

July 6th, 2022

Superintendent Hanna called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Attending were President Wahlig, Vice President Selman, Members Poor, Adams, and Carpenter. Also attending was Event Coordinator Tabitha Griva, Superintendent Hanna, and special guests from the YMCA, Sara Funkhouser, Michael Hanson, and Wade Steifken.

The minutes of the June 1st, 2022, meeting were approved with a motion by Vice President Selman and seconded by Member Carpenter. All were in favor.

YMCA- Sara Funkhouser explained the need behind the Community Park that is being spearheaded by the YMCA. She explained the survey done by both the YMCA and the Angola Parks showing the need for something like this in the community. The YMCA is hoping for a strong partnership with the Angola Parks & Recreation. The YMCA's vision is for this park to fall under the umbrella of the Angola Parks & Recreation as a free city park. Sara explained the strengths of the YMCA consist of planning and fund raising and the Angola Parks & Recreation has the strength of knowing the maintenance needs of a park and how to run it. She explains that this park is being built on YMCA land and would remain under ownership of the YMCA. The park itself would be a community park, if managed by the Angola Parks & Recreation. The funds for this park are being held by the Steuben County Community Foundation to show donors that this is a community park. There will also be funds set aside for an endowment. This would act as the long-term funds for major repairs or replacements. Sara discussed some of the annual costs associated with the park stating an annual maintenance cost of between \$15,000 and \$20,000. Some of the annual costs could be picked up by the YMCA such as the Certified Pool Operator, third-party water testing and chemical costs. Sara stated that they are very open to how this partnership may look. We just need to figure out how it will look if the Parks are interested. Member Poor asked Hanna how labor intensive this would be. Hanna stated that another employee would be necessary to continue the high standards that our customers are used to. As far as the annual maintenance costs, Hanna felt the numbers presented are a place to start, but we wouldn't know those figures until you got into it. Member Carpenter brought up a concern about security for such an expensive park. Supt. Hanna said the City Police Chief has already got numbers for security cameras that would be an in-kind expense of the city. President Wahlig asked if all the colorful play features would fade in the sun. She was curious what the life expectancy was for the features in the pictures provided. President Wahlig stated that the big question would be if we could afford to do it or not with our budget. Supt. Hanna summarized to the Board that the YMCA has come to the city with two requests: an initial investment to the project and the possibility of the long-term care by the Angola Parks & Recreation. Hanna felt there was many ways this partnership could look if the Park decided to move forward. Hanna said that the city is looking at in-kind and cash donations toward the project. President Wahlig told the members from the YMCA that we are still not able to make any commitments toward the project but would be discussing. Sara offered to answer any questions anytime. Hanna told Sara he would forward their contact information to the Board.

The Board discussed some of the concerns with the project. Member Adams was curious if this park would reduce the use in some of our other parks. She also showed concern due to the recent assessment done on Friendship Playground. Supt. Hanna reported that he was told by the YMCA board president that this park is happening regardless of the city's involvement. So, Hanna felt that is a legitimate concern, but little could be done if they will find a way to maintain it regardless of the Parks involvement. President Wahlig stated that this fact takes some of the pressure off the Board. Hanna said that it has already been advertised as though the Parks would be involved and he feels we will be the bad guys if this agreement ends up not happening. Hanna feels like they will be under some pressure to agree to something. Hanna said he could reach out to other park systems that have similar setups and find out if they have annual maintenance costs or employee requirements.

OLD BUSINESS

4th of July- Supt. Hanna felt that the event went very well considering some of the things that didn't happen. Hanna said an Incident Action Plan did not get done. There was no Fire Department presence at the fireworks. So, a few things could be done better next year but the events in the park went great. Hanna said the petting zoo was a big hit and the crowd was better than it has been in a while, following the parade. Hanna said the Parks had a truck in the parade and handed out schedules and invitations to Silly Safari's and the petting zoo. He felt it worked well and boosted the crowd. Asst. Supt. Allshouse said all the staff did a great job and the day went well. Hanna said they did an exceptional job with clean up on July 5th as well. In the rain, with only two community service workers, they had everything cleaned up by 10:30am. Hanna said he was amazed they got it done that quick. Member Carpenter and Vice President Selman said the Hotdog Give-away went very well and they gave out all 400 hotdogs. They suggested directing the sign more toward the entrance next year but was happy overall with the event.

Colleen Everage: Arts Festival- Tabitha asked the Board their thoughts on the request to move the Arts Festival to the Park. Hanna said with them providing all the labor, there would be little labor from the parks. All were in favor of allowing the Arts Festival to move to the park.

Basketball League- Tabitha said the group wants to have a bounce house and food vendors on the nights the basketball league is going on. Hanna said our bounce house policy is that it must be manned the entire time it is available. The Board said if they aren't charging for the bounce house, they would allow. They are also good with them having a food truck.

NEW BUSINESS

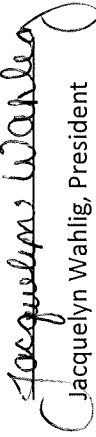
Hubie Concert- Tabitha reported that the next Hubie concert is coming up on July 22nd. She also reported that they got paid almost \$1300 for concessions at the first concert.

Playground Assessment- Hanna brought up the playground assessment that he forwarded to the Board. Hanna said it was \$165,000 for the basic upgrade and with labor it would increase to \$350,000. The larger upgrade is \$375,000 or \$670,000 with labor costs. Hanna said it is a different time than 1998 and felt it would be difficult to organize a community build this day and age. Hanna asked that the Board look over the assessment and be thinking about what our plan should be.

OTHER BUSINESS

2023 Budget Items- Hanna reported that it is budget time again and he wanted to discuss a few items with the Board before putting it together. He told the Board to be thinking about "want" items for the budget and get them to him sooner than later. Hanna feels the first big priority is that they are running out of room and would like to add a bay to the existing maintenance building. Hanna said Bobby had been working on numbers and we feel it can be done for less than \$100,000. This would somewhat take the place of where the Firemen's restrooms were budgeted this year. Hanna also reported that Asst. Supt. Allshouse met with Bobcat of Ft. Wayne and is considering a municipal program to get a skid loader. Hanna said we borrow and rent skid loaders quite often and once we purchase one, we would be able to trade up each year for \$2500 with this municipal program. Hanna feels these things would not impact the park budget as much as the staffing impact with the Mayor Hickman's 5% increase in wages for 2023.

No further business, Meeting adjourns 11:50am.



Jacquelyn Wahlig, President



Matt Hanna, Secretary