh, Bonnie picked right up on that so, uh, that being said, does anybody have any comments or changes to the minutes?

Approval of the April 13, 2022 Minutes

Salewicz I make a motion to approve the minutes.

Stehr John Salewicz makes a motion to approve the minutes. Do I have a second?

Casady Second.

Stehr Tim Casady seconds and, uh, we'll just do that by acclamation. All in favor say aye.

All Aye.

Stehr All opposed?
[No response]

Public Presentations/Comments

Let the record show that that passes unanimously. All right, the next thing on the agenda is Public Presentations and Comments. And we have quite a few people in the audience tonight, I suspect we're going to get some

comments so now would be the time. Uh, does anyone have any comments that they would like to make to the Board? Anyone at all?

Anthony I play golf with them.

Stehr Pardon?

Anthony I play golf with these ladies.

Stehr Come up to the podium please. Uh, give us, please give us your name and address and –

Anthony My name is Mary Lee Anthony. I'm a resident of Zionsville, Indiana and I play golf with these women that came here tonight along with, I think there's 77 members of our, uh, golf league that play and we are wondering the status of the golf cart path improvement because we've been bumped from our home course out to different places and we want to come home and play there.

Stehr We understand your concern and, and we are concerned as well. When, uh, our Superintendent, uh, gives his report tonight that will be part of it –

Anthony Okay good.

Stehr And we'll, we'll discuss where are on that.

Anthony Okay but that's, that's why you see all of these faces here.

Stehr Yeah, so I, I understand and I, and, you know, we certainly commiserate with you on that. We'd like to see the golf course open as well.

Anthony Okay. Thank you.

Parks Foundation Update

Stehr You're welcome. Anyone else? All right. The next item on the agenda is the Parks Foundation Update, uh, this is something that we're going to do on a, uh, semi-monthly basis and our liaison to the Parks Foundation is Jill Pack and, uh, she is going to speak with us now. Jill.

Pack All right. I have a summary of what's going on with the Parks Foundation, um, for those of you in the audience, uh, the Zionsville Parks Foundation was formed last year. It is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), is that right? Um, to

support Zionsville parks in various ways and, um, they have done several things. Um, so far this year they have sponsored GreenFest, been one of the sponsors of GreenFest, there were many, um, they have provided some scholarship money for the summer camp program and, um, we had a few families, I think two families that took part in that. They have allocated a total of \$1,000 for that so what wasn't used will be rolled over to scholarships for 2023. They will be a sponsor with the Butterfly Trail. I believe they're also a sponsor for WinterFest again, is that correct? Yes?

Logsdon

Yes.

Pack

Okay. And, um, they also have agreed to provide funding for the pilot environmental education series that, um, the department is putting together for Zionsville third graders and it's going to be a pilot program at one school, um, for the 2022-2023 school year. Um, they currently have eight members and are looking to grow. At their last meeting it was, the, their annual meeting they elected officers. The president is Nancy Carpenter, the treasurer is Kelly Masoncup and the secretary is John Bumgarner. Um, in addition, they've already lined up a sponsor, plans for next year's GreenFest in 2023. They plan on having a table, taking a nonprofit table at the Farmer's Market on August 20th. And so from a financial standpoint, uh, for 2022 their goal is to raise donations of \$26,150, um, they have a long way to go but most of their money comes in end of year was Giving Tuesday and time for taxes and that type of thing. In 2021 they did raise \$27,437. So their, their budgeted, um, grants out into the public this year are \$14,400 and that's kind of a synopsis.

Stehr

Okay.

Pack

Any questions?

Stehr

Well the Parks Foundation is relatively new and, uh, so kind of a blank slate and, uh, looking for a path forward to, to be able to be helpful to the Parks Department and to the people of Zionsville, um, do you, uh, do you see an openness for other ideas and, and other options that might come their way? Might be presented to them?

Pack

Absolutely! I know that one thing they're talking about is, um, to get their name out into the, um, public more is doing a fall fundraiser out at Carpenter Nature Preserve where people can come out, make a donation and do a little tour and that's kind of in their early stages of planning.

Stehr

Okay. Anyone else have any comments? I will mention that the, uh, Carpenter Nature Preserve Master Plan is something we're going to present a bit later in this meeting tonight for those of you who want to stay and see that. I think, uh, hopefully you'll be impressed by what is planned for out there and, and what that can add to the parks in, in Zionsville. The Parks Foundation, you know, pretty much came out of the desire to develop the Carpenter Nature Preserve at the old Wolf Run Golf Course, so, uh, Jill, thank you very much. Sure appreciate that. All right, the next thing on the agenda is Staff Reports and, uh, for that we turn to our Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Jarod Logsdon. Jarod.

Staff Reports

Logsdon

Thank you, John. Uh, we'll start off by talking about the golf course. So, kind of a little synopsis about, uh, the cart path improvement project, so, um, it was actually very rewarding today. I was out at the course with our golf course manager and, um, a citizen came up and was asking about the project and mentioned that they did go to another course and, uh, did not enjoy the play and compared ours to the PGA as a comparison to other opportunities in the community. So, we do value the, uh, investments Mike Wall and his staff have made in the course over the years to beautify it and create the best experience for you all and in that same light, you know, we were keeping an eye on the cart paths and looking at that infrastructure as well. With crumbling cart paths and hazards on some of the slopes, this was something that was long overdue. So there is no great time to close a golf course when you're paving. Ideally, it would be over the winter but asphalt has to be above 40 degrees at night to, to pave appropriately, so – we did begin this in the fall. We, uh, had some synergy with Duke Energy who also replaced those poles along the utility easement, so with that coordination in the fall, we closed the course about a month early and we were able to save the taxpayers over \$20,000, uh, by combining our two projects together and also mitigating, uh, future closure for their project, so there was a reason we attempted this in the fall. Now, unfortunately, it wasn't the driest fall we've ever had so, uh, ultimately they did begin to spin their tires and had to quit for the season. So, um, we entered into an agreement that they would resume once the asphalt plants opened up in the spring and we would finish and complete the project. So, we have been monitoring this project since February in constant communication with the contractor and I do want to share a photo here – so we have been, you know, weather has become more and more ideal so everyone is getting antsy as the days become more beautiful but, uh, just Monday, um, while the greens did appear relatively dry, you know, we are very much still in a flood plain for the majority of our, our golf course.

You know, that's part of our, uh, treasure of being so close to Eagle Creek. Um, you know, the course actually has a relief valve for Eagle Creek so when it rises too high it empties out into our course. You all know that because you've played there in the spring other years, so. Um, we are the saturation low point so it takes the longest to dry out, so I am very happy to say that our, uh, contractor has been back onsite this week and just today they are clearing the, uh, the stone in the previous cart paths hauling that off and preparing to lay the new stone in its place. So Thursday and Friday will be all hands on deck for our contractor to get that stone in place. We are anticipating some rain over the weekend but having that stone in the, in place will allow for paving to happen much more quickly next week. So, we are looking at wrapping up this project. The contractor feels we have just under two weeks left of work to do and we should be able to get the course back open. Mike and his staff have been keeping the greens up to date and, uh, will actually be fertilizing tomorrow and they're looking really good. So, once we can button up this light construction that's left, uh, we will be able to welcome the public back.

Casady

Jarod, I was heartened that so much was going on there today. I went there at about 4:00 and ran into Trish, our designer there, and so that was all great. There's lots going on but it's a critical time of the year, um, you know, there's lots of golfers and revenue at stake, uh, it's such a, you know, it's a disappointment that they couldn't finish it in the fall but I would, uh, suggest that we ask, uh, Amy just to make sure that we know under that contract what all of our remedies are if, uh, in the next month or so and this also would help us communicate, uh, better what's going on, um, weather is, uh, is a wild card that, uh, but, I, I, you know, that's, I, I would like Amy's opinion on, you know, how, how weather impacts the, the contract and what our remedies might be if they are late.

Logsdon

Absolutely. We can investigate that further.

?? female (19:37) Question –

Stehr

Yes.

?? female

Have the contractors been paid?

Logsdon

The contractors have not been paid to date.

?? female

Why are they working?

Logsdon Uh, because, uh, in these public projects they submit payouts throughout the project and we will award them based on the work that is done so, whether it's a clerical/administrative thing, they just haven't, uh, sent us a payout yet.

?? female They've not sent any bills?

Logsdon Right.

?? female They haven't sent any?

Logsdon Not to date. We haven't received one.

?? female That's not why they quit working because they haven't been paid? That's what I heard.

Logsdon That, that is incorrect. Uh, they quit working because conditions became, uh, obstructive to continuing. So –

?? female From September until--?

Logsdon Yes, so –

?? female today?

Logsdon Yes, absolutely. So, again, being in a flood plain those, uh, you know, heavy trucks driving over there are doing more damage to the course that they, you know, the contractor, in turn, has to repair. So, um, I think it's also important to note, uh, INDOT doesn't consider, you know, the start of December through April as any workable days on their calendars. So the fact that we did get some progress in December and then were able to check in an begin this project this spring, uh, in a window that is not considered workable by some organization. So, we have been diligently in contact with the contractor throughout this entire process and when it became feasible and appropriate to re-engage, they have.

?? male Have the contractors asked for any increase in pay because of –

Logsdon Because of –

?? male 21:09 and – inaudible off microphone

Logsdon This contractor has not asked for any increases. Uh, I think the stone has been piled up for quite a while in the parking lot so they might've, uh, already had that in place.

Stehr And, and I would say again we do understand your frustration and, you know, I hope you know that we're frustrated too but I would say that, you know, years ago whenever it was that those cart paths were first installed, some of them were installed without any foundation whatsoever and, of course, that area floods on a regular basis and that's not going to lend itself to cart paths staying in place when the floods come up. At this point, it'll done better, it'll be done right, the cart paths will stay in place. It, it's going to be better in the long run and I, I realize that there is short-term pain here. I, I know how much you want to get out there and play, I really do and, and, you know, I can only say that, that hopefully you'll all appreciate it more when it's done and, you know, that we're not going to have to go through this again on a regular basis.

?? female One more question. (22:12)

Logsdon Um, as I mentioned, uh, Mike and his team have been doing an excellent job keeping the greens up so truly, um, once we do that final punch, you know, as long as there's no hazards, uh, we'll be open for play. Now if there are hazards, we could always snow fence them, secure them from the public so we'll, we'll address those as those happen but, you know, the irrigation system was damaged throughout this project and we're already repairing that, uh, to make sure that stays in place and is ready to go when we get back in order, so. Uh, we are not wasting any time. I don't know if you've drove by today but the building is being primed by our volunteer, uh, painter.

Casady The Clubhouse looked great.

Logsdon Looking excellent.

Casady Go Mike, yeah.

Logsdon So we are, we are taking this opportunity to do, make all the improvements we can so when we welcome you back it's going to be the most enjoyable experience. So, I mean, that's why we're here and that's why we do this. We, we enjoy serving the community and offering this amenity.

?? female Will there be a delay for that parking lot 23:21 Inaudible off microphone

Logsdon That is the, uh, so, you know, as their paver leaves the cart paths, the last thing they will do is, uh, repair and stripe the, uh, parking lot.

Female ?? Inaudible off microphone 23:35

Logsdon Yes, yep. So part of the contract is to replace, uh, in the condition they found it. So anything they damage, uh, they will replace. And we've already had that conversation so they're aware.

?? female Is there money in the budget to pay the contractor?

Logsdon Yes. This is a budgeted item. We had an allocation, uh, last year – an additional appropriation, uh, both from the Parks Department funds and also an investment from the golf course and all of those funds were, um, what's the term? Brought forward.

Casady Appropriated.

Logsdon Reappropriated for this year so they are ready to disburse once the project is complete.

Casady Yeah this was a publicly advertised and bid project so done in accordance with Indiana Open, you know, Open Door Law, so, you know, everything – it's just late. It's just late.

?? female Are there any other plans for Inaudible off microphone 24:33

Logsdon Absolutely. So, uh, for the past year we've been working with the Department of Public Works, uh, internally on an engineering, uh, solution for that drainage on the site. So, as you know, it's a flood plain. Uh, we will never tier it but we can certainly keep the water moving as it accumulates, so, um, one of the solutions is to create a new ditch, uh, over to the creek, uh, and that would just alleviate, uh, a lot of that water that ends up on Four, um, so we're looking at that and that would be an in-house project that would not disrupt game play at all. So –

?? female Inaudible off microphone 25:11

Logsdon That would not be a closure to this scale certainly. Maybe one day at the most and we're not looking at that for the 2022 season. Any other questions?

Barksdale We're not promising this will be done and ready in two weeks because we don't really know what – I mean, I haven't looked at the forecast to see. You said rain this weekend but –

Logsdon Absolutely.

Barksdale If there's more rain like we had been getting that could potentially move it back or?

Logsdon Uh, yes, so everything is weather dependent – all construction is. So, um, if there's not a workable day, there's not a workable day in there and with this project, you know, every day it rains we do lose some ground on when they can reactivate but having the stone in place which is their goal this week while the weather is still good will fortify that a little bit and they'll be able to get the pavers out and in tow, you know, much more resilient.

Barksdale Okay.

Stehr Anybody else?

Salewicz One thing you had mentioned before is that they are on our high priority – their list, we're a first done with the contractor.

Logsdon Absolutely. Uh, they are, they are receiving daily phone calls from myself and REA and, uh, they know this is important to the community and they're looking to button it up just as much as us.

Moore You were not the only project that has been delayed by rain this year. It has really had a hamper on construction.

Logsdon All of our projects have saw that, unfortunately, which we'll talk about next.

?? female or male? Inaudible off microphone 26:51

Logsdon The contractor is City Wide Paving.

Stehr Moving on. Maintenance?

Logsdon Uh, I have two more, uh, quick things right here.

Stehr Okay.

Logsdon Um, I wanted to discuss quickly the Starkey Avenue bridge which is a component of the Southern Rail Trail Expansion and just mention that the bridge will receive topsoil and be seeded tomorrow and the road will be open by end of day. Uh, the Rail Trail will remain closed until the ribbon cutting, uh, as a part of Overley-Worman on May 20th. And one more quick announcement, uh, this Friday at Overley-Worman Park we will be having a volunteer group, um, and asking any mountain bikers that wish to come out, uh, to help us get the trails ready to welcome the public in a week. So, if you're available from 4 to 6 there's an online registration, uh, application for this volunteer event if you're so interested. That's all on the Superintendent Report.

Stehr All right Jarod. Next up. Thank you all for coming.

Crowd Thank you.

Emery John, do we have Greg online?

Dickenson Good evening everyone. Just a few things I want to highlight for April's report. Um, first I want to talk about the weed wrangle we held at various parks this, uh, last April by our Parks team. Um, it was successful. We had over 316 people that took part. A large part of that was the Z West sixth graders and we managed to collect about 80 trash bags of, uh, invasive garlic mustard, lesser celandine and, uh, bush honeysuckle sprouts. Um, some of the other things our team has been doing – we have installed four memorial benches at, uh, four of our different and various parks. Um, we got all of our water fountains and irrigation lines and our, uh, water spickets up and running for the season and, uh, that's about all I have for April if anybody has any questions.

Stehr Anybody have any questions for Greg? I believe we don't. Anything else, Greg?

Dickenson That is all. Thank you.

Stehr Okay.

Casady Thank you.

Pack Thank you.

Stehr Thank you.

Barksdale Thanks.

Murdock Good evening everyone.

Casady Good evening.

Murdock So, recreation report on what's going on. Um, April is kicking off and it's just going to get busier and busier as we progress into summer. Uh, just real quick, um, about 1,400 walk-ins. This was the first time that the Nature Center was open for spring break in the new location in the library and it did not disappoint so while we always think that Zionsville kind of clears out, um, there were enough people around. So we averaged about 109 people a day through the door at the Nature Center. Um, we did have a little drop in craft, uh, and so that averaged about 20 to 30 people a day that did the craft. Um, I know the staff had to keep going over and making more copies because they were running out of things but, so it was pretty good. So for the seven days that we were open during break we saw, you know, almost 800 people during that period of time. So, um, just a few other things – um, April is the start of our school program season so our naturalists have been busy doing school programs for Zionsville Schools as well as scouts, uh, and then May we'll continue that when we actually are fully booked into May. We're not doing a public program, we're doing a school program on every day, um, or multiple programs even. Um, just a few other ones there – I was asked to present at Indiana Parks and Recreation Association did a camp summit in April and they did reach out and asked for me to present on, um, nature and, and the benefits of nature and camps and so that was a nice, nice afternoon kind of getting away from the office and talking a little about what we do in Zionsville with our camps, um, and so they are looking to have that as being an ongoing thing in the future, so this was the first time that they did it. Um, Greg talked a little bit about the weed wrangles so we were happy to see Z West back out with us. It had been a couple of years because of COVID that they couldn't but they were as soon as they lifted the restrictions, uh, the sixth grade teachers called us up and said we want to come back out to Starkey, so we had about 280 kids and teachers out there spending the morning so it was pretty nice. Uh, we did have our first Zionsville GreenFest, um, back, uh, underneath Parks and Recreation had taken, a, a leave for a few years, uh, and that was, um, very well attended. We had about 320 people that came through, uh, I think everyone enjoyed themselves. We had about

25 different exhibitors or presenters so that was a nice addition that here in Town Hall we had presentations going out throughout that morning on lots of different topics, um, such as, you know, composting, native plants, invasive species, um, solar so it was a nice opportunity for people to get a little bit more information or even just talk, uh, and get some kind of, some, um, you know, contacts for if they had some information for that one. We also had a little student art contest that was going on for that one so it was nice to get to contact the students to let them know if their, their, um, their art contest, they, they got a prize for that one and then, uh, thanks to all of the sponsors that we did have for the event. We were able to raffle off a rain barrel as well as a composter, so people were very happy to pick those up as well. Um, and then just lastly, um, I know, yeah, Jill talked a little bit about it, uh, Rachel Felling, one of my naturalists, did present to the Zionsville Parks Foundation on a project that she's been working on. Um, she actually started working on it before COVID with her thoughts and we were able to kind of wrap that up and get it moving but we are going to be doing a pilot program this fall with Eagle Elementary third graders so the entire four classes of Eagle Elementary, um, on a four-part environmental ed series. So, the, the program will have two times that we actually go to the students in their classroom and kind of build off of what they've learned and then a third visit out to the parks and then that fourth visit will actually be a service project that working with the, the teachers and the students we would determine what that would be whether it's, you know, plantings, helping with invasives, trail work – it could be multiple different things. So, um, it was nice that the Parks Foundation is going to fund that first year entirely and then the teachers and the, uh, principal at Eagle are fully onboard on, you know, giving us feedback and helping us work with the curriculum and the materials that would be the pre and post, uh, with the goal that in the future this is going to end up going hopefully to all of the third grade classes throughout Zionsville, so. And then, um, I did start, um, onboarding for us for MyRec, uh, so did submit all the information to them. They're currently working on building out our website and adding in all the features that we'd like to see, uh, with the goal that we will roll out the new MyRec, um, registration and park website on July 1st, so our project plan. And then also coming up this summer we have our Zionsville Butterfly Trail so we did have 25 art submissions for that trail so it was, it was a hard decision to only have the 8, um, so we had a lot of, I stuck butterflies all around Town Hall in the hallways and asked people to drop little slips to vote which ones they liked and, um, but we, I just reached out to the artists and they are wrapping up artwork, some of them sent me photos of what they're doing and so, we're hoping to get them back here soon and they'll, they'll

be up in, in various areas of the parks starting in June, so. That's it unless you guys have any questions.

Wollenberg Mindy one quick question – I saw several of the events had 0 attendees.

Murdock Yes.

Wollenberg When that happens do you guys, um, attribute it to the event or the location or the timing or what, how do you guys handle those?

Murdock It, it's, it's always kind of a you never know because we can do the exact same program, every write up, everything the same and try it another day and it'll fill. Um, so, uh, some of them it could've been weather that was an issue with it, uh, some of it's just the topics. Usually we'll try something at least twice, uh, and then we'll say maybe this just isn't something that people are interested in but, yeah, I mean, it, it always happens that, you know, there'll, there'll be a program here or there that either has a low attendance and we have to cancel it because it's just, you know, it's too much to try to get two people to do or, um, you know, just nobody will show for that one but then at the same time then you have another program that's the same week that fills with a wait list, so, but yeah we always try new things and there's no rhyme or reason. I've never been able to figure out why certain things go the way they do.

Wollenberg Yeah. I was curious.

Moore As a library person, I've been working on library programs for 20 years and it just happens –

Murdock Yeah.

Moore And, um, you never know what's going to be a hit and what four years later is going to be a hit. Maybe it's low right now and you just, I think, zeroes show that you're trying new things and that's a good thing.

Murdock Yeah, so.

Stehr All right. Anybody else? Mindy, thank you.

Murdock Yeah.

Stehr All right the next thing is the, uh, report from our legal counsel, unless Jarod you have something you want to say before we start that? No? Okay. Amy.

Nooning Sure. I've been, um, busy reviewing some agreements that Jarod has been great about sending to me for review and negotiating terms to ensure we have terms that are beneficial to the department, um, one of those was the REA Agreement for Master Planning that we negotiated some changes to and has since been executed by John so that is in place now. Um, and we've, Jarod and I have been working through some credit card processor agreements that we've had some challenges with and we're looking at some alternatives there. Um, I have been talking with John and Jarod and assisting with developing a strategy regarding some facets of the Rail Trail Expansion in helping to ensure that that the timeline needs to be followed there and get everything that we need to in place. Um, and I think that's all of my updates.

Stehr Well would now be the appropriate time to make a resolution concerning, uh, the Rail Trail and the trailhead in particular?

Nooning Sure. I think so.

Stehr Okay. All right. So based on discussions that we've had in executive session, does anybody, would anybody like to make a motion concerning that?

Casady Yeah, I, I would move in, in terms of, uh, this is our trailhead property which we now own and in, in terms of, uh, uh assisting, uh, our President and Superintendent in securing possession, uh, and, uh, ensuring the safety of the, of the real estate, we'd like to, uh, I would propose that we also authorize our President to act on behalf of the Board to instigate litigation, if necessary, if he deems it necessary, to, uh, help us, uh, secure, uh, and prepare that, uh, real estate for, uh, for its next phase.

Stehr Okay we have a motion from Tim Casady. Do we have a second?

Moore I'll second.

Stehr Was that Sarah? Sarah Moore seconds it. Uh, let's, let's take a vote. Um, Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Wollenberg?
Wollenberg Aye.
Stehr John Salewicz?
Salewicz Aye.
Stehr Sarah Moore?
Moore Aye.
Stehr Kris Barksdale?
Barksdale Aye.
Stehr Tim Casady?
Casady Aye.
Stehr And I say aye as well. Uh, let the record show that that passes unanimously. Thank you. All right anything else, Amy?
Nooning No, that's it. Thank you.
Stehr All right. So moving on then to New Business. Jarod.

New Business
Filming Request – Starkey Park

Logsdon Um, semi-infrequently we do receive, uh, requests to film in our parks. Uh, historically that has gone before you, um, and we make a decision and ultimately allow or not allow someone to film in our parks but now with the new special event application it actually includes, uh, filming on Town property within its provisions so, uh, before you tonight is just to request, uh, Park Board approval for a, uh, local, uh, filmmaker to occupy a section of Starkey Park's trail system for one afternoon, June 11th, from approximately 8 to, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., uh, to film a short film. Uh, you all, I believe, received a small sample of the script of the scenes that would occur onsite. Um, as a part of the special event application, they will be required, the filmmaker will be required to hold insurance that lists the Town as additionally insured on that policy. So, uh, happy to answer –

Casady No, no member of the Parks Department has a part in this, uh, film do they?

Logsdon We do not.

Stehr Are you James?

Moore I'm the red ninjas, so –

Stehr You're [laughter] – I had trouble understanding I thought that, uh, you know, ninjas traditionally dressed in black so they could be kind of stealthy, you know, and hidden. I don't know if a red ninja is, uh, you know, going to be as effective but I guess I wouldn't want to, you know, question artistic choices like that. Um, the important thing to me is that there's not any environmental impact, we are insured, and, uh, this just seems like all in, all in good fun to me, um –

Pack Is, is there a provision for a rain date if June 11th is stormy or?

Logsdon Um, I can check with that. I also want to specify exactly how much of the trail and, uh, I do want to see a sample of his signage that he'll post notifying the public that there is, uh, filming in that area.

Salewicz So it's going to be, the area is going to be closed off from the public?

Logsdon Yep, for, for approximately the full day.

Salewicz Full day.

Logsdon Yep.

Stehr It's a section of one of the trails, not, not the whole park.

Salewicz Right, right.

Logsdon Absolutely. And we would, uh, have signage to re-route around that because Starkey's interconnected throughout, so –

Stehr Okay. Would anyone like to make a motion to approve, uh, this special request from a local filmmaker?

Salewicz I make a motion to approve the filming.

Stehr John Salewicz, uh, moves that we accept this special use permit. Do we have a second?

Pack I'll second.

Stehr Jill Pack seconds. All in favor say aye.,

All Aye.

Stehr All opposed?
[No response]

All right that unanimously passes. We look forward to seeing the film.
Thank you.

Logsdon Thank you.

Stehr All right, Jarod.

Carpenter Nature Preserve Master Plan

Logsdon All right. Moving on to the Carpenter Nature Preserve Master Plan presentation. So, uh, last fall the Board began the process of master planning for the potential Carpenter Nature Preserve, uh, 215 acres located on the north side of Zionsville. It was generously purchased by the Carpenters with the intent of turning it into a public park. So, we entered into agreements to begin that discussion and Tricia McClellan of, uh, Runsdell Ernstberger and Associates is here tonight to talk about both the results of the Master Plan as well as the public engagement. So, I'll hand it over to Tricia.

McClellan And I've got Sam Vonderau with DELV here with us. I always say it wrong. Um, we partnered with DELV's architects and EcoLogic for the Master Plan, so, let's see if I can plug this in. So you've heard previews, um, seen a little bit of the plan – I just want to give you the overall Master Plan, um, start to finish. So, let's do this so we can see it. So we did go through a four phase process, um, beginning was assessment and I'll give you a little bit of that. Um, we went through a charrette process for this to kind of condense the timeline with Master Plan so that was a three-day charrette where we talked to a lot of stakeholders, um, some focus groups and then worked on conceptual layouts. So the three concepts that came out of that charrette we'll go through those here quickly. That then developed into the third concept which we will show you cost estimate

and then some options for funding and public outreach after we have the plan. So inventory, as I mentioned, we did, uh, a thorough inventory of the site and that did include an ecological assessment that was done by EcoLogic. I think he said he spent about a week onsite actually documenting the existing plant communities and then they developed, uh, proposed plant communities which really drove the Master Plan layout of the Master Plan. Um, we also looked at slopes. That's the map up there in the top right corner so the red are steep, um, and then the lighter colors are less steep. So that shows you there's a certain amount of terrain out here, um, on the site at Carpenter. We also looked at the drainage areas, um, existing pavement which are mainly the, the old pathways and then the vegetation which is there on the, the lower right, um, which mainly follows the Eagle Creek corridor. You see Eagle Creek kind of, um, snaking there along the, the eastern edge. So this was the map that EcoLogic developed and, again, this is the proposed restoration plant communities. Because we know this is going to be a nature preserve, because we know that's a main mission of the, the Plan itself, this really became a driving force for how the layout of this site, um, came about and the, the main thing with, um, plant communities and habitat is being sure that we are having some good continuous masses of that habitat so that, you know, those, those species can move back and forth in those different habitats. So I'll let Sam talk a little bit. We did do an assessment of the existing clubhouse and bunkhouse that are out there just so we could see what condition they were in, evaluate do we want to use the existing structures, you know, what would be needed to, uh, get them into the shape that they needed to be, so I'll let Sam tell you a little bit more about that assessment.

Vonderau

Thank you. So, there, there are two existing structures on the property. One is, uh, the old clubhouse which is about a little over 9,000 square feet on the ground floor and then adjacent to that is a two-story bunkhouse that has a, a 2,000 square foot footprint so it's roughly 4,000 square feet total. Um, so objectively we went through and did a, um, a facility assessment, um, architecturally as well as, um, with a team of structural engineers, um, going through, uh, all of the existing conditions, um, roof to, to basement for each of those. Um, the clubhouse, both, both structures are, were built, we believe, in the early '80s of a, uh, residential, um, grade, um, construction, all wood frames. Uh, the clubhouse is, is over a concrete basement. Um, there is kind of a, a cart drive that, that slopes down into the basement. Um, when the, the, the golf course closed down the building was stripped of its mechanical systems and electrical systems, um, so it's been sitting, um, often stagnant for, for quite some time. Um, so the, the structural assessment in the clubhouse showed, um, that in the basement

there are some major deficiencies with, um, the, the foundation and some of the concrete work, um, and the way that the buildings were both framed was, um, notable of a residential style in, in the '80s which is not, um, acceptable to current code for, um, what a public assembly style, uh, space for a nature preserve would be. So, in order to, um, bring the buildings up to, um, the, the required code minimum, um, we've, we've discovered that essentially all of the wood structure in both buildings would need to be doubled up, um, on all the floor, uh, levels. The clubhouse would need additional steel structure columns and beams in the basement, um, as well as repairs to all the concrete work. Um, when the buildings were constructed, um, it, the, the, um, water mitigation and drainage is not, um, up to current standards either so there are, there is some mold and moisture issues in the buildings as well. Uh, the clubhouse, um, also does not have any ramps. It's not accessible to, to ADA compliance. Um, so those are all, um, objective observations, um, to date that, um, the, the good part about the clubhouse, um, and the bunkhouse is the location. They're located really well on the site. They've got great views and the clubhouse is, um, appropriately sized for what a, a nature center, um, would be able to use at 9,000 square feet. So with that I'll hand it back over to Tricia to go through some of the fun stuff.

McClellan

I'm going to show you one real, in this upper little hand, that's actually a picture taken from inside. That's light that is coming in from outside. So that, that wall, there's a gap there and that's the basement wall, the foundation of the building, so, just to give you a little picture of the quality issues that Sam was talking about. So, basically we had a day where it was meetings with, again, various stakeholders and focus groups and some recurring themes came out of those meetings, um, and those were, uh, number one to bring people and nature together. So being sure that, that is the priority we're also attracting people to come to the site that might not normally think, you know, I'm interested in nature. So finding ways to do that. Um, it is a nature preserve with an emphasis on Eagle Creek ecosystems so really embracing the site and, and Eagle Creek and that, um, ecological system, um, create dedicated and protected habitat areas. So, again, we want people but we also want little critters out here too, so giving them places to, to live and be protected. To have a light footprint really to be a low impact, sustainable, resilient design approach. To have lots of prairie, forest and woodland to really build up what's out there. Nature has started to take back over so supplement that and really build up on that. Um, and then also the nature center, um, to, you know, locate the nature center out on the site, um, but that building though in itself should be adaptable and flexible. So, part nature center, part community center, really a place for the, the community to gather. We also think it's

important to mention what we don't want. Again, this came from those focus groups – equestrian trails and if you look at this list, it's a lot of what I would call, you know, just heavy impact. It just doesn't have that, that light, um, touch to the land itself. So live music, um, sporting fields, hunting, um, mountain bike trails, uh, again, the more, um, active uses that are a little less compatible with some of the natural habitats. So all that being said, it kind of came down to this vision to inspire, attract, preserve. So everything that you see from here on just keep that in your mind and anything that we proposed it was that question. Does this inspire, attract and preserve for this site? So, again, as part of the charrette, we had three different concepts, um, that we drew up and they're all a little bit different and you'll see once we get to the preferred concept, there's kind of pieces that came from each of the concepts which is what happens a lot of the time. We come up with three different ideas and there's usually pieces of each of them that the, the group, uh, likes and this was our steering committee that really went through these. So concept A has the nature center in approximately the same place as the existing clubhouse is so it's on a bluff overlooking, um, Eagle Creek. It had a, uh, tree, um, arbor or a tree walk, uh, behind it. It did have a dog park in the middle, um, or, you know, back on the south end of the site but it had a lot of the elements and you'll see in the others utilizing distinct path system, um, entrances that come off of State Road 32 but then also off of the county road, um, and then, again, lots of, lots of walking trails, um, and outdoor classrooms. Concept B, again, had the, um, nature center in about the same place as the, um, existing clubhouse. When we were looking at these concepts, it was, we were still determining are we going to utilize the building that we have or are we going to have a new building? So both A and B you could utilize the building you have or you could have a new building in these, these concepts. This concept does include, um, entrance off of the county road, um, a new turnaround area in front of the nature center but it also included what we were calling White Oak Commons, um, which would be a restaurant, um, event, um, center with the idea, you know, it could be a farm-to-table type of restaurant with the idea that you could draw people out here for this use and, again, you know, they could start to see what else is available back in the, the nature center. And then concept C which was, you know, took a look at moving the nature center up along one of the, the ponds – it's actually the pond that the, pictured from the, the first slide is overlooking that pond. Um, and having a, a formal allée of trees, still utilizing the existing road that comes in, you know, existing barns to use them as a maintenance center, um, and starting to look at an amphitheater and, again, all those trails that are winding throughout. This concept and even concept B were very heavy on, you know, you see the grassland that has this, you know, again, that mass, that continuous mass that comes

around sort of the, the western side of the property and then the woodland, you know, really trying to, to mass those ecosystems. Preferred concept, again, there were pieces that came from each of, each of those concepts so this is the Master Plan. This is the, the layout for the Master Plan preferred concept. It does include the nature center in approximately the same place as the clubhouse there on the bluff. It does utilize the existing road and turnaround and the existing parking area. All that will be redone but you're, you know, you're using the existing layout of those. It does include, um, a primary entrance off of State Road 32. Forgot to mention – this little square up here, um, from the northern, northwest part of the site is owned by the school corporation so to have that entrance off of 32 that would, we would need to negotiate a land purchase or an easement, um, of some type to make that entrance, um, possible. So, we do have the secondary entrance if that becomes not possible then we can still have access to the site. Um, it includes using, utilizing the, uh, maintenance barns or the existing barns out there as a, a maintenance facility and then utilizing a lot of the, the paths that are out there as trails and I'll show you a little more detail of the trails here in a minute. So phase 2 if you look between those slides not a big difference. Actually, the difference is if you look over here close to the county road it shows White Oak Commons that falls in there so that is a future phase. It's a, you know, it's a more long-term phase that we're thinking about for the, the site itself. We're going to move on. The big pink dots are outdoor classrooms. Um, we also had a boardwalk going over the wetland, a tree canopy behind the nature center along with tree houses and, again, I'll show you some highlighted so you can see where these are close up and then some examples of what these might look like. These are the habitat which, again, are, are very, um, important for the design. It does come from that plan that EcoLogic had produced for us. We did follow that very closely the, the, you know, the prairie grassland and the shrubland and it's all done for the birds and, again, all the, the animals to have the habitat that they need. So, the trails – this is highlighted so the nature center is down here just to get you oriented but this is the highlighted, the paved, accessible trail so it stays pretty close to the, on the, the top of the hill to the nature center but it makes it so you could have a paved, accessible trail that goes all the way out to another shelter that's up by this turnaround in the camp area and then, you know, it catches a couple of those outdoor classrooms. So, again, you could have that accessible path that goes all out through the park. This is actually showing the, the 5K cross country trail. Um, we talked about meets and then, I think, John Wollenberg had expressed some concerns and I think we heard we heard some of those, uh, same concerns in terms of meets and the cross county meets and the number of people that might be out on the site and the damage that they might do and

actually talking to the cross country coaches and they said it's too hard to have meets, the course that we've laid out is too hard. They love it for practice, they love it for torturing their kids, um, but they said it's too hard to have meets. So the idea is we could still have this 5K course, I mean, I would love to run this 5K course and then the cross country teams could use it for practice too. White Oak Commons so, again, this is a, a future phase, um, further out but this shows you an idea of what White Oak Commons might look like. It's called White Oak Commons because when you pull in off of, um, the county road here there is a huge great white oak tree, um, it's beautiful and so it's, you know, really honoring that oak tree naming the, the development after that but then also having, um, an access that runs through the development so the white blocks are buildings and then it's more of, um, an arbor that would go, uh, around a green in the center where, again, you could have a restaurant, um, you could have a market, you could have shop outfitters. We've talked about, you know, is there cross country skiing, um, could you rent fishing poles, those types of things that could actually be out here. This would require a reconfiguration of, uh, the maintenance barns, um, as a part of that development. So when I say event center I'm sure there's lots of different, you know, from convention center type event center to, you know, the different aesthetics that you could think of with that. This is more of what we're thinking, you know, it looks like a barn but there could be weddings out there, um, you know, there could be reunions, whatever event you could think of that you could have out at White Oak Commons. So this is a closeup of the nature center. Again, we're utilizing that existing road and turnaround that comes in utilizing the existing footprint of the parking. Um, the along, the, the south, uh, sort of the back side of the nature center is that canopy walk so it's a boardwalk up in the top of the trees with some treehouses that pop up in between there, um, it really makes an, an interesting play element over top and it's, it's a valley that's kind of going down the hillside, um, so the experience would, would be really neat. An amphitheater down at the bottom of the hill, uh, again, boardwalk going out over the wetland, um, nature play area up on the top of the hill by the, uh, nature center and then this woodland gallery here that comes, um, along the north side and that, it, I think of it like an arboretum in miniature. So it's still natives and natural but it would be, you know, one tree instead of a massive tree, you know, or a few trees instead of a massing of trees. So it could be used as an educational component. So when I say treehouses, this is, you know, what we're thinking of. Again, it's that experience that people could, uh, climb up in, um, along with that canopy that's up in the top of the trees, um, and just boardwalks to get people out over the, the wetlands. I didn't mention but along with the nature center, um, and we do have various, um, places throughout the site for art, to have art in nature and these are just a

few examples of, you know, different types of, of the ways that those are done but it does bring another element to the site that, um, you're not going to find anywhere else in Zionsville and, and honestly it's, they're not included in a lot of the, the nature preserves. Um, Bernheim, you know, a few of them do have those, uh, but that would, would give us, um, something unique out here. I'm going to turn it back over to Sam so he can talk about the different options that we looked at with the nature center.

Vonderau

So we developed three parallel potential programs of what, um, the program components of what we envision a new nature center might , uh, house. So three, three separate, um, tracks – one looking at, uh, what would potentially be about a 9,000 square foot program within the existing footprint of the clubhouse, um, and then, uh, two other new construction options that would be one was about 12,000 square feet and one about 5,000 square feet. Um, so in, in developing those we looked at, um, precedent nature centers from across the country to kind of identify what different, um, size and functions and programs are available at different communities around the country, um, and, and 12,000 and 5,000 square feet are, are kind of rough examples of, of the jump in scale for applicable nature centers. Um, so I won't get into, um, all of the, the data and the sizes of, of everything, um, you know, other, other than saying when, when doing this for, the, the major program elements that we're considering are exhibit space, community meeting space, uh, classrooms, uh, potential catering kitchen for activities, um, and then office space as well. So, the capacity for all of those things essentially just grows or doubles, um, obviously with the, with the larger options. So, um, an example of, um, looking at the, the 5,000 square foot option would have a multipurpose space, um, that would fit, uh, 49 people versus a 12,000 square foot center would have one that, that would fit more like 150 people, so just the scale of gathering, the ability to, to house larger school groups, things like that. Um, after that we, we went through each of those, those three program sizes and just started to, um, uh, mask those out, play with the, sorting the building blocks to understand, um, the relationships between the spaces and to give it a better visually show just the scale differences between, um, all those options. So this is the, the 12,000 square foot option that we're showing here. With all three options, again, we, we always layer in the lens of, of sustainability, um, especially since, you know, that's one of the aspirations of, of this development, of the project, of, uh, of a nature preserve so whether that be, uh, a small, medium, large, new construction or, uh, uh, rehabilitation and renovation of the existing clubhouse building, that's always the lens that we put, put on looking for opportunities to, um, make wise long-term decisions for, uh, for the, the earth, the climate and for, uh, um, cost and spending. Uh,

so with that, uh, we did, um, kind of a high level life cycle analysis looking at those three program options. Um, to start to understand the cost of what an initial spend might be versus what the, the spend over a, a 30-year time period might be and, um, big picture, um, landed, uh, um, you know, looking at a new construction option at a, at a 5,000 square foot cost would, would be the lower of the, the three cost options. Um, actually renovating the existing at the initial spend is, is that medium range and then, obviously, the 12,000 square foot, uh, new construction is the most expensive, um, but once you start to, to layer in the, um, cumulative energy use, um, over 30 years assuming that, um, we have the ability with a new construction to, you know, a lot has changed in the past 30 years as far as, uh, building technology and, uh, building science, so with the aspirations of getting to a net zero, um, energy building, um, would be, um, in line with the, um, the mission and the vision of the park, um, versus, um, retrofitting the existing building with, um, more residential style, style systems, again, um, over the cost of, of 30 years, there's a significant, uh, difference in energy usage and also, uh, factoring in that we really think that, uh, the way that, the, the current buildings were, were built is such a quality that they're more like 50-year lifespan buildings and even with putting all new systems in them, they're still kind of on the, the later end of their, their life cycle so, um, with an initial spend to get it up and running you're also, have to consider maybe a 15 to 20-year, uh, remainder on its life cycle before you would have to replace it anyway. Um, so, there's lots of, um, data that, that we, um, generated and, and analyzed to, um, just to, to lay out the different, um, options for, for the, uh, short and long term cost impacts for those programs and with that, um, also, um, showing some of the, the precedents that we studied from around the country, um, aspirational projects that, that we always look to, uh, just for, for guidance just to understand what else other communities are doing, um, for the, the size and type of construction for, uh, their nature centers so, um, I, I won't spend too much, uh, time on, on either of these. Um, there's, there's five or six that I'll scroll, scroll through but, um, just to, uh, kind of take note of the, the character and quality of what we would aspire to, uh, move towards with a new construction and also the square footage, um, so that we can start to compare, uh, program to program. So this is 15,000 square feet and, um, outside of Pittsburgh. Um, this is about a 12,000 square foot, uh, project that I played a small role in and I think this is a, an important one to show because it shows the opportunity, um, to phase as well, um, if there would, um, be an opportunity to, to, to break a larger program into two phases, um, to make it easier to construct, easier to fund, that's an option too when we start to looking at, at that program and how we organize it to make it easy to phase and add onto. Uh, 12,000 square feet in, in Columbus. There's a few in here that would be good,

good field trips, uh, just to, to go look at the programs that are taking place in these and then how they're, how they're organized and laid out so Columbus and then one in Kentucky, uh, that's a, a beautiful building. This is on the smaller side but, um, really just integrating with nature and, um, playing seamlessly with the, with the preserve is, is the, the key.

Casady Where's Clermont, Kentucky?

Vonderau I think it is to the west of Lexington.

?? female Near Bardstown. (1:09:09)

Casady Oh.

McClellan So we had a public website and this is the input, you know, some of those questions that we asked, um, I just thought it was interesting to see the dashboard. So there were 1,300, um, unique users and about close to 8,000 visits, um, so that means those users went back more than once, um, or, you know, it could've been a couple of people in a household, uh, but still it shows you, I mean, 8,000 visits for, for a, a Master Plan is, those are pretty good numbers. That's pretty good, good response. Now the survey we had about 170, um, responses on those so, which, again, is, is a pretty good number for, um, a Master Plan. We're asking people to do a little more work. They just want to go and look, um, so, um, you know, really we were, we're pleased with that, that number. This isn't all the questions that we asked, we'll definitely give you included in the, uh, appendix the full, uh, results, um, but I did want to just pull out a few of them and this question was which park features are you most excited to see and it was one of those select all that apply so they weren't limited by their number of answers but you'll see, um, most popular, uh, trails, pathways and boardwalks, um, the next was the nature center and then in the red was the ecological habitats. Um, but then also wildlife viewing blinds was very close in there, so, um, it's just interesting to see where those, those responses come in and we did have a couple that the, the white wedge there is dog park. These two are how would you like to pay for acquiring the property is the top and then paying for the development is the bottom. Um, and they're fairly similar but they're a, a little bit different in the responses, um, and like you'll find with most times that we ask this question donations or fundraising was the, the most, uh, popular for both of those, um, questions. A combination of private and public funds was the next, um, but when you look at the pie chart, I mean, while the, the purple and the yellow are a little bit bigger, there's still a pretty good response for existing budget, bonds, um, new taxes and fees. Um, so that

just shows you that there is some, you know, capacity for a combination of funding mechanisms to be able to pay for this. The, the questions that we had just open end, um, you know, what do you like, what would you like to see, there were a whole lot of very, you know, we're excited to see it, um, there was one – there's always one – that was not excited but the majority were definitely very excited. Um, and then this one just shows you where people live. So, the, the blue and the green are Zionsville, um, and then we got a few from Boone County, uh, one from Whitestown smack up against Zionsville –

Casady

Just one?

McClellan

To be sure, uh, and then yeah, Marion County we had one in there too. So, the question you all wanted to ask, um, Master Plan Cost Opinion. Keep in mind, these are Master Plan numbers so they're general and that's why we're giving you ranges too. Anytime you get into designing, I mean think of Overlay-Worman. There's things that, that fall off, there's things that you, you know, you can get into more detail, so that's why you see a range. I mean even the nature center itself, you know, this is based on a 12,000 square foot building which is, um, the preferred option that we ended with. It could be a much smaller building. It could be done in phases, so all those things affect the numbers. But, in general, um, we broke it into four phases, so phase 1 would be land acquisition and the construction docs for the first, documents for the first phase, um, and we're estimating that around \$4.5 million. Phase 2 would be the infrastructure without an S on it, um, which would include roads, parking, um, utilities, almost all of the site elements with the exception of phase 3 which would be the nature center, the amphitheater just down the, the hill, uh, and the boardwalk and phase 3 is, you know, anywhere from \$7-10 million and then phase 4 White Oak Commons could be \$5-10 and, again, that could be one building, that could be five buildings. So it really does, you know, affect where that final comes in but those budget numbers do at least give you a range to know what you're looking for, where you're headed. So, any questions and we can flip back to the plan if you've got specific questions. I know you've seen pieces of this in the, the past, so.

Casady

The cost estimate on the nature center was for from 5,000 square feet to 11,000? I mean that's or is that for one of the?

McClellan

So that's 12,000 square feet.

Casady

That was the 12, so that's 12?

McClellan Yes. Yep. The other thing. I mean, phase 2 could be phase 2A, B and C, you know, you can always, there's just so much you can do but, again, it gives you a starting point to look at, you know, where, where your money is, how much, you know, you're wanting to invest and then what you're getting for it.

Moore I'm unsure about the municipal bonds being listed as different than taxes? Because they basically are in, I mean, that's how we pay them, um, exactly. I don't know. I just don't know what the feeling is with people and how they want to pay for it if they are more in favor of bonds but not taxes, they're going to get paid with the taxes so that's a weird question to me and I don't know how that like impacts your plans.

McClellan We, we usually, I mean, that's a very good point. Um, we pull them out just because people understand them differently between bonds and taxes and because they're both voted on but because, you know, bonds are voted on we always pull them out separate but you're right – that's a pretty fine distinction because it ends up being included in the taxes.

Moore Okay.

Stehr This is more of a comment than a question – um, because this is going to be more expensive than perhaps we felt when we started, that's why we're looking at phasing, four phases rather than just kind of taking it all on at once. Is that our thinking?

McClellan Yes.

Stehr Yeah.

McClellan Well and it, I don't know that we had a budget in mind, um, but yes those are big numbers and Jarod can talk about yeah what thinking in terms of what the Town has done, you know, what you're going to see out here, how big the project is.

Stehr But, but before, before you step away, we do have a question from Rick back there.

Rick? 1:16:04 You said no live music. What's the amphitheater for?

McClellan It could be for, yeah, it could be for programs, it could be, you know, for outdoor classrooms. There really is a, a lot that you could do with it but not a big concert. It's, it's pretty small.

Rick?? 1:16:24 No, I'm, I'm just – I was just asking a question because if someone sees an amphitheater they're going to associate it with music and you are stating no music and I'm just saying that I have, this is a perk I don't see 1:16:37 like that so you might explain that a little bit better.

McClellan That's a good point and show you the scale of the amphitheater might help too because it is a fairly small amphitheater. I think that could, could help with that understanding too.

Stehr And the idea of it too is to be natural. It's not going to be a highly, uh, uh, developed thing with light packages and speakers and all that kind of stuff. It's, you know, more like the kind you would see in a state park for nature programs.

Moore That's what I was thinking as anytime you go to like a campground that might have an amphitheater they do like programs there and it's really just so you can see it better.

Rick?? We always have. (1:17:17)

Moore Yeah.

Stehr Okay, Jarod.

Logsdon Absolutely. So looking at this phasing, you know, it's the first step has to be acquisition. We have to secure the land as a Town, the property and from there really our, our funding opportunities not only with our, our partner of the Zionsville Parks Foundation but also just the community at large we can really begin to find that balance between public and private, uh, sponsorship of this, uh, land and making this dream happen. So, uh, Tricia and I were speaking about the phasing this afternoon and, you know, after construct, uh, acquisition and the construction documents, you know, let's lay the infrastructure and get people out there – very similar to Starkey Park. You know, you go out there to enjoy nature. This would have a couple more bells and whistles beyond that but it would also be a new facility for our programming staff to program, uh, for the public to enjoy, um, to build new amenities in our Town and also just begin to develop that love for the preserve as we look to expanding into a, a dedicated nature sanctuary and, uh, nature center on the site. So, this is a legacy project and it's just whether Zionsville wants to be known as the

McClellan You could get it done in a year if you had perfect weather but we know how that goes.

Wollenberg Yeah.

McClellan So, a year and a half.

Stehr Well the roads wouldn't be in a flood plain so we wouldn't have that issue –

McClellan That's true.

Stehr To contend with.

McClellan This is true.

Stehr Although I and I will say the roads out there like on this entrance behind the parking lot that's really kind of deteriorated from misuse or disuse over the years, so, that would require a fair amount of attention to make that viable again.

Salewicz So, uh, obviously there's a lot of cart paths that are there and I know that the paved area is rather small so is it the removal of those and then turning them into like a, um, dirt trails?

McClellan Yes, yeah.

Salewicz Or –

McClellan So you'll, you'll have the paved, you'll have a little bit of the boardwalk but yeah a lot of those will be removing the asphalt that's there, stabilizing a few of them that, you know, have some erosion on them and then, yeah, they'd be the rustic, the dirt path.

Stehr Yeah. I mean nature has already reclaimed a lot of that area out there.

McClellan It is. Yeah.

Stehr And I, I may be out of my depth here, maybe you can speak to it but, um, already a number of species have come back and there have been species of birds and, and what coyotes or foxes that are –

McClellan Yeah both. Yeah.

Stehr Yeah, the population is already increasing there and it's really pretty extraordinary for what four years, four or five years since it's been a golf course so.

McClellan Yes.

Stehr Anybody else have any questions or comments?

Casady It's great.

Moore Can you go back to the phase page again?

McClellan The, the money or the plan?

Moore The, uh, the money.

McClellan Okay.

Casady How many acres is it? 200?

McClellan 200.

Moore Wow.

McClellan 215.

Casady Overlay-Worman is about 45?

McClellan Overlay-Worman is 47. Yeah, so in comparison – a quarter. Oh, there we go.

Stehr Okay. All right, anything else?

Moore Wait. Well I am just wondering, are, do we have a plan for the funding or are we figuring that out?

Stehr Well I think the first, the first step is to capture the land and to decide how to do that and then after that, uh, we do have a question as to whether we're going to bond, whether we're going to fundraise, uh, what we're going to do but I think initially we need to capture the land. You know, we're not, there's not a time limit here. It's not like we have to do this all

in five years or 10 years. I mean, when, when Jarod says a legacy project I think that means he's hoping to do it by the time he retires, you know, which is going to be a long time from now. Um, I don't know if Tim and I are going to ever see it, uh, in its, in its final stages but the important thing is that, that, you know, future generations of people in Zionsville do.

Moore Yeah. Are you thinking that the, uh, the Foundation would be able to take on the acquisition part?

Stehr Well I think the, the Zionsville Foundation is that's part of their mission, right?

Pack Yeah.

Stehr As to raise funds for that?

Pack Yeah. But, you know, like I said earlier, their goal this year is \$27 million —

Stehr \$27 now.

Pack \$27,000.

Logsdon I want to make a correction to that real quick. Uh, the Foundation will absolutely be a partner throughout this process, uh, but the actual acquisition, uh, so Nancy Carpenter is both the land owner and the, uh, chair of the Parks, uh, Zionsville Parks Foundation. So, there is a conflict there. We can't fundraise for the preserve at this time.

Moore Ooh, yeah.

Logsdon So that is all the more reason acquisition is important right now getting that over as a Town property and then working with the Foundation to fundraise for the nature center, fundraise for the, the tree canopies, you know, all of those items could be, uh, potential capital campaigns, uh, in the future.

Moore So I'm assuming that the \$4.5 million is not just laying around but rather we are going to figure out whether we bond or do something else to get it. That's the plan?

Logsdon Absolutely and I think, you know, for this first phase I think bonding is a, the best tool we can utilize for an acquisition, um, and those dollars can

actually be reinvested through the land water conservation fund, uh, grant so we would be eligible next cycle and use that, uh, land acquisition as our match and fund up to a half a million dollars of projects with the infrastructure. So that, that, uh, grant has grown over the years. Uh, we were awarded \$400,000 with Overlay-Worman so now it is up to half a million, um, and this is, uh, a project that really checks all the boxes of their criteria for that grant, so. That grant could be utilized every two years, uh, and, uh, really hasten up the timeline for implementing some of these, uh, projects.

Salewicz And the acquisition that, that would be more of a Town Board final decision, correct?

Logsdon Absolutely. Uh, so –

Casady They're the fiscal agent so they would have to approve that but it's, it's, we're the Parks Board and we gotta and it's us so we'd be, our name would be on the bond as I understand.

Stehr Right.

Casady Like, put this in perspective with Overlay-Worman that's if you include the trailhead and the Rail Trail adjoining Overlay-Worman that's about a \$5 million project. I don't know if you put, uh, Mulberry Fields in 2022 dollars, I don't know what the, original what the price was 12 years ago for Mulberry Fields for 40, that's probably 20-30 acres, um, and, you know, we have a rainy day fund of \$1.5 million so, yeah, we, we need help from the Foundation, from the citizens, from, uh, from a lot, from a lot of angles but it's really exciting and cool.

Stehr What we're getting in the beginning basically is Starkey Park and then it's going to hopefully grow from there as people get out there and appreciate it and use it.

Moore Okay.

Stehr Donate to, yeah, the expansion of it.

Moore So, uh, what's the timeline for thinking about the bond. Because you have to –

Casady Uh huh.

Moore Like there's a certain deadline to get it on the tax roll for the following year and we're like, so I'm kind of – I just did this with my project so I'm just a bit curious what our plan is, that's all.

Logsdon And that is to, uh, begin the conversation with you all tonight –

Moore Okay.

Logsdon And move on to next week with Town Council and kind of prime them and, uh, really not waste any time in between. Uh, we want to keep this project alive and moving and truly acquisition is the biggest hurdle in the start to really opening the flood gates for what, what could be. So, um, I, I don't know if we're prepared to have that conversation tonight but we certainly can, uh –

Moore But if we do it, say by the end of this year then it goes on the tax roll next year, pay the following year so it would be at least that long before we start getting an acquisition if we're thinking of it that way.

Logsdon Um, and I need to do a little bit more research. Right now we're still developing what the capacities are left in the Parks Board ability to bond, uh, it sounds like it's somewhere around \$10 million –

Moore Yeah, that's about what it would be.

Logsdon Uh, it was my understanding with the early conversation is that a bond could be issued within, you know, several months and the money could land within a 4 to 6 month period. So, uh –

Moore You might be able to do something like a, um, we have a leasing corporation that we use for some of our bonds which brings up your bonding capacity but I don't know how that works with parks. Anyway, happy to hear more about this sometime.

Logsdon And that, and that is where we start getting in the, the financial gurus and begin those conversations further.

Casady The new CFO in the Town, right?

Logsdon Absolutely.

Casady So.

Moore And I have spent endless hours doing this so if you ever need my help

Logsdon All right. I'll take you up on that.

Stehr Okay. Is that it for New Business? Is that it, is that it for Overley or for the Nature Preserve? All right, as we wrap up the discussion in New Business, I, I do want to make a quick mention that, um, the Five-Year Plan is moving forward., Uh, as Amy mentioned, we have come to terms and we've signed the, the contract so that's fully funded and moving forward. Uh, again, Tim and Jill are the, the Board representatives. Uh, we also have Jarod, the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, uh, a member of the Parks Foundation, uh, is on the steering committee and we're cultivating a member of the, uh, school district, uh, to be on the steering committee as well. So we'll have eight which we think is a good number.

Pack And Councilman Burk.

Stehr Oh, I'm sorry. Councilman Burk. That's right. Math was never my best thing but that comes out to eight which, uh, which we think is a good number. Right, Tricia?

McClellan Yes.

Stehr We think eight is perfect. So that's, uh, that's what we're doing on that. All right. You ready to move on to Old Business?

Logsdon Absolutely.

Stehr Great.

Pack Do we have a change order?

Salewicz The Overley-Worman change order?

Logsdon Uh, no we don't. Uh, so that, that didn't come to fruition.

Pack Okay.

Old Business

Rail Trail Widening

Logsdon All right. Moving on to the Rail Trail widening. I just wanted to give you all an update of kind of our timeline. So, we did the package in April hoping to award. Unfortunately, we did not receive any competitive bids, uh, at the time of bid opening. Um, just the climate right now of what construction is, there are so many projects and so much infrastructure dollars in the ether that, uh, this is, while it would've been a highly sought after project, the need to, for paving contractors to identify subs and, uh, get on the schedule and coordinate that was just, uh, it turns out was not great, uh, for our bidding process. So we have dismantled the project into three separate projects so that will be the Rail Trail widening which will be, uh, the northern expansion as well as the widening of the existing, uh, two phases that we spoke of earlier. The second project is the trailhead and the third project would be the dedicated pickleball courts. So, kind of three separate, uh, ideas, paving, vertical building and specialty courts. So now with three separate bid packages we're hoping to receive those and our new timeline is for a June 7th opening and then we would discuss that at the June 8th Park Board meeting for award. And that's all the update on, uh, the, the widening.

Casady What would you do for WinterFest if you don't, if you can't get in the pickleball court this year?

Southern Rail Trail

Logsdon So we did have that conversation with Ice America and we would just downgrade what we rent and utilize last year's platform with the same setup. So it would, again, be in the parking lot. Uh, moving on to the Southern Rail Trail. I'll give an update. Uh, so as I mentioned earlier, the Starkey Avenue bridge is now in place and, uh, once final seeding is done in the morning tomorrow, we will be able to reopen Starkey Avenue to traffic, um, at the end of day tomorrow. So, uh, we appreciate the community's patience as that has been closed, uh, for a couple of months now. Uh, paving has also started on the southern portion from the bridge heading down to Overlay-Worman. Uh, multiple dump trucks have been onsite all day, uh, backing stone into it and we have begun paving. So once the paver is complete with that, he will move down into Overlay-Worman and wrap that up for our May 20th ribbon cutting. And speaking of Overlay-Worman, uh, the final touches are being put on throughout the park, uh, including topsoil, some seeding and, uh, more amenities being

placed. So the ribbon cutting for Overley-Worman Park is just a little over a week away and that will also be May 20th at 9 a.m. So we look forward to seeing the community and welcoming them into that park.

Stehr That's a Friday morning at 9:00. We hope that a lot of, uh, a lot of our Board members can be there for that. Uh, and did you mention the ribbon cutting for the southern portion of the Rail Trail June 1st?

Logsdon I did not.

Stehr It's at 2:30.

Logsdon So, we will officially have a ribbon cutting for the southern Rail Trail, um, on June 1st with the Governor of Indiana, uh, at 2:30 as John mentioned.

Stehr And that is a weekend, right so that's?

Logsdon That's a Wednesday.

Stehr That's a Wednesday. Well, it's at 2:30 so hopefully, you know, we, we can make plans to be out there. John Wollenberg is showing the way with our team shirts so I'd like to, you know, see us all represent the Parks Board at those two ribbon cuttings.

Overley-Worman Park

Casady Won't Overley-Worman open in stages or all on May, next Friday?

Logsdon We will be ready, uh, the contractor has reassured me and they have, uh, really put the pressure on their subs to get everything wrapped up in the next, uh, seven working days.

Salewicz So I'm in a number of, several different disc golf groups and there's a lot of anticipation for this and wanting to know layouts and is there something that can be, you know, if there's an app that's out there that people want to, you know, that's how you find courses and go to so, um, is that something that's shareable or is that still kind of –

Logsdon We, we will have signage throughout and a map of the course. Um, we'll work on those documents and getting those uploaded to that app. Uh, I've also began to become informed of that.

Salewicz On UDisc, yeah. So UDisc is the, the use of how people to your courses, so.

Logsdon Yep. Uh, and I, I did walk the course today, uh, we were looking at where the, the baskets will be placed in the coming week and the first nine holes will be an enjoyable time in the woods. The last nine holes might make you pull your hair out, so. It will, uh, allow both beginners and our novice players to enjoy the course.

Salewicz Just like regular golf, so.

Logsdon Just like regular golf.

Casady Can you teach me how to play, John?

Salewicz Yeah, oh yeah. I mean –

Casady I don't know which nine I want.

Stehr You have to get a special frisbee, right? There are frisbees made for that purpose?

Salewicz Yeah, they're a little bit different than – not, not your typical.

Moore Oh, seriously?

Salewicz Yeah, they're not, they're not just frisbees. Yeah, they're more of a kind of a combination if you think of a shotput disc – they're a little bit bigger and it's a harder plastic.

Moore Is it like heavier?

Casady Does it hurt?

Salewicz They're heavier.

Casady Does it hurt if you get hit?

Salewicz What's that?

Casady Does it hurt when, if you –

Salewicz Oh yeah. You don't play catch with these. You don't play catch, yeah.

Stehr Not to, not to make an ad for anybody but Dick's has an assortment of these things, right?

Salewicz Yeah. Well, Meijer does too –

Stehr Yeah.

Salewicz Yeah and plenty of stuff available online as well but –

Stehr Yeah. It's nice to see such anticipation for that. That's great.

Logsdon Absolutely.

Stehr People are going to love it.

Salewicz I mean, there's a lot of people from Indianapolis. I'm getting, you know, some getting bothered by them a little bit. They want to walk the course, they want to see it, they want to see the layout, so it's –

Logsdon That's, that's actually why we chose, uh, Friday at 9 a.m. because we didn't want to let Friday evening slip by with a Saturday ribbon cutting. So –

Salewicz I'm taking the day at work and I'm playing the course all day.

Stehr Anything else?

Casady We got mountain bikers coming Friday to, uh, yeah, bed in the, bed in the mountain bike trails.

Logsdon Yeah, so we put out a call to action for our mountain biking community to help us get the trails, uh, back in shape. They were put in last fall and just sat there.

Casady Yeah, they're just soft. I mean, you just gotta, you gotta harden them up and that just takes use.

Logsdon You just gotta ride them so it's, it's an opportunity to get a sneak peak of the course before, uh, the rest of the community gets to enjoy that.

Casady Has the response been okay on the mountain biking?

Logsdon Absolutely. Uh, already over a dozen volunteers so we're, uh –

??female (1:36:16) Actually, we have 20.

Logsdon 20 as of –

Casady You'll need them, you know, I mean, just riding –

Logsdon We will, we will mobilize.

Casady Ride your tails off.

Logsdon And I also want to mention we will have a family fun ride, um, on May 20th, Friday evening. Is it 5 or 6?

Murdock It's 5 o'clock to 6 on the 20th.

Logsdon Okay. Yeah, at 5:00 we'll actually have a, uh, bike checkup here at Town Hall –

Casady Town Hall, right?

Logsdon And then from there we'll ride down to Overley-Worman and enjoy the park together. So, uh, looking forward to seeing the community either at the ribbon cutting, throughout the day or at our family fun ride.

Moore Did you get any commitments from any committees in town to help with that fun ride?

Logsdon Uh, Justin of the Pathways Committee did reach out to me today and he sounds like he's excited, uh, to join as well.

Moore Okay.

Logsdon So.

Moore All right. I, I represented Pathways for us at the last one but I want to know if this one is coming up so we could start now getting people.

?? female Inaudible off microphone 1:37:09

Moore Okay.

Stehr Anything else with Overlay-Worman?

Logsdon Uh, that is it.

Other Board Related Items
Safety & Security in the Parks

Stehr All right. We have one other, uh, Board related item, uh, and you ready for this? We can, okay. Um, Jarod and I had a discussion with, uh, Chief Spears about, uh, safety and security in the parks and, um, part of the discussion is, you know, what about, uh, putting in cameras, what about putting in call boxes, that kind of stuff, you know, that, um, just what, what can we do to make our parks safer and secure, more secure? And, uh, he is proposing that, uh, officers who are on patrol spend part of their shift patrolling in the car, part of the shift patrolling on their bike, uh, to get more of a presence in all the parks, specifically with Overlay-Worman because there are parts of Overlay-Worman that are a bit remote, uh, so hopefully this summer the police department is going to be able to step up patrol in those areas. Um, he is going to come to our next Board meeting and discuss some of those ideas and what he's planning so we'll get, we'll hear that directly from him or at least a representative from the police. Uh, and another thing we, we worked on is public service announcements that include Jarod and, uh, Captain Sterling from the police department to talk about, you know, just some safety ideas if you're coming to the parks to, to make a more, uh, safe experience for you and, uh, we have one of them here. This is kind of a rough cut. Uh, we're going to put these out on the Town website. Uh, there are three of them that we've produced so far and they will be put out over a period of a couple of weeks and then shared on the police department website also, our, our website and, you know, people can, uh, share them on social media as well. So, this is what the first one will look like.

Logsdon Hmmm. It worked earlier.

Stehr We're missing some audio there.

Logsdon That's a new one John.

Stehr Yeah. Obviously, we'll get that audio fixed. That's about half of the audio that, uh, will be in the finished version but, uh, but those will be, those will be coming online here in the next, probably in the next few days we'll, we'll put the first one up and then maybe a week at a time after that. So, um, so safety in the parks is something that's top of mind, uh, from us and

also from the police department so we'll, we'll hear more about that next time. So does anybody have anything else that they would like to discuss or bring up? Any questions? All right, I want to encourage everybody to sign the paperwork before you leave tonight, please before you walk out of the room do that. Uh, reminder that, um, we have the ribbon cutting for Overley-Worman on May 20th at 9 a.m., the southern end of the Rail Trail ribbon cutting on June 1st at 2:30 and our next meeting will be on June 8th. So thank you all very much for coming.

Claims

Casady Claims, claims, claims, claims, approve claims.

Stehr Oh, let's approve claims. Everybody get a chance to look at the, uh, the claims? Anybody have any questions or comments? Do we have a motion to approve the claims?

Casady I move we approve claims as submitted.

Wollenberg Second.

Stehr Tim Casady makes a motion that we approve the claims. John Wollenberg seconds. All in favor say aye.

All Aye.

Stehr All opposed?
[No response]

All right. The claims are accepted and now I guess we're ready to adjourn unless anybody has anything else.

Adjournment

Salewicz I make a motion to adjourn.

Stehr John Salewicz makes a motion to adjourn. Any seconds?

Pack Second.

Stehr Jill Pack seconds. All in favor say aye.

All Aye.

Stehr

All opposed? No. That passes unanimously. Thank you so much. We'll see you all again on June 8th. Thank you.

John Stehr, President

John Wollenburg, Secretary

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Black
Parks MAC Professional