

## September 2016 Minutes

### **Members:**

- Present: Beth Davis, Rick Homkes, Matt Johnson, Kyle Parvin, Ashley Wyrick
- Absent: Reba Casler, Jill Newby, Erica Parvin, Laura Redding, Sabrina Vary, Josh Welch
- Guests: None
- Meeting started at 5:30 PM on 9/12/2016

### **Topics:**

- IDNR Recreational Trails Grant: Reminder of the grant meeting on 9/13 at 10:00am at the Community Center with the IDNR. The IDNR representatives will talk to us about what is happening with the grant application. Redding had sent out email requesting all that could to please attend.
- Community Foundation Grant: Flag pole and two benches have been ordered. The bench for the Interurban Station will have to be staged so that a picture can be taken, then stored until the cement work around the station is done. Vary has not yet marked a good place for the pond bench. Short discussion of the placement of the flag pole. Consensus was to put it near the hydrant, not in the circle. When a specific place is chosen, 811 will have to be called to mark any lines. Homkes will work with Megan Reel on this.
- Eagle Scout Projects: Homkes reported that the bulb planting project (part of Community Foundation Grant) is in the approval process with the BSA Council. Bryce Borden is the scout doing the project. Work is planned to be done in October. No one reported any news from Jason Hampshire on the Town Park boundary project.
- Carryover monies not in account: K Parvin and Homkes discussed the carry over monies from the 2014 tree planting project that are not in the Park and Tree Fund. These were from the donations from residents and businesses. Davis stated specific businesses that had made donations to the project. The left over donation amount is \$975 and seems to have been absorbed by the General Fund. Homkes will bring documentation to the next Town Council meeting for discussion and request that funds be transferred.
- Russiaville Town Park: Board discussed letter from Laura Redding to Town Council on removal of white structure. All agreed that structure should be removed ASAP. Homkes brought Redding's request for ideas on replacement and fundraising. Davis suggested to wait until spring for these since it is so late in the year. All agreed.
- Town Budget: Redding left note that the budget is in process. Current plan is that the Council will budget \$5K for Park and Tree Board expenses. Homkes noted that this is in addition to carry over funds, the left over donations from the tree planting, and the Gene Parks distributions.
- Library Nature Explore Project. Homkes updated board on construction progress and library funding efforts. Park and Tree Board is not directly involved in this project, but it would add another green space and children's area in the town.
- Town Website: There was a discussion of the Town Website. All agreed that web site should be brought into the town hall for updating. Homkes has reserved the URL townofrussiaville.org for possible use. Another option is russiaville.gov. It was noted that Howard County uses a dot gov

and the City of Kokomo uses a dot org. Johnson asked why this was being brought up since it is not the purpose of the Park and Tree Board to run a web site. Discussion followed about making the web site more professional looking (not a dot com) and bringing it in house. K Parvin and Redding will bring to Council at next meeting.

- Shades / blinds for Community Center: Casler was not present so little discussion other than to request Casler work with Megan Reel to come up with a solution and to purchase.
- CC Circle: Davis brought up the mulch problem at the Community Center Circle. When there is a heavy rain the runoff carries mulch onto the asphalt. Casler had sent word that she had spoken to Misha at Back Yard Gardeners and that it was not their problem. Casler also had sent word that she could arrange reduction in cost with EJ O'Neill if the mulch were replaced by stone. Davis offered to work with Casler on making this happen.
- IDNR Five Year Plan: Homkes reported that one of the big problems with the Russiaville Park and Recreation Five Year Plan renewal was the lack of public input on the renewal. The plan will not be approved until this (and other) deficiencies are corrected. Kieser Consulting had offered to help put a public meeting together at no cost as part of a contract with the town on zoning updates. Redding will work with Kieser to arrange a meeting. She will see him at the first zoning committee next Thursday. Johnson offered to take Redding's place on the zoning committee since he had done this work in Kokomo.
- Safety Vest Purchase: Homkes requested board approval to purchase safety vests for volunteer workers in the town. This was initially brought up during the WHS Senior Work Day when a town resident stopped by the Town Hall and suggested that the WHS seniors should have a vest on when painting curbs. Homkes also reported that it is part of the Eagle Scout bulb planting project since the scouts will be working close to IN SR-26. Everyone at meeting agreed that this would be a good idea and that vests could be hung in the EMT area for other uses in the town as well. Homkes will work with Reel to get these ordered.
- Community Foundation Grant (also): Wyrick reported that the banners for the downtown had been ordered and that fundraising was proceeding
- Having no other business the meeting adjourned at 6:55.