

**La Porte Park and Recreation Department
Board Meeting
April 20, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by President Mitch Feikes, who also let the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Also, in attendance was Nicole Messacar, Joseph Ault, Karen Ellison, Denise Bealor, Jake Huelat, Pam Carroll, Brett Binversie, Kyle Cashmer, Karyl Feikes and Roberta Mumaw.

Recognitions

Mark Schreiber presented Mike Lemberis with a plaque recognizing his 40 years of service with the City of La Porte Park and Recreation Department.

Minutes

The minutes from the previous month's meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Karen Ellison.

Bills and Claims

The bills and claims in the amount of \$138,492.84 were unanimously approved on a motion by Denise Bealor, seconded by Jake Huelat.

Public Comment

None

Sub-Committee

None

Old Business

None

New business

Mark Schreiber made a recommendation to the Board that the Park Department enter into a contract with Alexis Kosta (Kosta Krave) to operate the concessions area at Stone Lake Beach House and to also use the area as a staging area for her newly formed food truck. The lease would require rent of \$4,000 (\$2000 payable in the spring and \$2000 payable in the fall) there would be no percentage of revenue charged and the Park Department would continue to pay the utilities on the facility. This will be a 3-year lease with a 180 day opt out for either party. A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Joseph Ault. There were no RFQ's sent out as the business owner approached the Park Department inquiring about the use of the facility. Mark Schreiber stated that the beach concessions has continued to operate at a loss each year. The recommendation was approved unanimously.

Mark Schreiber presented the proposals for new play equipment at Ben Rees Park with his recommendation being the proposal from Sinclair Recreation. A motion to approve the proposal from Sinclair Recreation was made by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Karen Ellison. Mark Schreiber stated that the Park Department will do

the removal of the existing equipment and the Park Foundation will pay up to \$50,000 for the new equipment. Mitch Feikes suggested better lighting with possible motion sensors to help with preventing vandalism. The motion to approve the play equipment in the Sinclair Recreation proposal was approved unanimously.

Nick Minich, City of La Porte Engineer presented the Stone Lake trail expansion that will start at the first phase of the trail on Grangemouth past the beach through the grassy area past the lodge, along the side of the t-ball fields through the woods and out to the parking lot on Waverly Road. The trail will be 8.5 feet wide and will be separated with bollards. A motion was made by Jake Heulat to accept the design as presented for the Stone Lake trail expansion, seconded by Denise Bealor. Nicole Messacar would like the trail to be made wider if possible. The motion passed unanimously.

Steve Ruby with Abonmarche updated the Board on the progress of the Kesling Park Complex. There is a need for additional fields with a challenger field. The 3 designs presented will show 6 fields plus the challenger field, plus a multi-use facility with batting cages and throwing areas.

Cardno has proposed nuphar seed extraction at Hennessy Pond that will provide their company with the stock for orders they are currently receiving. Cardno has proposed a price of \$3500 for the nuphar that is extracted. Bob Allison with Cardno explained that this is a thinning process, and the plants are a renewable resource. There isn't an exact number of plants that will be processed, and this will be based on the number of orders they have received. A motion to enter into a contract with Cardno to allow nuphar extraction at Hennessey Pond was made by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Denise Bealor. All precautions will be taken to not bring in any additional invasive species during the removal process. An amendment to enter into an agreement for the 2022 season with Cardno for nuphar removal with the amount to be negotiated by Mark Schreiber was made by Nicole Messacar, seconded b Jake Huelat. Amendment passed unanimously. The amended motion passed unanimously.

Pam Carroll presented to the Board a Zero Tolerance Policy aimed towards our youth and adult umpires. A motion was made by Karen Ellison, seconded by Denise Bealor. When instances are reported to Pam Carroll, an investigation with take place. Motion passed unanimously.

Brett Binversie requested that the Board approve adding on convenience fees for tickets that are sold online. This would be on a sliding scale ranging between 0 – 5%. This fee would be put into the Civic Non-Reverting account. This would be beneficially when promoted events are held and tickets are sold. The promotor is paid their ticket fee and if passed, the convenience fee would stay with the Civic Auditorium. A motion to approve a convenience fee ranging from 0-5% for online ticket sales was unanimously approved on a motion by Joe Ault, seconded by Karen Ellison.

Board/Department Head Comments

Mark Schreiber stated that Friday which is Earth Day the Park Department will be receiving trees to be planted. The following parks will receive trees:

Beechwood	5
Allesee	7
Koomler	1
Hastings	4
Kesling	1

The city will be offering an Earth Day bingo, children wishing to participate in this will receive a free t-shirt when a Bingo is achieved. The t-shirts are sponsored by American Renolit.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Nicole Messacar, seconded by Jake Heulat.



Mitch Feikes, President



Roberta Mumaw, Secretary

Approved: 5-18-22