



ZIONSVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION

Zionsville Board of Parks & Recreation

Meeting Minutes

For

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

At 7:00 P.M. EST

ONSITE MEETING

1100 West Oak Street

In Attendance: John Stehr, President, Jill Pack, Vice President, John Salewicz, Secretary,
Ryan Cambridge, Kris Barksdale, Kimberly Lane

Absent: Coralie Palmer

Staff attending: Tom Whitsitt, Attorney

OPENING

Call to Order/Roll Call

Stehr We'll get underway. It's time to call to order the June 14th meeting of the Zionsville Board of Parks and Recreation. We're going to begin by taking roll. Jill Pack?

Pack Here.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Here.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge?

Cambridge Here.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?

Barksdale Here.

Stehr Kimberly Lane?

Lane Here.

Stehr Coralie Palmer is not here tonight so we have six members present. We have a quorum. We certainly can proceed with the business at hand.

Approval of the Minutes

Stehr The first item on the agenda is the approval of the May 10, 2023 minutes. Has everyone had a chance to take a look at the minutes?

Cambridge Yes.

Stehr Did you notice that they look a little better? They're, they're categorized better and we've got a new provider who's doing a nice job. I think that, that makes a big difference. Things were put in categories to make them easier to read. So we commend them on what they've done. I think they've done a good job. Do we have – bless you. You okay? Do we have a motion to accept the minutes as presented?

Cambridge So moved.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge makes a motion. Do we have a second?

Salewicz Second.

Stehr John Salewicz seconds. All in favor say aye.

All Aye.

Stehr All opposed?
[No response]

All right, that passes 6 to nothing.

Public Presentations/Comments

The next item on the agenda is Public Presentations and Comments. We have some folks in the room tonight. No comments from you?

Public comment off microphone

Baun ___ 4:46 Jarod is presenting for approval for a memorial bench –

Stehr Okay.

Baun _____ 4:54

Stehr So you're here to observe tonight?

Baun Yes.

Stehr Okay, okay. Would you like to speak about it or just how things proceed tonight?

Baun _____ 5:04

Stehr Okay, well now would be your chance. You good?

Baun _____ 5:12

Stehr Well hold on, do you want to speak about it? Come on up, come on up and speak about it if you'd like to. And please say your, please say your name and address when you get to the mic.

Baun Okay. Ann Baun at 705 –

Stehr Okay, start over. Now you're on the mic.

Baun Oh, okay.

Baun I'm Ann Baun at 705 Elm Lane and we've submitted a proposal through the Penny Putters women's golf league to, we requested permission to install a memorial bench for Penny Putters and, in particular, our past president of three years who passed away –

Stehr Okay.

Baun Sandra Hollingshead. We wanted, we would like it installed on the 9th hole, the men's tee, and I think everyone, the community would benefit from it.

Stehr Okay, that's great.

Baun So – I appreciate –

Stehr I think you'll like the way this unfolds tonight.

Baun The support.

Stehr Thank you for coming and thank you for your interest.

Baun Okay.

Stehr We appreciate that.

Baun Okay.

Stehr Okay, the next item on the agenda – oh, Jonah, do we have anybody online to comment?

Jonah No.

Pathways Committee Update

Stehr We do not, okay. Thank you. All right, the next item on the agenda is the Pathways Committee Update. Kris Barksdale is our Pathways Committee liaison.

Barksdale Yes, so most recently a member of the Pathways Committee met with the Parks Foundation and maybe some people on the Parks, in the Parks Department to discuss some plan, preliminary plans for we're calling it "Trailfest." So that's just in its early stages of talks and also, we've sort of started a preliminary list of pathways that we sort of think are most wanted and we're going to really dig into them the next time that we meet so.

Staff Reports

Stehr Great, okay. Thank you. Anybody have any questions for Kris? Any comments? All right, then let's move on. The next item on the agenda is Staff Reports and our Superintendent, Jarod Logsdon, is at the mic. Jarod –

Logsdon Thank you John. Good evening Park Board. Just want to update and highlight a couple of items from the Superintendent report and then we'll get going because we have a very full agenda so. The first thing I wanted to highlight is that we have welcomed our IU Resilience Cohort, Climate Cohort for the season so for the past several years an IU intern has joined Zionsville and accomplished opportunities for us to improve our resilience

and our sustainability that began with the climate plan and has moved on to an urban forestry inventory and planting recommendations of last year and this year we are working on a municipal composting site. So that wouldn't be a site for public use but it would allow us to divert some of the collected leaves and brush throughout the year with DPW and compost that, recycle those materials and use them in our parks with our plantings so. Getting that permitted, creating a standard operating plan for that and also looking for grant funding for equipment is all some of the responsibilities of that position.

On May 26th, the Park Board, Mayor's Office as well as the Department were out at Mulberry Fields dedicating the pickleball courts. We had a large crowd there that were eager to get onto the courts and play the first games so that was great to see in the community and every time we drive by those courts are full so the community is definitely appreciative of the four courts we dedicated out at Mulberry. Speaking of that –

Stehr I might add too – ahead of schedule and on budget.

Logsdon That's right, yep.

Stehr That's good, good for you on administering that that way. Thank you.

Logsdon Speaking of Mulberry, last year you'll recall that we granted an easement to Boone REMC for their fiber loop around the county which utilized a portion of the Rail Trail to complete their loop. As a concession and a, a thanks for that, they are installing public Wi-Fi out at Mulberry for free so we are currently working with them on private locates and that should be joining our park very soon.

And finally, I met with representatives and stakeholders around the county to discuss our next regional trail opportunity. So, now that the Big 4 is kind of set in stone both literally and in each community, we are looking at the Midland Trace which, as you know, goes east-west across neighboring communities and it is heading towards Boone County. So, that trail would travel across Boone County into Lebanon and a portion of that trail would be in rural Zionsville today just north of Carpenter Nature Preserve. So we're just discussing kind of those preliminary things we want to highlight as far as connections as well as the, the path it'll take. Kind of unlike the Rail Trail, segments of this potential regional trail have reverted back to landowners and the rail embankments have been diminished or destroyed in some areas. So, it's a little bit more conceptual and has a little bit more flexibility about its exact path but it'll be exciting

what the next 20 years unveils for that trail. And that's all for the Superintendent Report.

Stehr Anybody have any questions for Jarod or comments? Yes Kim?

Lane On the Wi-Fi – long term does the Parks Department pick up the cost for that service?

Logsdon Completely free. So we actually have that at Heritage already. Just a public service as part of their programming they do for communities.

Lane Perfect. Thank you.

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

Next up is our Director of Maintenance Services. The honorable Chris Flanagan. Chris –

Flanagan Honorable – all right. How's everyone doing? Good evening. Alrighty, so I'll just hit the highlights since we do have a busy evening. So we welcomed our seasonal part-time technicians, Thomas and Luke, to the maintenance team. We also welcomed a seasonal natural resources intern, Jack, who works alongside Sam, our Natural Resources Technician. Graffiti – we did have six instances of graffiti throughout the system, totaled just shy of five hours for removal.

Our parks crew worked alongside Cornerstone Environmental on a noise monitoring assessment as the Town increases its focus on employee safety and well-being. They basically sent out an agent while we were doing some work in the parks and they just set them up with a decimeter and just measured noise levels. They were using various equipment throughout the parks.

Eco Logic successfully seeded Willow Road with a prairie grass/wildflower mix there next to the golf course.

At American Legion Trail Crossing, we had an all-hands-on deck doing a facelift. We trimmed all the trees, we did flower beds, treated the pathways. We also did the same thing at Lincoln Park. Additionally, we hung the ferns up at the gazebo and planted some flowers at the flowerpots on the northeast corner there and at the fountain we did ultimately have to wind up replacing the pump and the breakers for that fountain.

Big 4 Rail Trail we dug, prepped, poured and installed memorial benches along the 100-foot bridge, again, with an assist from Streets excavating out that aggregate material on that worksite.

At Heritage additional trees were planted at the tree nursery and the dog park fence line was treated with a, just a vinegar soap water treatment to keep us from having to weed whip it all the time. We didn't want to use any glyphosate or anything that would be potentially toxic to the animals out there so just a nice, easy vinegar mix.

At Elm Street Green our Natural Resources Technician, Sam, partnered with a local Zionsville student to plant native flowers in the landscape beds in the upper portion of the park and we got the decorative fountain started up.

Mulberry Fields – The season startup with Arc of Boone County volunteering. Natural Resources Tech, Sam, and intern, Jack, spearheaded this group. They mulched around the trees at Mulberry Fields, also weeding those beds and weeding landscape beds and they've begun designing this season's mural painting which will be at Creekside. We did a complete replacement of the restroom shelter water fountain that was contracted and installed by Godbey and we did some minor repairs at the top of the sledding hill and the fence that's along there.

At Starkey Park we did some trim back and treatment of hemlock which had been growing through the staircase and we did have to do an emergency callout to recover a stuck UTV over the weekend.

At Zionsville Nature Sanctuary we had a May 5th partnership with Recreation at Eagle Elementary. Third graders helped us remove invasive garlic mustard and they threw native wildflower seed bombs into the parks. A big thank you to Eagle Elementary.

At Overley-Worman we trimmed back vegetation along the mountain bike trails and disc golf trails. We did a clear out of barbed wire, fallen trees and just debris throughout the natural areas. We're going to have to do that periodically since that was a fill site, just as we have opportunities we go out there and pull out as much as we can at a time. And we did install some additional trashcans along the disc golf and natural service trails and that's all I got.

Stehr

Anybody have any questions for Chris or comments?

Salewicz What about the, the hemlock at Overley-Worman, hole one along –

Flanagan There's more out there?

Salewicz Oh yeah, along the, the –

Flanagan Okay.

Salewicz 14:44 inaudible, it's all –

Flanagan Well I'll make a note and we'll get out to it.

Salewicz Yeah, it, it –

Flanagan It keeps popping up. It's all over the place.

Salewicz People were knocking it down and stepping, stepping over it –

Flanagan Oh yeah, it's –

Salewicz And it was 6 feet tall at one point so –

Flanagan Okay. We'll get out there. Thank you for letting me know.

Salewicz And it does still grow into hole one.

Flanagan Into hole one? Okay.

Salewicz It's all in hole, at the, at the longs and then around the, the hole. And the basket so.

Flanagan All right, I'll make a note and we'll get to it.

Salewicz All right.

Flanagan Thank you very much.

Salewicz You're welcome.

Flanagan Okay.

Stehr All right. Thank you Chris.

Flanagan

Thank you.

Stehr

All right, next on the agenda is our Director of Recreation Services. Fresh from her appearance at the Farmers Market last week – Mindy Murdock.

Murdock

Please, the Farmers Market, television – all right, well good evening everyone. So, a little update on May. We, of course, ended the school season on a very high note. So we had over 17 private program groups and most of those were school programs from Stonegate and Eagle and as well as Pleasant View Elementary. It was nice to get to see the entire kindergarten from Pleasant View actually descend on Overley-Worman Park so, so the, the circle works very well for three buses so we're, we're in good shape on that one.

A couple of other things – we wrapped our Indiana Master Naturalist in May. We also did our first Creekstomper rental for the year and I was out at Christ Lutheran Church for their preschool family open house so that was about 155 people that joined them for that one. We had a very successful Party in the Park with over 1,000 people showing up at Mulberry. Heard great things from the library that was there as well as Chick-fil-A and Fundaes. Chick-fil-A actually sold out of food twice so, so they actually had to shut down a little ahead of time because that had sold out about a half hour before the, the event itself ended. And they had brought enough the first time around from what they had sold last year. So they were very happy with that one.

Other than that, we've had our Active by Nature for summer was released. I did bring some if you didn't pick one up and you would like to browse through it. And then, of course, our Zionsville butterfly wings – the trail is up. Eight different locations around Zionsville including the library and they're beautiful this year just as they were last year, so encouraging everyone to kind of get out and find those. You can download the guide or just open up the website and and see that guide there to try to find where all those are. And this year, in the past we just had in the guide, we had the artist statement in the guide itself. This year we created yard signs so their statement of their piece is right next to each of their, their wings so just, if someone happens to come upon them, at least they get a little information about what it is and not just some random wings sitting there.

Wanted to invite everybody –so tomorrow night is our first Barns and Brews for 2023. We are having author Heather Lusk is doing a talk on Boone County and Zionsville history and, of course, Traders Brewing will

be on hand so, you can order, get tickets ahead of time or just show up and purchase your tickets at the door.

And then I also wanted to highlight – included in your guys’ packet was a report on the Nature Connections program that Rachel Felling, our Naturalist, put together. Fantastic report and so just to kind of remind everyone of that one. So, this was a pilot study year to see how the program went with Eagle Elementary since they do have Zion Nature Sanctuary in their backyard. It was fully, graciously funded by the Zionsville Parks Foundation for this first year. So roughly 80 students from the third grade, and the way it was broke out is they had two outreach sessions that Rachel went out to the, the classrooms themselves and kind of built, each one was built upon the, the other one and then a May field trip component out into the sanctuary and then as part of that after that one they did a service project which a lot of people, thankfully, helped because imagine 80 kids trying to get them organized in a service project.

And then she also then sent along the, the way sent information back to the teachers to get their feedback from their students and their teachers’ feedback on how the thing went. I thought it was really nice that she kind of set a goal, which I thought was very high, but a goal of 75% for all of her outcomes and it was nice that four of those three outcomes she had listed actually went 75% or above based on the feedback she got from the students and the teachers. So things that student understand the concepts of habitat and adaptations, they’re identifying two positives and negatives impacts of humans on our local ecosystems and providing at least one reason why it’s important to keep our waterways healthy and these are all based off of the school curriculum and I kind of wanted – before you guys have any questions, this one I thought was fitting within her, her report and I love that she put our, because really it was her because this was her brain child and what she’s really spent the time developing and working with the teachers one on one but she put in that:

“In creating nature connections, our hope was to see students deepen their understanding of the role they play in ecosystems and have positive impacts. To see them take these concepts, extrapolate them upon them and share with the greater community was incredibly heartwarming. The overall goal of environment ed is always to encourage people to want to make positive change. Our program helped to lay a solid foundation for these students and then their teachers took the concepts to a fantastic next level to share with the community.” So, so unless you have any questions, that’s all I have.

Salewicz Fantastic.

Stehr I was a little disappointed that Rachel wasn't here tonight –

Murdock I know –

Stehr Because I wanted to tell her in person what a, what a great job I think –

Murdock She literally just got back from a two-week vacation out west so –

Stehr Yeah.

Murdock So I think she's trying to play catch up with everything.

Stehr Well, it, it seems like a great program and her description of it here is, is really terrific too. I think she just did a great job so I hope that you'll pass that on to her.

Murdock Will do.

Stehr At least I think that. I hope the rest of you think that too. I mean it was really nicely done and well thought out and, and it seems effective too.

Murdock All right, sounds good.

Stehr That's great, that's great. That's what we love to see. Anybody else have anything for Mindy?

Murdock All right –

Stehr Thank you Mindy.

Murdock And then see me if you want a guide before you leave today.

Stehr What's that?

Murdock See me if you want one of these before you leave.

Stehr Okay. We'll see you before we leave the room.

 All right, the next item on the agenda is Golf Course Manager. Mike not with us tonight but Jarod is going to tell us about the golf course. Jarod –

Logsdon Yeah, Mike couldn't be with us tonight. He's cheering on the Zionsville High School team at state but very happy to report the golf course is extremely busy this year having a lot of patrons come through the doors and swing their clubs. This year to date we have sold 108 season passes and has exponentially blown the old record out of the water, so certainly attendance is up. In the month of May alone, we had 3,384 rounds of golf played and have had 6,303 rounds played to date so extremely utilized asset in our community. That's all from the golf course report.

Stehr Okay. And the golf course looks pretty good too. It looks great.

Logsdon They're doing a great job out there.

Stehr Yeah. The, the rain last week helped.

Logsdon Yeah, that was welcomed.

Stehr All right, anybody have any questions about the golf course?

Pack How did the new drainage hold up with the rain last week?

Logsdon I was, I was actually hoping that there would be some puddling and we could at least show the difference but there was none. The water, whether that was because we are bone dry or because it's working was completely removed as soon as it fell so. Next spring, I think, will be our best tell but I'm confident it's going to help mitigate that.

Stehr Okay. All right, thank you Jarod.

The next item is our report from our Parks attorney. Amy Nooning not with us tonight but her partner, Tom Whitsitt is. So Tom, take it away.

Whitsitt All right sir. Well, Amy sent me a report from Paris this afternoon saying that she has continued to work with the attorney for the Zionsville Community School on finalizing language for an option to acquire an access easement to a parcel of ground that may be donated to the Park Board. She hopes to have the School Board approval of the easement soon so that this can then be presented to the, this Board next month. But that's the extent of her report.

Stehr Okay. All right, anybody have any questions on that?

NEW BUSINESS

Zionsville Golf Course Memorial Bench

All right, then let's move on to what Ann came to see tonight and that is the Zionsville Golf Course Memorial Bench, first item under New Business. Jarod –

Logsdon Yep, so our memorial bench program has been in effect for two years and we've welcomed a dozen new benches to our park system which has helped provide opportunities for respite and relaxation along the trails and parks and this is our first opportunity to have one at our golf course which is also, can be a great applicant at each hole for those that choose to walk with their clubs and can take a rest.

The Penny Putters approached Mike Wall about location and the style of bench for this. He's in agreement that this would be a, a best fit for the course's aesthetic and the Penny Putters have offered to donate this bench and work towards its installation as well so. Penny Putters have called the Zionsville Golf Course home for 51 years and today they are 85 members strong and out there every single week enjoying the course so certainly a large part of the golf course's tradition and heritage as it's been under the ownership of the Town and I feel like this is a perfectly appropriate placement for the bench and would recommend that the Park Board approve this donation.

Stehr Any questions about the bench? Can we have a motion to go ahead and approve the bench from the Penny Putters on the golf course?

Salewicz I'll make a motion to approve the bench on the golf course by the Penny –

Stehr John Salewicz makes a motion. Do we have a second?

Barksdale I second.

Stehr Kris Barksdale seconds. Let's take a vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge?

Cambridge Aye.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?

Barksdale Aye.

Stehr Kimberly Lane?

Lane Aye.

Stehr And I say aye as well. It passes unanimously 6 to nothing. There you go Ann. All right, thank you. And, and thank you for your interest in that. Thank you for coming out tonight.

Ice America Mater

The next item – the Ice America matter. Jarod –

Logsdon I will defer to Tom to explain the document before you all this evening.

Whitsitt It's my understanding that, and Amy has been much more involved in this than I, but there has been an agreement reached to resolve this matter. Sam Gardner from Ice Miller represented the Town in connection with negotiating on behalf of the insurance company. So we have an agreement. What we need to have is a motion to authorize John and Jarod to sign on behalf of the Park Board.

Stehr And we talked about this, this issue in our executive session and I guess we've talked about it in, in our meeting. Does anybody have any further comments or any thoughts on, on this?

Salewicz No.

Stehr Okay, do we have a motion to approve Jarod and my signatures on this document?

Pack I would make that motion.

Stehr We have the motion from Jill Pack.

Lane Second.

Stehr Kimberly Lane seconds. All right, let's take a vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge?

Cambridge Abstain. I wasn't here for the executive session.

Stehr Okay.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?

Barksdale Aye.

Stehr Kimberly Lane?

Lane Aye.

Stehr And I say aye as well. Let the motion or let the record show the motion passes 5 to nothing with 1 abstention. All right, thanks everybody. That's, that's good to get that off of our plate.

Lions Park Donation

Next item – the Lions Park donation. Jarod –

Logsdon Yep, as you've likely seen in the news, the Lions Club has acquired 5 additional acres near their existing park and have the opportunity to expand their impact in the community providing recreational opportunities outside of the park system. With that opportunity also is a chance to finally connect Lions Park to Elm Street Green. So years ago working with the Storen family, we were able to secure an easement but there was one missing segment which is the parcel that was purchased by the Lions Club. So in meeting with them, there is the opportunity and the interest in creating that connection between the two parks and as we zoom out the map, this is actually a critical connection in an Eagle Creek trail which would not only span the entire length of Eagle Creek someday up to Carpenter Nature Preserve, but would have the potential to go south into Marion County all the way to Eagle Creek Park, but a fantastic

opportunity to conserve and protect this critical greenway and waterway as well as provide accessibility and connectivity between our park systems.

In speaking with that, we also discussed the tennis courts and pickleball court as well as the tot lot playground out at Lions Park so through previous decisions, the Parks has a very small present, the Parks Department has a very small presence in Lions Park in a small parcel which contains the courts as well as that playground. In discussing with the Lions Club, I believe it would be beneficial to our park system to kind of step out of the way and allow them to have the full purview of their park without having it interrupted by our operations as well as allow them to have that egress should they need that or planning that space.

So, with your consideration, we would like to discuss working towards that easement along Eagle Creek but also donating the small parcel back to the Lions Club so. The Lions Club actually did donate that to the Town previously when a pair of tennis courts were being replaced with a building so it only seems appropriate that we return the favor and donate that back so that they can have the full opportunities within their park. Happy to discuss that further.

Stehr

Well I, I would just say in regards to that that the Lions Club is a tremendous community partner and we appreciate, I mean, there wasn't really even much of a discussion about giving us that easement to build that trail between Elm Street Green and, and Lions Park. I mean, they were just very forthcoming with that and that's, that's just terrific. That's really important and I, I think it's a safety issue too because a lot of people walk up there on Elm Street and that's not a very safe condition when that happens so. You know, we're just so blessed to have the Lions Club here and, and the attitude they have and the willingness they are to work with us and I think that giving back that, that property that we have there, the tennis court and pickleball court and the tot lot, will allow them to have a contiguous stretch between their park the, the Henkaline, the former Henkaline property that they now own. So it just seems like the right time to just do it all at once. It's not really a quid pro quo but it is an opportunity to do a couple of things that I think are positive at one time so that's, that's sort of the thought behind this and the discussions that we've had so.

Barksdale

So we currently go in there and do maintenance on those, on that –

Logsdon

Yes.

Stehr We do.

Barksdale Part of the park?

Stehr We do.

Barksdale So that'll come off our, Chris's list?

Stehr That is correct and, and it's important too to mention that we rebuilt the tot lot what, about three years ago, the tennis court was resurfaced two years ago and the pickleball court a year ago so it's not like we're giving them a broken-down piece of property. We're giving them newly renovated stuff that they can take on as their, take it on for the future which I think would be good for them and good for us.

Cambridge Do we see this as a fee simple transaction and, and if so are there going to be restrictions in the deed that it remain a public way accessible space?

Logsdon Yeah, I think the intent is to always leave it a public space but I don't know that we need to dictate that the courts have to remain right there. I know they are curious to find what the community wants in those new 5 acres and they'll start master planning their site further, but certainly that it remains a public amenity.

Cambridge And then with regard to the trail, the that would link up with the existing trail network within Lions Park, is that correct?

Logsdon Yes.

Cambridge That connection specifically where the trail comes along Eagle Creek, right, so on the north, turnaround, the northside park that's where it'd meet up. That's, that's kind of a key thoroughfare where folks move from the nature park into Lions Park or if they're coming from the Rail Trail up and they, that's how we kind of cut through. That trail, that section within the park currently, I assume, is probably not meeting the standards of your current trail system. Is there any plan to sort of re-work that particular linkage so that the connection between the nature park and Elm Street Green is sort of a contiguous section as opposed to it snaking down?

Logsdon That, that's certainly open as an opportunity so we are exploring the opportunity to apply for the Next Level Grant round four. They, they have set aside funds for local projects as well as the regional projects that we were the recipients of in round two, so this Lions connection would be

included and we could extend that further to connect into Lions Park further so they'd benefit as well.

Cambridge Yeah, I think, I think the path, and we use Lions Park a lot and our kids happen to play a lot on the fields that sort of front that trail, and it, it's a great park "path" but I don't know that it would qualify in today's standards as an actual trail connection.

Logsdon Yeah –

Cambridge You know, multiple trails so I think maybe just thinking about if, if there's a way to, if it's cost effective, to widen that section to meet current standards that way you have a, an actual contiguous trail connection between two of our facilities through Lions Park I think would be great.

Logsdon Yep. Absolutely.

Lane Jarod, I'm assuming that the, the trails that are currently in Elm Street Green are to standard now or relatively recent standards, so is the easement that they're talking about giving us there across around the creek is it going to be wide enough to continue that?

Logsdon Yeah, yeah so –

Lane I mean that's the goal I guess.

Logsdon Yeah.

Lane Okay.

Logsdon Yeah we're, we're looking at it, the topography to know how far away from the creek and what makes sense to avoid erosion and such so the, the exact ask of the easement hasn't been decided yet but we are starting that. So our, our goal would be to make it at least a 10-foot trail. That is the maximum width that the Storens allowed on theirs so it would just be uniform with that to connect the two. That's kind of small per today's standards but it's certainly better than 8 or 4 –

Lane Yeah.

Logsdon to 6.

Lane So is it 10 and then the, the, the berms are –

Logsdon Soft shoulders, yeah.

Lane Soft shoulders –

Logsdon Yeah and we can, we can start calling those recovery zones. So the idea is if you fall off the edge you have a few feet to kind of spill into.

Cambridge Yeah I think the, the, even 10 feet would be an improvement over what is in Lion, probably what, it's probably 7 to 8 feet –

Logsdon Yeah.

Cambridge I would assume –

Logsdon Yeah.

Cambridge Currently.

Salewicz That, that's Lions Park's trail so we, I mean, the grant would have to, they would have to, they would have to apply for the grant because it's not really a part of the Town because that's their trail.

Logsdon Well I think we would want to discuss an easement that covered that length of the trail as well. So when we're talking about it after –

Salewicz I think you're referencing their trail that goes along –

Logsdon Right –

Salewicz Along, along the creek.

Cambridge Right, I, I think –

Salewicz That's their trail, not the Town's trail.

Logsdon Right.

Cambridge That, that's correct but I think, I think what Jarod said as the bigger idea is if that is going to be sort of –

Salewicz Uh huh –

Cambridge An equivalent of a “highway connection” at our trail network, we should have an easement that covers that. It should meet whatever design standards we can make it meet within our system and we should maintain it as such, you know –

Logsdon And that would take it off their plate as well so they would still have its benefit but if we had a maintenance easement we could help take care of that.

Cambridge Well and I think that would also, that trail, having that connection made through there would improve, I mean they have, I met with a couple representatives from Lions Park who reached out to sort of discuss land planning and things of that nature but a concern that they have that I think is evident if you’re out there, right, so there’s just a lot of people in the park. So, the fact that the trail right now kind of dead ends in Lions Park and then people kind of naturally follow it and do a loop and it, it, it pulls you into the most activated portions of the park, there full of kids and bikes and all kinds of stuff. I think if it were a clearer through connection you’d have a lot less of that circulation traffic whereas people just kind of loop around and head back out. So I know that, I think they would be in favor of, of improving that connection.

Lane And if we ever move Winterfest down in that direction it makes it more appealing, appealing to have parking and it’s more of a partnership.

Logsdon Absolutely.

Lane As opposed to just hosting our event somewhere else so.

Logsdon Right.

Stehr I think it could open up that whole area –

Lane Yeah, it really would.

Stehr Which would really be nice.

Lane Especially depending on what they do with their 5 acres, the rest of that.

Stehr All right, so what do we need on a resolution here? Do we need two resolutions or one resolution to cover both?

Logsdon I would just say the res, the motion to move forward on the easement procurement of that Eagle Creek pathway potentially extending into Lions Park as well as a recommendation. So the parcel owned within Lions Park is actually deeded to the Town so it is not a Park Board property so I would just recommend a motion to recommend the transfer of that asset and that would ultimately go before Town Council.

Stehr And we can do that in one resolution? You concur?

Whitsitt Yes, yeah I think you can. You should authorize both you and Jarod to discuss the transfer with the Mayor and the Town Council –

Stehr Okay.

Whitsitt In support of that.

Stehr All right. So I'll go ahead and make that motion that we consider transferring that parcel to the Lions Club and we also consider accepting the easement to build the trail from Elm Street Green to Lions Park. Tom, was that good?

Whitsitt And that you and Jarod are authorized by the Board to negotiate with the Town –

Stehr All right, and that Jarod and I are authorized to take that to the Town and discuss it with the, the powers at be at the Town. Do we have a second?

Cambridge Second.

Salewicz Second. You got it, you go.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge seconds. Let's take a vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge?

Cambridge Aye.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?

Barksdale Aye.

Stehr Kimberly Lane?

Lane Aye.

Stehr And I say aye as well. That passes 6 to nothing. All right, good discussion on that. I appreciate that.

Cambridge One quick question I just thought about – since the playground is so new, the tot lot is so new, are we going to and we’re the warranty holder for that equipment currently as, as the Park Board, right, or as the Town, so will they be able to obtain warranty service through us or is that warranty transferrable for that equipment?

Logsdon That’s a great question. I’ll dig into that deeper as well.

Cambridge Okay. It’s just something that if I were them I would ask –

Stehr That’s a good idea. We’ll make that part of the discussion.

Lane **38:32 inaudible**

Stehr Great, thank you.

Lane If something were to happen.

Zionsville Parks & Recreation Park Rules Update

Stehr All right, next item on the agenda is the Park Rules Update. Jarod –

Logsdon So a goal of mine this year was to deep dive into our existing park rules and identify any gaps that we might need to discuss and consider updating. So the majority of our rules were created in 1998 so, obviously, there’s been a lot of change in our world since then. Not requesting any action this evening, just to review kind of what was included in the packet as well as share your thoughts about expanding that.

So as we look at the summary of park rules and restrictions that was approved on April 25, 2012, it lists the various items and the corresponding Town Ordinance or Indiana Code which restricts those

activities so that includes motor vehicles, bicycles, structures on park property, vegetation protection, fire, vandalism, etc., etc. The only recommendation I have for that list would be to include two additional items and that would be to restrict horses and equestrian traffic in our park system except for in areas that are designated equestrian trail, which currently we do not have any, and the second would be to restrict swimming throughout our park system except for in areas that are designated as swimming locations which also we currently do not have any of those. But just to highlight those in the rules as well as bringing attention to them. We do have very seldom instances of horses in our park system and we just are not equipped with the infrastructure to accommodate that at this time and additionally, we have no proper swimming facilities where it is safe to do so. So, just updating those rules would be my recommendation and working with Amy to package that into an updated resolution.

Stehr I have a question concerning that – you talked about swimming. Eagle Creek has become quite the destination from Starkey Park for people to go in there and wade. Technically, is Eagle Creek in that area part of the parks or does the park property end at the shore?

Logsdon It actually ends in the middle. So, there's a lot of overlapping rules there because it's a navigable area so you are allowed to recreate there. It is a public property so you are allowed to access the creek there as well. So that's kind of outside of our jurisdiction as far as enforcing rules on that. There's certainly areas we want people to stay out of for their own safety along Starkey Park just due to the outflow of the, the structures that are there as well as any future parklands that we acquire along Eagle Creek which might have turbulent waters or other considerations.

Stehr So if we own into the middle of the creek from the Starkey side and now Overley-Worman is on the other side, do we own into the middle of the creek from Overley-Worman too?

Logsdon Yes.

Stehr So we basically control the creek?

Logsdon For a small segment, yes we do.

Stehr So, why don't we have authority to, or should we worry about the people that go in there and wade? I mean, I, I don't have a problem with it but are we having, do we have liability issues with that?

Logsdon I think we would be protected under recreational immunity. I don't believe a creek is something that we could enforce to that scope. I would have to dig a little bit deeper into the, the codes with Amy but at some point you cant protect people from everything. Obviously in Indiana we don't have steep mountains and things like that but the more adventurous your recreational activity becomes the, the higher risk you assume. So it's the balance of public safety as well as public access.

Cambridge I think it's important too to differentiate between open water, deep water swimming and –

Salewicz Creek wading –

Cambridge Creek stomping and wading –

Salewicz Yeah –

Cambridge Which there's some areas of the creek that are, are deep enough to swim in but not, not that many.

Logsdon Yeah.

Cambridge So –

Salewicz The, the jumping off of the fishing docks at Overley-Worman is, that's obviously been going on for quite some time now so.

Logsdon Yeah.

Cambridge Yeah, well, I know someone who lives on our property faces that, looks out over the pond which we love, I mean, I would assume it's probably the same group of kids but they've been coming there long before construction on the park ever even started –

Salewicz Yeah.

Cambridge So, I think that what, to me there is an interesting balance. Obviously, in the interest of public safety and managing our own liability, which we've marked and signed the pond appropriately no swimming and things of that nature but at the same time, the and I understand there's been a handful of folks that have been calling in but we see police constantly right now behind our park, driving through the park, sometimes with lights on,

sometimes multiple squad cars which is, to me, probably a, they're doing a great job, they're doing their job, but that's a, a worse outcome than someone breaking the rules, you know, at their own risk and swimming in the pond so I think we've got to find this balance of how we enforce that in a way that doesn't detract from the, the adjacent properties, people that live on the adjacent properties and/or the general park use because if you've been in that park, the trails are great, the paved trails are great and they're nice and wide but they're aren't vehicular sightline clearances because they're not designed that way so when there's squad cars moving through there at a decent clip in pursuit of swimmers or anything else, if they, there's also people using the trails at the same time. So I think there's sort of a conflict of use there too. I, I don't have an answer to that but I think it's just something to take into consideration as opposed to just sending the police out every single time.

Salewicz I didn't realize that they were sending the police out there so.

Cambridge I mean they are being very responsive which I, I understand, right, I get it –

Salewicz Someone's calling the, the police?

Cambridge I, I don't personally know who's calling, yeah.

Salewicz No, yeah –

Cambridge I mean, I –

Salewicz But is a curiosity.

Cambridge Yeah it is, it is from what I understand, a resident or two that are calling multiple times. That's, that's all I know so.

Stehr Well I would, I would just say that I, I would not be in favor of changing the ordinance or our, our park rules to allow swimming there.

Cambridge Oh no, I wouldn't –

Stehr I don't think we should do that.

Cambridge I wouldn't either. I think, no I, I wouldn't suggest that. I think to Jarod's point, I think that our, I would be curious to know from a legal liability standpoint, I mean, our obligation, I think, is to ensure that, that people are

aware of a potential hazard, right, differentiating between a hazard and a risk.

Stehr

Right.

Cambridge

A potential hazard of the pond and that is clearly signed appropriately and if, I, I don't know. I mean, I, I think that that, if the concern is liability, we need, we have some of that managed. I don't want to reinforce a behavior that's not permitted or that is risky but I, I don't have any, I don't have an answer to that. I just know that right now there's just sort of this weird balance of –

Salewicz

Yeah –

Cambridge

Parks full of police and at the same time they're never catching the kids –

Salewicz

Yeah.

Cambridge

You know, cause what they do is run across the creek, right, so, yeah it, it's just an interesting, it's something I think that'll come and go as the park evolves and kids grow up and continue to grow up but probably going to be a recurring issue.

Salewicz

Another question, just, I know this was part of what was approved in 2020, in 2012 so there's something about the alcoholic beverages so now that we have the Barn and Brews so do we have signage for not to leave, go to Mulberry Park and, and I, I mean –

Logsdon

Yeah, we can –

Salewicz

We didn't have that back then probably so –

Logsdon

Yeah and, and those rules are actually kind of dated so through our special event application. Well, let me just divide that real quick –

Salewicz

Okay –

Logsdon

So Maplelawn was given the exception of allowing alcohol on their premise at the time of its formation. You know, it hosts weddings and things like that so Barns and Brews felt like a, a great partnership to invite a new user into our park system and, and celebrate through nature or history paired with a, an adult beverage appropriately so. So that, that's contained on Maplelawn ground which is leased from the Park Board.

That's one of the few exceptions of the previous rules so Town Hall, Maplelawn as well as the golf course are the three exceptions that are wrote into the rules historically but updates to the rules, so the State of Indiana has ruled that alcohol has its place in public spaces so working with a local ATC representative you can designate an area to have adult beverages, there's just certain rules you have to identify and, and follow through. We're not pursuing that at this time but should we pursue that on Park land, it would go through the special event application which the Board would decide on prior to that event happening but that would also require coordination with the ATC.

Salewicz Okay, thank you. I appreciate that.

Cambridge Quick question on that specifically – is the alcohol policy, again, differentiating here explicitly between alcoholic beverages and controlled substances, right, so I'm referencing only alcoholic beverages here. Are those, is that governed in, is that in our jurisdiction in terms of these park rules or is that baked into an ordinance, a Town ordinance or something like that?

Logsdon It was a previous local ordinance that established the exclusion and then the state's code allowed the exception by meeting criteria so it's a newer update but, again, a lot of these rules came in the '90s.

Cambridge Right, I guess in, in, in the case of our Town we have, we have an ordinance and a park rule both currently that prohibit alcohol, is that right?

Logsdon At the time, the Town was the one that created the ordinance. There wasn't a Park Board ordinance.

Cambridge Yeah, okay. So I guess something I would lift up for consideration, I mean, I, again, this is kind of a balance of liability, right? But I think that not, having an explicit blanket prohibition on any alcohol in our parks as a whole with any, regardless of the condition, I think really does limit the types of events and fundraisers and things like that that can go on in parks and I think there's a lot of really good best practice standards and other examples of communities who have handled very responsible alcohol selective, permit-based policies. Indianapolis has a, one that is fairly cumbersome but does work, right, where alcohol is prohibited unless you have a permit. To get a permit you have to go through a process and get it approved by the Park Board and there's a regulatory process in place so you can't just have open containers but you can have things like events and fundraisers and festivals and things like that. So, I know as I've talked

to other groups locally here about why parks aren't used more for these large-scale community events or fundraiser events that are put on by the private sector, that is specifically brought up as a constraint to why our system isn't being used because that's something that's just sort of a prerequisite for those types of things. So, I mean, I would encourage us to revisit that and I think we would need to be very thoughtful in what sort of policy was put in place so that it could be regulated and managed and all of those things but I, I am personally not in favor of a blanket outright prohibition.

Barksdale

I agree.

Salewicz

I agree with that too.

Lane

The library will be re-addressing our rules on that same issue shortly as we open the new branch and have a community space that will be available after hours so our, our process is still in play but we will be having those same discussions so it will be interesting to see how the two organizations

—

Salewicz

50:51. inaudible

Lane

Maybe learn from one another.

Logsdon

We can collaborate.

Salewicz

50:55 inaudible like, like Carmel on the Monon, I mean basically it's, it seems like it an open container walking through and that's obviously that's all through there so I've heard some, one of the things that's kind of, we don't have that, obviously that here along our trail but just they've always been kind of wondering how all this works so that's why they brought it up in the first place.

Logsdon

Yeah, absolutely.

Stehr

That's a discussion for another time.

Salewicz

Uh huh.

Cambridge

I, I think though —

Stehr

That's something that the —

Cambridge It's one that I think we should put on the agenda –

Stehr Okay.

Cambridge And, and dive into I think as we, most of these policies were written and then just adopted as ordinances were written in a time, in an era of parks that has long since passed that didn't anticipate the way they are currently used so I think it would be in our best interest to revisit that.

Stehr Well it'll be in our best interest to think about it and then revisit it.

Cambridge Yes.

Stehr Let's, you know it's just, that's a good idea.

Cambridge Yeah, yeah, no I don't think that's a discussion for today.

Stehr Right.

Cambridge But in the near term.

Stehr Now do we need, you don't want, you don't want a resolution on this we're just –

Logsdon No, just introduction of it –

Stehr Talking about it at this time, okay.

Zionsville Parks & Recreation Naming Rights Policy

Logsdon And the, the topics. The second document I, I added with this agenda item was the Code of Conduct and Enforcement and truly this is kind of just a rehashing of a lot of those rules that would incite potentially a response, specifically from staff and it's more or less a guidance of the actions we would like staff to take should these issues arrive. So, inappropriate behavior, non-violent nature behavior as well as potential to incite violence, physical violence and then, obviously, vandalism. So, it's not necessarily, it's a very gray document to allow for wiggle room because every instance is going to be different but just giving our staff the, the resources they need to know what to do in situations, whether that's offering a verbal warning or contacting non-emergency or actually contacting emergency services in the event of an incident that requires that. So –

Barksdale Jarod –

Logsdon Yes –

Barksdale Is what you're talking about right now is that in our packet because I don't see that.

Salewicz We don't see it so.

Logsdon Really?

Salewicz No, we don't see that Code of Conduct. We just see, we just have the, the Rules and Regulations.

Logsdon I apologize for that. Yeah, there was a document on the Code of Conduct. So I will circulate that and then we can talk about it more next meeting.

Barksdale And I have one quick question about the summary – it also references motor vehicles. Did the Town Council just make a decision on a little bit of golf court, golf cart access somewhere?

Logsdon No, that hasn't had any motions attached to that –

Barksdale Okay.

Logsdon But it was brought up at –

Barksdale Okay.

Logsdon At a Town Council meeting. Yep.

Barksdale So, but it might need to be considered in here if that's going to potentially come up again.

Logsdon Right, and that's, that's part of the reason we're discussing rules for the Park Board to set the rules for the parklands that they manage and, and maintain and then understanding that we're not in a vacuum and there might be situations where there needs to be further conversations and that, that would be one of them.

Stehr And you're talking about golf carts but electric bikes is also something that –

Barksdale Mmm, yeah –

Stehr Was not an issue the last time these rules were made and I think our, our predisposition now is consider electric bikes to be bikes –

Salewicz Sure –

Stehr Even though they, they go faster –

Barksdale Yeah –

Stehr Than a regular bike. Well, I guess regular bikes can go pretty fast too if you, if you –

Salewicz Mmm hmm.

Stehr Have the right person riding it but for the purposes of this, I think we're, we're of the mind that electric bikes should be considered the same as bicycles.

Logsdon And, and that's actually state issued as well –

Stehr Right.

Logsdon So that's part of the state law and code that E-bikes can go anywhere that bicycles can now.

Stehr Yeah.

Logsdon So until that's changed or repealed, it would, it would supersede our local governance.

Stehr There's a new E-bike store on Main Street so we'll probably be seeing more of those on our trails in the, in the coming months and years. All right, any, any further discussion on the rules?

Okay, would you like to move on then, Jarod, to the naming rights?

Logsdon Yes, thank you. So moving on to naming rights. Again, this is kind of starting from scratch and just establishing a precedent for how we move forward with naming rights as new amenities and new parklands are added to our park system. So, researching various organizations around the

country and developing the best practices, making phone calls to discuss what's working with their systems, kind of compiled this policy for your kind of digestion tonight and then future conversations as we move forward for adoption but just understanding that it does take a village to build our park system and Zionsville specifically has been extremely fortunate with donations and gifts in the past and that same momentum carries in today so.

Our park system of 500 acres to date, over 60% of that has been donated in the past so the very skeleton of our park system has been through donations and there's never been a formal policy of, of how things are named or the considerations there so just highlighting a couple things within this document. Defining what a major donation or major gift is and then some benchmarks for the consideration of the Board for naming.

So, within this policy the, the naming rights always are determined by the Park Board so that power would always stay with the Park Board, not the Parks Department. Should a major gift come before us, either that is through a donation of land or fees for the construction of a capital item, we would bring forth the recommendation of the naming rights to that. So, in the conceptual or the Master Plan of Carpenter Nature Preserve, we had items like an amphitheater and a boardwalk and those items, should someone be motivated and move to, to sponsor those, they should be appreciated and recognized for that donation. So this is just setting those expectations, setting the benchmark. If a contribution of a minimum of 75% of those costs or the majority of the deeded property are bestowed to the Department or the Foundation, then that would provide them the opportunity for naming rights.

It also protects the, the Park Board and the park system should a name no longer fit the character or the image of our park system, we can discuss changing the names because as times change, things and mentalities can change as well as we evolve. It also sets some guidelines for things that can't be included and the promotion of gambling or items like that and, and ultimately what this policy wants to do is balance our, our municipal stewardship as well as the opportunity for community partners and make sure we're just not a walking advertisement but also we can't do this all on our own so. Again, not asking for any action on this tonight, just to discuss review and we'll bring that before you at a later date.

Cambridge

Just a, a quick question with that and differentiating between the naming of facilities and/or I wouldn't imagine actual entire parks but large facilities within parks versus sponsorship and advertising – the, the

naming rights, I think, is, is there consideration for like let's say and, again, I think there's good precedence for this elsewhere locally but the X softball complex brought to you by X company –

Logsdon Yeah –

Cambridge Where that's a, a negotiated 5-year –

Logsdon Uh huh –

Cambridge Sponsorship. Would you, would that fall under the sponsorships package in this sort of menu here or would that be in naming rights?

Logsdon So in that particular item it sounds like that's a sponsorship and we did approve a sponsorship strategy. To date those are just one-year sponsorships –

Cambridge Right –

Logsdon But within this policy it does highlight sponsorships but it also mentions that the, the lifespan of that naming right would, is dependent on each situation. So a park might be in perpetuity, an amphitheater might be the lifecycle of that amenity and then sponsorships would be case by case as well but –

Cambridge Got it. Okay.

Logsdon So in that vein, if it's, that would really depend on the funds. So, if they're funding the majority of that sports complex then that would be a naming right versus their helping with the continued operations that would be a sponsorship.

Cambridge Right. I just think it's important to think about as, as we start to look at capital projects that would come online in the near term – large scale capital projects where we're trying to find funds from multiple sources –

Logsdon Uh huh –

Cambridge Finding a naming sponsor, I mean that's how the Irsay Y got built downtown –

Logsdon Uh huh –

Cambridge That project was dead in the water until they found a donor sponsor so I think thinking about that and making sure that we have a provision in there for those large scale – I mean it is kind of a naming right but it's a –

Logsdon Uh huh –

Cambridge It's a termed one right –

Logsdon Right.

Cambridge So it's just making sure we differentiate between the two so that we can take advantage of those.

Logsdon Absolutely, yep. Thank you.

Lane Yeah, I would just want to make sure that there's, there's enough in there to protect us should their values no longer reflect our values.

Logsdon Uh huh –

Lane Advise the community of the park that there's a way to claw that back –

Logsdon Yep.

Lane And it's, I mean, I come from a higher ed background. That's happened a lot with people's names on buildings and so just making sure that there's a way to, to make that okay.

Logsdon Yep, absolutely. Thank you.

Stehr Any further discussion on naming rights policy? No? Okay.

Trail Bollard Knoxbox Purchase

All right, let's move on, Jarod. The Trail Bollard Knoxbox Purchase.

Logsdon All right, thank you. As we complete the Rail Trail, it is our ambition to place a bollard at each intersection of the Rail Trail just for safety to limit any vehicular accidents that might want to turn onto that 12- to 15-foot paved trail. So earlier in the year you approved a purchase for those bollards and this evening we are asking for a purchase of 16 Knoxboxes. So Knoxboxes are the emergency service access boxes where each department that would respond would have a specialized key to unlock

this box which would provide them with our park system key to unlock that bollard and remove it so they can respond in an appropriate manner. So just purchasing these for those Rail Trail segments as well as a few within Overley-Worman Park where we plan to put up a couple of provisions. So, for 16 Knoxboxes coded to the Zionsville Fire Department, the total would be \$5,872 and upon approval, we will get those ordered and they will coincide with our bollard purchase.

Lane You just need a motion?

Logsdon Yep.

Lane I make a motion to purchase the Knoxboxes.

Stehr Okay. No further discussion? Okay. Kimberly Lane makes a motion. Do we have a second?

Pack Second.

Stehr Jill Pack seconds. Let's take a vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge?

Cambridge Aye.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?

Barksdale Aye.

Stehr Kimberly Lane?

Lane Aye.

Stehr And I say aye as well. It passes unanimously 6 to nothing.

Mulberry Fields Sport Use Agreement - ZYFL

All right, ZYFL –

Logsdon Just as last year, you know the goal of Mulberry Fields was to reactivate it and invite sports youth back to the fields. Zionsville Youth Flag Football has taken us up on that for the second year hoping to return from July 1st through September 30th requesting two fields every day of the week. So the, last year we had a great season out there with flag football and we welcome them back at the rate of \$5 per field per practice and if we do turn on the lights, that would be an additional \$5. Chris Flanagan has been working, our Director of Maintenance has been working extremely well with Musco to identify exactly what we need to do to turn back on those lights without hitting us with a surcharge from the utility companies. Just being an antiquated system, that was the issue over the past decade and we just haven't had to flip them on but now that our sports teams are hoping to play into the evenings in the fall, we're, we're looking at updating that system. For your consideration would be a motion to approve the Park Board President to sign that agreement with Zionsville Youth Flag Football.

Salewicz I'll make a motion to approve.

Stehr Well, first of all any, anybody have any discussion about, about this?

Lane Is, is \$5 per game enough to pay for the lights to be on, for the servants pick up trash or, I mean, how much more work is it for your staff?

Logsdon Yeah –

Lane Not servants.

Logsdon There is some maintenance. The goal when we set this fee schedule was just to invite them back knowing that it was a lowered rate and we will revisit that in the future. This would be the first instance of turning on those lights and we won't do so unless we can avoid that surcharge and the ultimate goal, obviously, would be to retrofit those lights as LED but that takes time and justification for doing so. So as we invite these teams back –

Salewicz Yeah –

Logsdon We're building back that reason of why that needs to be prioritized.

Stehr Yeah after a couple of years of it being quiet out there it's really nice to have those fields being used again and being activated.

Lane I see passing by because I live out in Royal Run so I drive back and forth because of the roundabout fiasco and it will be much better when it's done but so I'm seeing lots of activity out there. It's nice. I saw rug, I think I was out there and saw rugby players –

Stehr Yeah.

Logsdon Yep.

Lane Party in the Park and –

Stehr Yeah.

Logsdon Good.

Stehr So we need to entertain a motion.

Salewicz I'll make the motion to approve the ZYFL use of Mulberry Fields.

Stehr John Salewicz makes a motion to approve ZYFL at Mulberry Fields. Do we have a second?

Barksdale I second.

Stehr Who's that, Kris?

Barksdale Yeah.

Stehr Kris makes a second. Kris Barksdale. Let's take a vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge?

Cambridge Aye.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?
Barksdale Aye.
Stehr Kimberly Lane?
Lane Aye.
Stehr And I say aye as well making it unanimous.

Mulberry Fields Sport Use Agreement – Team Witsken

All right, the next item – pickleball courts and Team Witsken.

Logsdon All right, and with our new amenity offering the opportunity for sports out at Mulberry Fields on pickleball courts, we were approached by Team Witsken to also reserve those courts. We wanted to work small making sure that it's successful for their operations as well as providing access to the public since we know this amenity is in high demand. So, we negotiated a 4-week term utilizing the courts from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from July 11th through August 3rd. The park system, since this isn't a youth sport, would receive 25% of the registration fees for the Team Witsken participants so, again, they would only be utilizing two of the courts so the other two would still remain open for public play during those four weeks during that time. So just exploring this partnership as well and I would make the recommendation that your consideration of approving this agreement with Team Witsken for four weeks of pickleball instruction at our courts.

Barksdale Would there be signage out at the courts letting people know like you need to be off by 6:00 so they aren't just surprised by that?

Logsdon Absolutely.

Barksdale Just go up to 5:30?

Logsdon So we reserved the rights within the rules to structure the courts should there be a park use or private entity and this is the first example of that and we would put signage so nobody's shocked and, again, there will still be two courts available so it'll just be a little bit longer waits if it is at capacity.

Salewicz Has there been any talk of like the interest they have, like number of applicants or number of instructors, instructees, I guess.

Logsdon Yeah, I, I'm not sure how many instructors but I think they would have a maximum capacity on those two courts. They, they also operate at the Fishers pickleball courts so they're used to working with municipalities and utilizing a portion of those facilities and they just want to bring that to Zionsville as well.

Stehr And it's a way to promote the game, right, and get people active. I, I don't have a problem with it. It's only a couple of hours a week to get the kids motivated and get them out so.

Pack Did we have any discussion in advance with the local Zionsville pickleball community that this might, I mean, I know we have the rules –

Logsdon Uh huh –

Pack But that this is coming so that they don't just show up on July 11th and they're like oh, didn't know about this.

Logsdon Yeah, so we'll post the signs well in advance of that so we'll get those upon approval but we haven't directly discussed this with the pickleball community but we did try to set that expectation when we made the rules that this was an opportunity for use.

Pack I think it would be important too as, as we, assuming we approve this, that as we go through this 4-week process that we listen to what feedback we do get from the community if there is any negative comments from those that aren't participating in Team Witsken like you're taking up two of, half my courts –

Logsdon Uh huh –

Pack And doubling my wait time or if they just don't have a, if it's just all fine and it would probably help us as we move forward with other people that want to reserve these.

Stehr Yeah, I think that's a good idea, although Rick Witsken is not a newcomer to the community –

Pack Oh yeah.

Stehr He's been doing this for decades, tennis and pickleball now and so I think he's well known among the community and he's pretty diplomatic. I, I, but you're right – we should see –

Pack Yeah.

Stehr How people receive it but I'd tend to think it's going –

Barksdale Yeah.

Stehr To probably be okay.

Barksdale And we're just opening them so –

Stehr Yeah.

Lane It also makes the case stronger for using them consistently when we want to put those next eight out there.

Stehr Yeah, right. Yeah, right. Okay, anybody have any further thoughts? Do we have a resolution or do we have a, a motion to make a resolution about this?

Lane I'll make a motion to approve the use of the pickleball courts by the Witsken group.

Stehr All right, Kimberly Lane makes a motion. Do we have a second?

Barksdale I'll second.

Stehr Kris Barksdale seconds. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge?

Cambridge Aye.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?

Barksdale Aye.

Stehr Kimberly Lane?

Lane Aye.

Stehr And I will agree with that. I say aye as well. So it passes 6 to nothing.

All right, the next item is the 5-Year Master Plan Resolution. Jarod –

2023-2028 Zionsville Parks & Recreation 5-Year Master Plan Resolution

Logsdon All right, so I appreciate the Park Board and community's feedback on the draft 5-Year Master Plan. We've incorporated the majority of those comments and edits into the, this copy that was provided in the packet that, for you all this evening. So the next step in the process, we have submitted it to DNR and received our certificate of approval so it meets the requirements for us to be eligible for future grant funding through the DNR. So the next steps are for us to adopt that locally. The first step on that path is the resolution to approve this as a Park Board at which point upon approval we will get it before the Plan Commission for discussion and then ultimately Town Council for adoption into the Comprehensive Plan. So, a fantastic document and collaborative approach to listening to the needs of our community, internalizing that in a document and then having a roadmap for the next five years and beyond.

Stehr And as we embark on discussion about this, we do have Tricia McClellan in the room who was a principal in, in authoring this 5-Year Plan so we can ask her questions too if anybody has any. So does anybody have any discussion on the 5-Year Parks Master Plan?

Pack I would just want to make a statement that the part, the Master Plan does not include anything directly related to an indoor community recreation center and the reason for that is not that there's not interest, because we know there's a lot of interest. It was included in the public forums leading, leading up to it, we got a lot of positive feedback from people that are interested in it. It's not included in the Parks Master Plan because it is a bigger project than just Parks and so this is a plan specific for the Parks Department.

Logsdon Yeah.

Stehr Yes.

Pack But it's not something that we just decided that no one really wants it because a lot of people want it – I, I want one.

Stehr Yeah, I think it's been clear in the past, the past several –

Pack Yes.

Stehr 5-Year Plans that this is something that the community desires but I think you're right – I think there's a belief that it's, it's probably not within the bandwidth of the Parks Department to accomplish that and it's going to take a broader effort among the Town and I, I do know that some very early discussions are going on within the Town to hopefully move forward on that but, yes, as far as the Parks Department doing it, I don't think there's a realistic belief that the Parks Department could do it based on all the pieces that have to fall into place. Tricia, would you like to speak to that? Sure, come on up. We haven't heard from Tricia in the last couple of months. Maybe now's a good time. Tricia McClellan from REI –

McClellan Thank you.

Pack REA.

McClellan Yeah. We did talk a little bit about that in the staffing portion of the Master Plan but it's, you summarized it very well. It's just to have a facility like that you're talking about increasing staff by multiple, not just by twice, by more than that. So, it, it becomes just a much bigger project that doesn't seem appropriate for, especially in the next five years, for the Park Department and the Park Board.

Cambridge I will say –

Stehr Any other questions? Oh, sorry –

Cambridge So I was just going to add to that, I, I, I would agree in the sense that I don't think that implementing or bringing a facility online to the scale that I think residents have expressed desire for is realistic in the next five years but I think if we want to even explore whether or not we could do that there are things that we need to do in this five-year period to further study and business plan around that. So, I don't, I'm not making the insinuation that it's just a table item because I don't believe that it is but I do think it's important to note that we need to, to move forward with some further

thought and study to really dig a little bit more deeply into how you could achieve a project of that scale because I just, because it's so big I don't think that's reason enough to not do it. I just think it's, to your point, not appropriate as a five-year goal to implement it.

Stehr Through the Parks Department.

Cambridge Through the Parks Department exclusively.

Stehr Right, right. And, and what, what is the, just if you can give us a quick statement on the importance of accepting this tonight and moving forward with formalizing the 5-Year Parks Master Plan.

McClellan You know the, the obvious reason is the, the grants and the funding that Jarod mentioned that you have to do every five years to be sure that you are eligible for the DNR grants specifically but the bigger reason to do it is, I mean, you look at this plan and compare it with the last five years, there's been a lot of changes. So having that update and making it current is, is really important to do that at least every five years. The other thing I will say – look at the past Master Plan and look at the projects that were in there for the next five years and you can check off the list of the things that were in that plan that have now been implemented thanks to Jarod and, and his team and approval and support from, from the Board. So having this plan for the next five years really gives you that roadmap of what to start implementing starting tomorrow, starting yesterday even.

Stehr Yeah, okay. Anybody have any other questions or thoughts?

Salewicz I just want to commend your work, the team's work for putting this together. It was very well done, being able to get the amount of input that was put in and the different avenues it went to go get the input was fantastic and it's very much appreciated and great job, so –

McClellan Thank you. Thank you.

Stehr And a reminder that this is something we would all have to sign tonight and what is the resolution number that goes with it? 2023 dash –

Logsdon I need to confirm that with Amy and she's not here this evening.

Stehr Okay. So how do we make a resolution?

Logsdon We could table this until next month if that is the desire. I just haven't seen the, the last resolution that we numbered and dictated.

Stehr We could table it to next month and still be on track to?

Logsdon We, we, we want to adopt this within this year. The Plan Commission meets regularly. We have opportunities.

Stehr Okay.

Logsdon This was just brought before because it's ready to go.

Stehr Okay. Since we don't know which resolution number we're approving, I guess we need to table it until next month –

Logsdon Yep.

Stehr So, we'll make sure that's on the agenda for July. All right. Thank you, Jarod.

All right, the next item is under Old Business – Overley-Worman Park.

OLD BUSINESS

Overley-Worman Park

Logsdon Just wanted to give an update. Tricia and myself continue to work with the contractor for the project to resolve the outstanding items in the punch list. An update – they have repaved some of the areas that were out of compliance over the past month but there are still several drainage concerns as well as re-seeding efforts and just little items that we, we want to see finished up as soon as possible or explore other alternatives and that's, that's kind of where we are. This project is a year overdue so we're just ready to have a complete park and like you mentioned with the poison hemlock along the fairway, that, that's one of the items included within their work is to re 1:16:34 inaudible the fairways and the, the rustic trails so it's kind of that balance of holding back our staff from doing some of that work or allowing them to do it and then it's not completed per the contract. So, it's the fun dance we get to be in right now but we're hoping to find some resolution very soon.

Cambridge One of the large items I think that's outstanding is the, and I know we've discussed this and, and been onsite to, to look at it, but the erosion along the back of the hillside of the berm that's on the, I guess the, the east side

of the pond, I think that we're in that park constantly. We live next to it. We love that park, it's great but I, I, I guess I would speak in my own professional capacity as a landscape architect that I, I don't think that the contractors have the Town's best interest in mind in, in the way that they're completing the work or attempting to complete punch list items. So I think that and, Jarod, I know that you, you guys are staying on top of them the best they can but you can't, you know, you can lead a horse to water, right?

I think that the, the challenge that I foresee is that some of the fixes that they're implementing are just new maintenance items that we would inherit if they're not done per the contract. In areas that there's erosion they're just throwing grass seed on unloosened clay, I mean, it's one of the litany of examples so all that to say I applaud your effort of enduring the challenges that they have presented but they have continued to demonstrate that they're really not interested in performing the work that they agreed to do for the fee that they are paid.

So I, I think that, in my personal opinion, we probably need to make a decision soon about whether or not it is in the Town's best interest to continue this dance with them and walk away with a subpar product or pursue other means to terminate the contract and get a qualified contractor in there to do the work properly. If we think we can get them to do things the way that the contract and the specs say they should so that we're taking ownership of a quality product that's sustainable and maintainable and safe which, in some cases, I know that some as-built conditions aren't per spec and things of that nature. We're going to inherit all that so, I know we all just kind of want to be done with this item but they have not demonstrated good faith throughout the duration of the contract. The project is a year overdue of the year overdue date and, again, none of these things on us – they've all fallen back on the contractor consistently. So, so I guess I would, I would as opposed to continuing to just push the ball down the road, I think there needs to be a decision on behalf of the Park Board and your Department as to whether or not we think it is reasonable or feasible for them to actually complete the work that is remaining in a way that we would agree to before we continue to just push that rope. That's my personal opinion and we've given them ample opportunity and time and grace beyond what is reasonable, in my personal opinion.

Whitsitt

If I could chime in – Amy did leave me a note with regard to that topic and indicated that upon her return she wants to meet with Tricia and ask Tricia to compile a recommendation and a specific notation of what has not been done and needs to be done and then when that is received by her,

at the next meeting or perhaps at the next meeting if she has that information from Tricia then there can be a recommendation made with regard to whether or not the contract just ought to be terminated.

Cambridge I, I would be curious in hearing Tricia, your opinion professionally as to the constructed quality, not the design. The design and program are great and the maintenance that the Town is doing is on par with all of our other facilities but how would you, how do you feel about the contractor and their approach to this project?

McClellan You summarized it great. There are several areas that are still on their punch list that have been on their punch list for a year that haven't been completed. They're not, it's not how it's drawn on the plans, it doesn't meet spec and we've met with them several times and, and talked about those issues and had several assurances from them and the number of meetings that Jarod and I have had out there with them is above and beyond but you're exactly right. The, that erosion, some of the solutions that they've put up there are not, not per spec and there's areas they've torn out and put back and it's still not per spec so, that's not everywhere across the site but that has happened in, in different situations. Yeah, there's several areas that are still on that punch list because they're not, they're not even close to what they need to be. Yeah, and we have started that. It's an, it's an update to the punch list but it's also photo documentation so that that's documented very well which makes it pretty hard to argue that it's not per spec when you have that –

Cambridge Sure.

McClellan Along with the documents.

Cambridge Yeah the documents and specs were solid.

McClellan Yep.

Cambridge And I think the evidence that they have chosen to disregard those is equally as solid. So, I, I would, I think when Amy gets back I think that's a great discussion item. I personally am not in support of continuing any further discussion with them. They've just not demonstrated a willingness to act in good faith on behalf of the contract that they hold.

Salewicz So we still have the hold back, right?

Logsdon Yes, 10% as well as things that haven't been billed yet are still retained.

Stehr Well that's another item we'll put on the agenda for next month and we'll, and we'll talk about that more next month.

Rail Trail Southern Expansion

All right, Southern Rail Trail Expansion –

Logsdon Just wanted to update that this, this project is all but closed out. Again, that was another contract with our contractor for Overley-Worman. They do have one or two items outstanding for that final pay app. We are just working with them if they can just give us a credit, we'll close that out because they did at least substantially complete that project and follow up with punch list items but just a couple outliers, we just want to get the liens released and get that fully in our operations but we have began to maintain that as a Department fully.

Stehr Any discussion on that? All right, let's move on then – the Northern Expansion and Widening –

Logsdon Excellent progress on this. We are still underneath the substantial completion for those segments. So the contractor is working in excellent faith, providing an exceptional product as well and coordinating with us regularly. So, very happy with how these projects are going. Pavement is all down, topsoil is being re-added and addressed to the sides and we will allow them to move on to phase 2 once they finish all items within these two active segments so, they are really buttoning up that nicely and we anticipate that change over to the final segment here in the next month.

Stehr And they've, they've done a great job from the start –

Logsdon Yeah.

Stehr On that project so –

Logsdon They've been great partners.

Stehr Very pleased with them.

Salewicz How long has it – go ahead.

Barksdale Has it, has it followed the, the proposed timeline that we originally thought or has this gone longer?

Rail Trail Northern Expansion & Widening

Logsdon For the, the Northern expansion and the widening?

Barksdale Yeah –

Logsdon So the –

Barksdale The widening, I guess, especially.

Logsdon Yeah, no they're still within that substantial completion for that segment. They just got a head start at the spring so they were working throughout the winter. We thought they'd be ahead of schedule but they've just kind of fallen back into schedule.

Barksdale Oh, okay.

Logsdon And, truly, no fault of their own. They had a couple of grading issues that they had to resolve before the paver could come back and being a paving company in the summer you can imagine how full your calendar is so, it was just finding that time again but still operating underneath that substantial completion target. And, so, every contract after Overlay-Worman we did start including liquidated damages as well so should this contract get to its substantial completion date for the whole project and we're not meeting those targets, that's when we begin to recoup some of those funds so, just something that wasn't included in the contracts historically but we have added in for all projects moving forward.

Stehr And, and they have been operating in good faith.

Barksdale Mm hmm.

Stehr They're, they're, they're doing a good job.

Logsdon Yes.

Barksdale I think –

Stehr They're a good contractor.

Barksdale It's just one of those things that people who live along there and –

Stehr I know –

Barksdale And people keep –

Logsdon Yeah –

Stehr Asking you lots of questions about it, yeah.

Barksdale To them I'm sure it seems like forever and –

Stehr Right –

Barksdale They maybe don't know what the substantially –

Stehr Right, yeah –

Barksdale Complete date is. I don't know what it is.

Logsdon And, and, and truly it was all the progress they made in the early spring. So they got everything ready for paving. We had to wait on temperatures but then, obviously, the delay in the actual asphalt made it seem a lot longer.

Barksdale Yeah –

Logsdon It made it seem like two months rather than a couple of weeks.

Barksdale Mm hmm.

Stehr So do we have a date? I mean I, I haven't heard you say.

Logsdon I believe it's June, I don't – do you know off the top? Phase 1 is September? I, I thought phase 2 was. Yeah, we believe it's June which they're right on schedule for.

Stehr The end of June?

Logsdon Yes, yep.

Stehr Okay. And then when does the next phase start?

Logsdon After we allow them to move on to that.

Stehr Okay.

Logsdon So we want to make sure the entire park system doesn't look like a construction zone so let's button up a park before we move on to the next.

Stehr Okay.

Rail Trail Trailhead

All right, the Rail Trail Trailhead –

Logsdon Another project that's moving exceptionally well. So the structure has been completed. They are filling it with the utilities and the, obviously, the restroom lavatories. Landscaping and final gradings are being completed, asphalt for the parking lot has been complete and just a couple of small things that they'll accomplish to wrap that up. There will be a change order for this project in the near future. So, as we pulled the old fence and looked at where our fence ended with the current project there's a little bit of a gap, so just to be a good neighbor to our residents that look into the trailhead as their backyard, we're just going to explore extending that and recommending that for the next meeting as well as the art installation there's a, a cost associated with that footer which I believe we can fund through our allocated donations for the year and that would allow us to accept that art installation that we previously discussed. So those items will be forthcoming.

Stehr So when do we get the artwork?

Logsdon He's working on it. He's working on the template baseplate right now for the anchor bolts. So we're coordinating with the contractor to make sure that all lines up perfectly –

Stehr Yeah.

Logsdon But, again, this is all out of the goodness of his heart and he's, he's, he's making great progress.

Stehr Is that going to be installed when the trailhead opens?

Logsdon Yeah, that's the hope. If, I don't want to delay the facility if it's ready to go and the art is not just yet but it would be nice to have that all at one time.

Stehr Okay. Does anybody have any questions on the trailhead?

Barksdale Do we have an estimated completion date?

Logsdon I think it'll be wrapping up at the end of this month.

Barksdale This month?

Logsdon Yep, so we'll, we'll probably do our, our final walkthrough early July.

Stehr All right, so big, big June for us. A lot of stuff coming together. All right, any, any other questions or any other comments for Jarod?

Claims

The next item on the agenda is claims and you'll notice the claims are a little bit different as our financial system evolves. We're getting more notices on here about the payroll fund, multiple dates and multiple line items but don't be alarmed – there's nothing wrong with that. That's just the way it's going to be now. This is going to be a feature on our claims that wasn't a feature on our claims before. So, with that in mind, does anybody else have any questions on anything on the claims?

Salewicz No.

Stehr All right, do I have a motion then to approve the claims as presented?

Cambridge So moved.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge makes a motion. Do I have a second?

Salewicz Second.

Stehr John Salewicz seconds. All right, Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Ryan Cambridge?

Cambridge Aye.

Stehr Kris Barksdale?
Barksdale Aye.
Stehr Kimberly Lane?
Lane Aye.
Stehr And I say aye as well.

Adjournment

All right, our next meeting is July 12th at 7 p.m. I want to remind you once again to sign all your paperwork before you leave tonight. We're not going to sign this resolution but we're going to do that hopefully next time when we, when we meet on July 12th. So, does anybody care to make a motion to adjourn?

Pack So moved.
Stehr Jill Pack makes a motion. Do we have a second?
Cambridge Second.
Stehr Ryan Cambridge seconds. All in favor say aye.
All Aye.
Stehr All opposed?
[No response]

All right, thank you everybody. We'll see you on July 12th.

John Stehr, President

John Salewicz, Secretary

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Black
Parks MAC Professional – 7/12/2023