

March 2017 Minutes

Members:

- Present: Laura Redding, Beth Davis, Rick Homkes, Jill Newby
- Absent: Josh Welch, Matt Johnson, Erica Parvin, Sabrina Vary, Kyle Parvin, Reba Casler, Ashley Wyrick
- Guests: None
- Meeting started at 5:30 PM on 3/6/2017 at the Community Center (Council meeting at Town Hall)

Topics:

- No treasurer's report was available.
- The white structure at the Town Park was discussed. This was recommended to be taken down several months ago by the Board but the town workers said at the council meeting that they have been too busy to do it. Redding reported that a citizen came to M Reel to say that he had fixed it and it was OK. General consensus was that it should still be removed and replaced with an ADA compliant structure. Homkes will get the '17 budget allocation amount and send to Newby so that a replacement can be found.
- K Parvin was not present so no discussion of naming resolution was held.
- RTP Grant: Redding and Homkes reported on the meeting held 3/2 with the IDNR. IDNR participants were Bob Bronson and Scott Salmon. Grant was approved and we now have authorization to proceed. Process will be a set of rolling authorizations as various checkpoints are met. First steps are to hire a professional engineering firm, complete the environmental / archeological reviews, and start the design work. IDNR said that we could hire a PE that was used to working with the town (i.e. Kieser Consulting) or put it out for bids. The actual construction work **must** be put out for bids.
 - Discussion followed on whether to put out for bids or contact Kieser. Newby reminded all that due diligence must be followed. After some discussion it was decided to ask Kieser for some references on RTP work, then decide. Redding will do the contact since she is part of Town Planning committee.
- IDNR Five Year Plan: Homkes reported on the progress of creating the new Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
 - Plan must be approved and submitted by 4/15 to be eligible for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants this year (2017). This would mean Council approval at the March 20 meeting.
 - Redding reported that LWCF grants are more than just property purchase, and can also be used for new playground equipment, such as for the CC Park.
 - Homkes mentioned the intricacies of the ADA and the need to comply with that and other acts. Consensus was that we are working towards that goal.
 - Discussion next was of the priorities for the new plan. Reviewed the previous plans and discussed what has and has not been accomplished.

- Discussion next was of the community survey and most mentioned additions wanted by the public (trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, dog parks, indoor facilities, and water park).
- Developed a prioritized list of RTP CC Walking Path, Chandler Pavilion repair, Town Park Playground refurbishment, Community Center Park Playground, and Community Center Picnic Shelter. Unanimous acceptance of list.
- Redding offered to help put together the report.
- Community Center: Redding reported that Council did not act on rental price recommendation. Discussion at Council ranged from it being too low to being too high. Newby will compile rental information for next discussion. Redding reported that M Reel told her it was rented 25 times in 2016, plus other non-rental uses. Redding also reported that:
 - She and M Reel picked out office equipment from Functional Device building for use in CC Office. It has not yet been transferred by town employees.
 - In event of tree damage, CC yard will be used for temporary limb chipping. Davis asked if it was like Delco lot after the tornado. Redding said yes, and that she told Council to make sure that the asphalt and the trees were not damaged.
- Newby stated that the date for the WHS senior day (Community Day) will be May 16 (rain day May 17). Asked that everyone start finding jobs. Discussion of needing shovels and brooms and whether that could be purchased and stored at the town.
- Redding reminded all of the Arbor Day celebration at the Russiaville Library. Reminder that we will need pictures for '17 Tree City USA application ('16 application is in).
- Discussion of board members. Quick review of volunteer list from survey for possible replacements. Redding will send email to two board members that have not attended for a while.

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned at ~7:00 pm.