

**La Porte Park and Recreation Department  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 19, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by President Mitch Felkes who also led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Kyleen Fuller, Joseph Ault, Karen Ellison, Jake Huelat, Mark Schreiber, Pam Carroll, Brett Binversie, Kyle Cashmer, Karyl Feikes and Roberta Mumaw.

**Election of Officers**

A motion was made by Karen Ellison to retain the same slate of officers for 2022, motion was seconded by Jake Huelat. Mitch Felkes, President, Nicole Messacar Vice President and Roberta Mumaw, Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

**Recognitions**

Mark Schreiber wanted to recognize Alex Scheuchner who, was present with his father Chris on the completion of his Eagle Scout project which was done at Rumely Park. Alex stated that he saw that the basketball court at Rumely Park needed repairs. Alex met with Mark Schreiber and it was agreed that Alex would install the poles with backboards and rims and installed a 48ft bench along the court. \$1600 was raised for the project through fundraising and donations. Big "C" Lumber also contributed by reducing the cost of the lumber. Alex had a group of 10-16 volunteers who helped on the project.

Chris Scheuchner, who is the Scoutmaster with troop 396 stated that has several scouts that will need to complete projects as they move up in rank and Mr. Scheuchner would like the scouts to work with the Park Department for any projects that may be needed.

**Minutes**

The minutes from the previous month's meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Kyleen Fuller, seconded by Jake Huelat.

**Bills and Claims**

Mark Schreiber added an invoice for 3 Lakes Marketing in the amount of \$1,524.95 to the bills and claims. The bills and claims were unanimously approved in the amount of \$42,431.77 including the additions by Jake Huelat, seconded by Karen Ellison.

**Public Comment**

None

**Sub-Committee Reports**

None

**Old Business**

Mark Schreiber informed the Board that the Department continues to follow all local protocols for COVID, and the staff continues to remain healthy with no positive results.

**New Business**

Mark Schreiber has received a request from Trailblazers Running, LLC and Kirk Cherub who are from Valparaiso and are requesting permission to host a trail running event on March 19 on the mountain bike trails off Lakeshore Drive. Mark Schreiber has spoken to Bill Lott who is the local leader for the trail volunteers and is also a member of NIMBA (Northern Mountain Bike Association), his only concern is if

the weather conditions are wet and the ground is soft, the number of people would damage the trails. Mark has spoken with Mr. Cherub and he agreed if the conditions were to wet, he would postpone the event. A motion was made by Kyleen Fuller, seconded by Joe Ault to allow the foot race on the mountain bike trails on March 19. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kyle Cashmer requested permission to attend the PGA spring meeting in Muncie Indiana. The conference fee is \$100, plus the hotel fees. A motion was made by Jake Huelat to allow Kyle Cashmer to attend the PGA spring meeting in Muncie Indiana, seconded by Karen Ellison. Motion passed unanimously.

Pam Carroll requested permission from the Board to allow horses in Soldiers Memorial Park on Sunday January 30 as part of WinterFest. The hours would be 12:45pm-4:30pm. The event is being sponsored by Huber's Marine. The request was unanimously approved on a motion by Kyleen Fuller, seconded by Jake Huelat.

Mark Schreiber informed the Board that the Jeep Latitudes that were approved for purchase have now become unavailable and they will be providing Jeep Grand Cherokees for the same price. This will need approval from the Park Board, but final approval will come from the Board of Works since these will be purchased with ARP funds. A motion to approve the change in vehicles from the Jeep Latitudes to Jeep Grand Cherokees was unanimously approved on a motion by Jake Huelat, seconded by Joe Ault.

Mark Schreiber has been asked for a letter of support from the City Planning Department supporting a planning assistant. There is an opportunity to put in for a grant for this position through the Indiana Department of Health. This is a grant for up to \$20,000. The motion to write a letter of support signed by the Park Board President was unanimously approved on a motion by Karen Ellison, seconded by Kyleen Fuller.

#### **Board/Department Head Comments**

Mark Schreiber stated it has been a busy time for the Department with events at the Civic, specifically the NIBC basketball tournaments, WinterFest activities, youth sports sign ups, and the opening of the downtown ice rink which will open January 21.

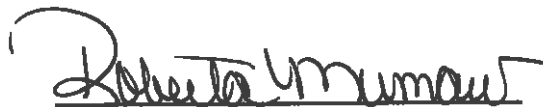
Kyle Cashmer informed the Board that Jace Peterson has accepted the offer to become the new Golf Course Superintendent at Beechwood. He will be starting January 31.

Brett Binversie thanked everyone for their help with the NIBC Tournament.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Jake Huelat, seconded by Karen Ellison.



Mitch Feikes, President



Roberta Mumaw, Secretary

Approved: 2-16-22