

Morgan County Park and Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2017

Welcome / Review Agenda / Review Last Month's Minutes

In attendance:

Joe Tutterow, President

Greg Howard, Vice President

Eryn Fletcher

Joni James

Volitta Fritsche

Thomas Fritsche

Greg Marlett

David Mow

Bill Mitchell

Joe Tutterow called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The agenda was reviewed and the group urges to carry out a succinct and time-conscious meeting.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Updates were made related to the special meeting of August 17. The correction was 1 motion to award with a not to exceed amount of \$8,600 with completion by September. This motion passed unanimously. Meeting minutes updated to reflect a general update on the restrooms. Greg Howard motioned to accept the minutes as modified, Joni James seconded the motion and the minutes as modified were approved.

Budget Status sheets were distributed. The reimbursement for Greg's mileage was submitted. Bulldog repairs for mowers were expensed and Greg was reimbursed for purchase of the tables. There are two invoices from Green Three, including research for the 10 interpretive signs. The sign invoice is eligible for TIF funding. The invoice for the garden repair is payable from the maintenance. A larger bill for the corrections staff is pending for work done in preparation for the festival.

2018 budget: Joe noted that Soil & Water was approved for a full-time position. The Parks was approved for a part time budget and Joe will receive more details in the future. The budget numbers are not available yet, as it is slated for approval on October 3.

Property Regulations/ Guidelines

Joe has talked with Hamilton County Parks. The regulations will remove reference to guns as this is already covered by state statutes. Hamilton County allows beer and wine by special permit which requires insurance with a rider for Morgan County. Discussion was held about whether to have the

alcohol policy consistent at all parks or to allow alcohol at Waverly only. Consensus was to continue with the approach from the August meeting and pursue alcohol only at Waverly Park.

Waverly Update

Festival:

Festival vendors were increased over last year. The trail was well used. Five blacksmiths were at work. Attendance numbers have not been estimated. Additional signage was requested and poor comments on porta-pots were received. One comment requested that the vendors stay until the advertised hours.

Other Festival comments:

- Would Park Board rent the park out in March for a maple syrup festival?
- Several people liked the set-up this year.
- Several comments about how beautiful the park is and how well the festival was set-up.
- More re-enactments and a battle would be good.
- Expand the encampment
- Several talked about getting to the river from the trail.
- Advertisement in paper, on facebook, and on radio were mentioned.
- Robin and Londean Warner would like to do rope making.
- Gary Swain is interested in helping out with the Park Board.
- Modern bathrooms and a shower house is missing.
- Tables and tents provided were a bonus as many festivals provide neither.
- Park equipment for children was requested.

Landscaping:

Volitta and her crews spent 3 days in town square, 6 people, pulling weeds, deadheading and trimming shrubs. The grass up front will be mowed later this winter. Will need to spring clean and mulch in 2018. Suggested that bids be sought in January to be considered at the January Park Board meeting. A request for bids should be prepared in December for bid receipt in mid-January.

Restrooms:

Still having difficulties with permits for septic system.

Trail Status:

Paving will be done in the next couple of weeks. Award is tomorrow for paving. The grant funds must be used by December 31. This will include the trail, part of the parking lot and paver installation.

Other:

- David hosted a wildflower hike. 4 attended. David discovered the creekbean flower and has submitted a specimen to IU.
- River access – no update. Kenny Hale is working with Rob Bray on title issues.
- Events expected: Pow wow, dutch oven, and another group are expected to visit the board this winter with events.

- The house is still under construction. Water service lines are needed.
- Waverly construction except for covered bridge expected to complete in 2018.

Burkhart Creek Update

Activity Update:

- No activities to report. David Mow was out today and stated there are several varieties of flowers, including asters, in bloom.

Maintenance:

- Scheduled to be there Friday for mowing.

Other:

- Illicit activities were underway at the park 9/25/17 around 6 pm. Motorized vehicles were also on the path. There were 14 people at the park at the time.
- A bird watching group / tour company offered a \$25.00 bird watching trip at the park.
- Signage for the park is needed.

Program Report

- Greg shared the program report. The porta-pot issue with Izzy's has been resolved. Picnic tables have been relocated for good spacing. There are 6 parking blocks in need of replacement.
- Request to use Burkhart Creek on Wednesday October 11 for a conservation tour. Greg motioned that the SWCD be approved for this tour, the motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.
- Request to use Waverly for Earth Day Event on Saturday, April 21, 2018. This was tabled for action to next year.
- Porta-pot maintenance was upgraded to once a week.

New Business

Task Assignments as follows, through the end of 2017:

• Equipment	Volitta Fritsche & Eryn Fletcher
• Security	Joe Tutterow & Greg Howard
• Website	Greg Howard
• Board Status	Joe Tutterow
• TED grant	Joe Tutterow
• Position Description/Duties/Logistics	Volitta Fritsche & Greg Howard
• Friends Group	Tabled

Website update:

The artist who developed the park logo is interested in updating the Park Board website. This would be developed externally and then maintained by the Park Board. Meg has proposed a cost of \$3,000 for the development. Joe motioned to give Greg the authority to work with Meg Cook for website development with a budget of \$3,000 at this time and a completion date of January 1. The motion was

seconded by Volitta and approved by unanimous vote. Joni and TJ Fritsche will provide support on artistic development.

Board Status:

Joe Tutterow plans to step down as President in December 2017 and will remain on the Board until his term ends in December 2018. Joni James and TJ Fritsche's terms end this year. TJ was appointed by Judge Hanson, Joni was appointed by SWCD. Transition plans are needed for members as they leave. TJ plans to stay and Joni is considering options. The Purdue Extension position is not working out.

Other:

- Inquiries about “weed” trees (cottonwoods, sycamores, etc) at Burkhart have been made. These will need to be cut and stump treat. Volitta will work with Dave Mow to schedule a cutting.
- If Waverly is complete in 2017, the Park Board should be thinking forward to future park properties.

Next Meeting is on October 24th in Waverly.

Eryn made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Joe and the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm.