

La Porte Park and Recreation Department
Park Board Minutes
March 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Nicole Messacar.

A motion to amend the agenda and dismiss items E-J was unanimously approved on a motion by Jake Heulat, seconded by Karen Ellison.

Also, in attendance were Kylene Fuller, Karen Ellison, Jake Heulat, Drew Mullen, Mark Schreiber, Brett Binversie, and Roberta Mumaw.

Public Comment

None

Recognitions

None

Minutes

The minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Kylene Fuller, seconded by Drew Mullen.

Bills and Claims

The bills and claims were unanimously approved on a motion by Karen Ellison, seconded by Jake Heulat.

Old Business

Nicole Messacar stated that the draft plan for the Kiwanis Teledyne project should be complete by this Friday March 20 and submitted by the following Friday March 27.

New Business

Tony Haines of 202 Lakeshore Drive addressed the Board regarding the Stone Lake Shoreline improvement plan. Mr. Haines likes the plans but has concerns with the lighting of the bridge area. This seems to be a gathering spot for unadjusted youth and fisherman as well. The police can't be expected to patrol this every hour, so there needs to be a better way to control the activity. John Rubel stated there is currently a light at the location, and additional lighting is a possibility. Mr. Haines feels there may be a need at this area for a security camera. Mark Schreiber stated that security cameras are something that parks are starting to use more often, and this is a possibility of looking into this. Mark Schreiber asked Mr. Haines if he had any thoughts on where additional lighting may need to be placed. Mr. Haines doesn't feel that he can make suggestions, he is just stating the obvious as he's lived in the area for the past 20 years. Mr. Haines also feels with the new amenities in it will be taken advantage of some points. When Mr. Haines was also reassured by Beth Shrader that no work would begin until proper surveying has been done, however he hasn't seen any of this work being done. John Rubel reassured Mr. Haines that all the property survey work would be completed before work begins. Mr. Haines feels with the native seeding that will be planted it will create additional work for the Park maintenance staff. Mark Schreiber stated this area is heavily maintained currently and will be kept up. Mark Schreiber stated that the lighting will be addressed, and enforcement is the issue with all Parks closing at 10pm. Nicole Messacar stated the native plantings require more maintenance and she asked if there will be a maintenance plan implemented so the maintenance staff is informed on what needs to be done and when. John Rubel stated that what is being used is a low stature native grass. Everything

planted will require maintenance, and there will have to be a balance. Karen Ellison made a motion to approve the Stone Lake Shoreline improvement plans as presented, seconded by Kyleen Fuller. Drew Mullen informed the Board that active transportation is his passion and there a few things that he is concerned with, such as the trail width and the buffer width. John Rubel stated that there was a typo in the plans and the trail has been designed as a 10ft wide trail. Mr. Mullen also suggested that dyed asphalt is a great way to indicate pedestrian/cyclist paths. The green paint currently used does not hold up. Mark Schreiber asked if the suggestion was just for the crosswalks to be dyed asphalt, or the entire trail. Mr. Mullen suggested if a new trail was being installed the entire trail could potentially be the dyed asphalt. John Rubel acknowledge that this could be something indicated in the bid aspect of the trail. Mr. Mullen clarified that there would be a 10ft wide trail with the additional being taken away from the buffer area. Mark Schreiber stated there are several areas where there is a very small roll curve so there will be varying widths of roll curve with some areas having ballards installed. John Rubel stated that the landscape median is not being used for drainage, as the drainage will be sloped away from that. Nicole Messacar asked about the height of the bridge that will cross the channel. John Rubel stated that it is approximately 3'5 above the normal water level in that area. The bridge will be consistent with the existing bridge on Grangemouth. Small boats, canoes and kayaks have been taken into consideration. The motion to approve the Stone Lake Shoreline improvements were unanimously approved.

Mark Schreiber presented proposals from five different companies for new playgrounds at Clarke Park, Hastings Park and Warsaw Park. Mr. Schreiber's recommendation would be for Parkreation to complete all three projects. The projects can be done individually or separately. If the projects are done separately, the final costs would need to be looked at to be sure there is proper funding. If all projects are done through Parkreation the project totals balance with the funding allowed. The budget amounts are \$40,000 for Clarke and Warsaw and \$5000 for Hastings. A motion to accept Parkreation for all projects was made on a motion by Jake Heulat, seconded by Karen Ellison. Jake Heulat feels that based on design and budget Parkreation and Schneider are both qualified. Karen Ellison feels that core building is a key component for children in play. Research has proven that children with slight dyslexia always have core issues. The motion to accept the quotes from Parkreation for the three park projects was unanimously approved.

Mark Schreiber wanted to inform the Board that he has been trying to keep them posted with the rapidly changing COVID-19 policies and procedures, closing and cancellations. Some of the decisions would typically fall to the Park Board, and hopefully all understand that some of the decisions are coming from the State level and must be made quickly.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Kyleen Fuller, seconded by Karen Ellison.

Mitch Feikes President

Roberta Mumaw, Secretary

Approved: