



Johnson County Parks & Recreation Department will develop, operate and maintain parks that enrich the quality of life for residents and visitors alike, and preserve greenspace for future generations.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Johnson County Park Board of Directors
Johnson County Park Department
Thursday, May 2nd, 2019

The regular meeting of the Johnson County Park Board was opened at 6:00p.m. by Park Board Acting President, Suzanne Findley. Michael List, Dale Donahue, Tim Edsell and Roger Young were also in attendance. Park staff and audience in attendance: Megan Bowman, Superintendent; Kevin Leonard, Assistant Superintendent; and Dan Goins, Indiana Live Steamers. **Roll call was taken of those in attendance.**

Tim Edsell moved and Michael List seconded to name Suzanne Findley Acting President and Michael List Acting Secretary. Motion carried.

Tim Edsell moved and Michael List seconded that the agenda be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

Michael List moved and Dale Donahue seconded that the April 4th, 2019 minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Claims for May were presented for approval. **Tim Edsell moved and Michael List seconded to approve the May claims, as presented for \$42,196.37. Motion carried.**

Roger Young's Legal Report:

- Nothing to report.

Jim Kirkham arrived at 6:06p.m. At that time Acting President Suzanne Findley turned the meeting over to Jim Kirkham.

Planning Report:

- Suzanne Findley mentions to have Megan continue to look into new Park signage. Megan states that the Park has been in contact with Atterbury Job Corps and other contractors to get new signage in the Park.
- Megan mentions that we will continue to have meetings with GM Development on Dunn Arena and other Park projects. Roger states that GM Development should get approvals from the Park Board and JC SWCD first and then approach the County Commissioners.

Megan Bowman's Superintendent Report:

- Megan mentions that Park Board Officers for 2019 need to be voted on. The Board would like to keep the 2018 officers in the same roles for 2019. The 2019 Park Board officers would be: Jeremy Fisk, President; Sarah Hanson, Vice President; and Jim Kirkham, Secretary. **Suzanne Findley moved and Michael List seconded to keep the 2018 officers in the same role for 2019. Motion carried.**
- The Park had Scrambled Eggs-Adult Easter Egg Hunt. We had 130 people registered and had 100 people show up due to the bad weather. We had 50 businesses donate for the event.
- We have hired some new people and all of our positions are filled. Dave Shepherd and Jeremiah Turner have stepped up from part-time roles to full-time. We have also hired Jeff Cummings for a maintenance position. Jeff comes with experience from DNR. Our new part-time office worker, Christy Howe, will begin working Friday nights starting May 3rd.
- Megan has been working with Clever Dogs Media on a new marketing plan for the Parks. Clever Dogs will come up with a marketing plan and how we brand ourselves moving forward. Clever Dogs can also fix issues with our website. The cost for Clever Dogs for the marketing plan and website work is \$7,000. **Suzanne Findley moved and Michael List seconded to work with Clever Dogs Media on a marketing plan and to update the website. Motion carried, 4-0. Tim Edsell abstained.**



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- Megan has found a \$25,000 grant from Home Serve that would go towards the Independence Park playground project. Megan will then approach the Commissioners to get approval if the Board approves applying for the grant. **Suzanne Findley moved and Tim Edsell seconded to apply for the Home Serve grant. Motion carried.**
- Megan would also like to apply for the Branigin Foundation grant. Suzanne mentions that you can apply for any amount and then present what the money would be used for. **Tim Edsell moved and Suzanne Findley seconded for the Park to apply for the Branigin Foundation grant. Motion carried.**
- Megan applied for a \$5,000 grant from the State for the bike playground but we did not receive that grant. GM Development mentioned that we could potentially put the bike playground in with another project.
- United Healthcare has been working with Franklin College students on a fundraiser. They chose Independence Park for their fundraiser. They did a bake sale at Franklin College and raised \$300 for the playground remodeling project.
- Megan asks if we are allowed to seek donations during park events.
- Megan has been talking with Gail Richards about setting up a Park Foundation. Having a foundation would help with events and raising funds.
- We are planning on moving forward with the Haunted Trails event in October.
- Megan emailed out answers from Rod's Quality Concrete to questions the Board had from the April meeting. The Board has some discussion about the basketball court. The Board would like Megan to get a quote from Rod's Quality Concrete for a full court basketball court.
- Megan had the Highway Department put a traffic counter at Independence Park for two weeks in Mid-April. We averaged 411 cars per day for those two weeks. We estimate that Independence Park has 50,000 visitors from April-November.

Kevin Leonard's Assistant Superintendent Report:

- Kevin mentions that the Park will host a free fishing day on Saturday, May 18th at Lake Cottonwood from 10am-1pm. We conduct one in conjunction with the select days that DNR lists as free fishing days. Anyone can fish and they do not need a license on that day. We will provide some bait and fishing gear for people that do not have any.
- Kevin informs the Board that unfortunately the dressage project has not been completed yet. We were hopeful to get it finished by now but the weather has not been cooperating.
- Kevin mentions that the Stadium Warm-up arena also needs to be addressed. It has gotten to the point that shows cannot even use it now. We are hopeful that Job Corps would be able to do the land work but in case they are not able to we are asking around for quotes from other companies. Kevin asks the Board if they are willing to approve the project up to a certain amount since we could be short on time to get this project completed. Brad Wiser has reached out to Cornerstone to get a quote from them. Roger Young mentions for us to contact Lee Weddle to get a quote from him as well. **Suzanne Findley moved and Dale Donahue seconded to allow the Park to spend up to \$12,000 for materials for this project. Motion carried.**
- IEA would like to host a 5k run/walk to help raise funds for the Stadium Warm-up project. IEA is thinking of holding the event in October. IEA would like to host the event at the Park. We would just work with IEA to find a date for them but IEA would organize and conduct the event. If the Park Board approves IEA to use the Park then they would need to get approval from the Commissioners as well. **Tim Edsell moved and Michael List seconded to allow IEA to use the Park for a 5k and to waive rental fees for the use of the Park. Motion carried.**

President's Report

- Nothing to report.



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From the Floor and More:

- Dan Goins mentions that ILS has their first run on May 18th.
- Dale Donahue asks the Park Board if he would be allowed to construct a small, non-permanent deck outside of his camper to assist his wife with mobility issues. **Tim Edsell and Suzanne Findley seconded to allow Dale to build the small deck. Motion carried.**

Suzanne Findley moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:09p.m. Dale Donahue seconded. Motion carried.

Michael List, Acting Secretary