

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Superintendent Hanna called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Attending were Vice President Selman, Members Poor, Adams, and Carpenter. Absent was President Wahlig. Also attending was Event Coordinator Tabitha Griva, Superintendent Hanna, and special guest Kara Molyet from Civil War Days, now known as American History Fest.

The minutes of the April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting were approved with a motion by member Poor and seconded by Member Adams. All were in favor.

**Guest Kara Molyet-** Kara Molyet said the reason for the change of name from Civil War days to American History Fest was that a lot of the Civil War people have passed away and there has not been many of the younger generation involved with history or being involved in the event. She stated they have slowly been incorporating pre-Civil War and modern times into the program. Molyet stated that now any American History theme is welcome into the event, not just the war. Molyet said she thinks rebranding the event will bring in a bigger crowd expanding the time frame and not just focusing on the Civil War time. Molyet stated she will also be bringing in some new ideas and games, one being the game, Cricket, with a volunteer from Wisconsin. This is free for ages 8 and up. Volunteers come from all around, Kentucky Tennessee, Ohio, Michigan, and Canada. Molyet stated their biggest attendance day is Friday, with children coming from multiple schools. Molyet explained they will start setting up for the event September 21<sup>st</sup> and the event will take place September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>. They do collect a dollar donation from the students coming from the schools and set up a donation collection on the weekend of the event, as the event costs around \$15,000 dollars to run. Molyet stated they do receive donations from the American Legions in the surrounding area. Molyet explained everyone working the event are volunteers and volunteers are a struggle to get as well. Supt. Hanna suggested to look into schools in the surrounding area where groups have to complete volunteer hours. Supt. Hanna stated the parks had sent a letter to the Civil War group with concerns of having no communication and how the grounds have been treated the last few years. Supt. Hanna explained the parks enjoy having this event in the parks and seeing the school kids coming for the experience but would like to keep things organized. Supt. Hanna stated the parks are working on a solution for the firepits, as they are one of the biggest issues from recovering the grounds. Supt. Hanna asked Molyet just for communication to keep everyone happy. Molyet explained the board is now discussing running the event on Friday and Saturday in the future because everyone is coming from a far distance and need to leave by Sunday.

Old Business

**Easter Egg Hunt-** Griva stated that the egg hunt went great, we did have chilly weather, but manageable with the sunshine. Griva reported that bagging the prizes went great and took away from the stage getting crowded. Griva said the crowd was slow in the beginning but picked up quickly. Matt stated in the future we will try to work with the downtown to make sure we don't schedule to the same day and time. Vice President Selman asked next year to make sure Jodi has a drink available to her, as she was very hot in the costume. Vice President Selman said Jodi asked if the parks would look into getting as new costume that the costume has been around for years, and its just getting to a point it is falling apart.

**Tree Giveaway-** Supt. Hanna reported the school kids were able to help us plant trees this year. Hanna said we didn't have many for them to plant, the plan next year is to not give an option to the city residents, the students will plant the trees if they would like a tree. Hanna explained giving the option the last couple years has taken away from what the program is about, education. Hanna said he will talk with the teacher from the middle school and see how many they can handle.

**Memorial Tree Ceremony-** Hanna stated it was very cold and very windy. Hanna reported the program went very well, next year we will have the upstairs of commons hall we can utilize as well if weather doesn't permit doing it outside. Hanna said he had two people mention to him, drop down canvas curtains to block the wind. Hanna said he will be looking into those for the future. Griva stated the speech from the Mayor seemed very long that next year we should look into shortening things up, and still being able to make it personal. Member Adams stated many people complimented and appreciated the informational booklets made about the honorees.



**ADOPT-A-TREE-** Matt stated another cold and windy day at the Selman Timber Frame but was very surprised of the turnout. Hanna reported that this was a Tree Board event. Hanna said we give away about 250 trees out of 300 and the kids were able to build bird house and homemade suet feeders.

NEW BUSINESS

**RELEAF TREE PLANTING** – Supt. Hanna reported the grant bought us 50 trees, this Saturday the tree board, staff and volunteers will be planting those on the Hornbacher tract with Releaf from Michigan.

**HUBIE CONCERT.** Supt. Hanna said we are pretty much ready to go our first concert on May 20th. Matt stated we will be having Shigs in Pit BBQ and Mad Anthony's. Supt. Hanna reports Farmers State Bank will again be sponsoring the Hubie concert.

**PIG OUT IN THE PARK** – Supt. Hanna reports Pig out in the Park will be June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Hanna stated last year went very well. Hanna stated this year we will be ordering more cookies and we will not be individually wrapping them this year, but we will have tongs. Member Adams requested getting new scoopers for the side dishes. Hanna stated Sheets is no longer letting out the use of their grills and has had some thought on purchasing one for multiple events that it can be used. Hanna said he may be bringing this to the board to discuss in the future.

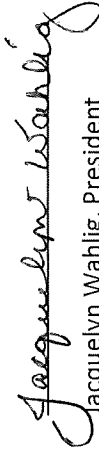
#### OTHER BUSINESS

**FOOD TRUCKS** – Griva stated that a few people have reached out wondering if we were having food trucks this year. Griva said Matt stated in the past it was a hassle marketing them and they would call in and cancel. Griva asked everyone's thoughts on just having them randomly through the month. Member Poor stated he thought once a month would be a good idea. Griva stated they can be left on Mondays like they've been in the past. Griva asked what thoughts were on charging food trucks a deposit to make sure they attend. Member Adams stated she thought that would be a good idea.

**NATIONAL TRAILS DAY**- Supt Hanna stated the Steuben Trails group would like to again do the helmet giveaway on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Supt Hanna asked if the board everyone was okay with that. All in favor.

**Center Lakes**- Supt. Hanna reported he has signed the paperwork for Center Lakes. Supt Hanna explained he will make the announcement to the public when he has the plans together of what it will be utilized for.

**YMCA**- Supt Hanna stated there has been articles in the paper about Angola Parks taking over inventory of the YMCA splashpad project. Supt Hanna explained he has not made any decisions with the YMCA as of right now and will not until they are more clear on of what the plan is.  
No further business, meeting adjourns 11:34am.



Jacquelyn Wahlig, President



Matt Hanna, Secretary