

BEECH GROVE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Minutes for meeting on Wednesday, January 11, 2023—7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order at 7:07 P.M.
 - a. Members Present: Tara Wolf, Jeff Woehler, Jannis King, Ben Easley
 - b. Also present: Tom Hannon, Angel McKenna
2. Election of Officers
 - a. Ben Easley nominates Tara Wolf for president. Jeff Woehler seconds. Unanimous approval.
 - b. Ben Easley nominates Jeff Woehler for vice president. Tara Wolf seconds. Unanimous approval.
 - c. Tara Wolf nominates Ben Easley for secretary. Jeff Woehler seconds. Unanimous approval.
3. Review Past Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motion by Jeff Woehler; second by Ben Easley. Unanimous approval.
4. Claims Review
 - a. Appropriations details and revenue report on file and available via a public records request to the Clerk-Treasurer.
5. BG Parks Director's Report:
 - a. Time spent finding homes for Christmas decorations and cleaning/organizing facilities.
 - b. A lot of dead trees have come down in recent storms that need cleaning up. Tom also continues to plant trees from the Parks Dinner and plans to remove invasive honeysuckle during the winter months.
 - c. Tom spotted a beaver.
6. Hornet Park Community Center Report:
 - a. HPCC has a newly full-time staff member in Amy.
 - b. Gleaners Food Bank staff will visit HPCC tomorrow to review the site and continue coordination on being a partner location.
 - c. Grant money was received from the Indy Hunger Network for purchasing future items. Tara and Angel will coordinate on receiving the funding.
 - d. Angel and another staff member will table at an upcoming UIndy community fair, in which students may connect with volunteer opportunities.
 - e. The walls of the banquet rooms will be recovered.
 - f. The Mayor plans to use public safety funding to overhaul the security/monitoring system at HPCC in the months to come.
 - g. Angel got a quote for a new treadmill to replace one which is regularly malfunctioning. Jeff offered to review the quote as a treadmill salesman. Some discussion/debate on whether the thousands of dollars required to replace a treadmill is advisable, given the fitness center only brings in a few hundred dollars each year in revenue. (Though specific purchases for the HPCC are not solely tied in the budget to how much revenue they generate.) HPCC pays several hundred dollars each year for BGI to service/maintain/clean all fitness center equipment; members expressed hoping that

this regular maintenance would allow the treadmill to run for longer than 5-6 years, as seems to be the case with this specific treadmill.

- h. Angel presents a new fee structure for room rentals at HPCC; this increases the fee for some spaces, keeps some space rates the same, and reworks rental hours to make reservations more efficient. Jeff moves to adopt; Ben seconds the motion. Unanimous approval.
 - i. The proposal includes a discount for employees.
 - ii. The proposal includes a new rate for non-profit organizations (currently enjoying no charge for space) to standardize an answer in case future requests are made. It also sets up an approved list of not-for-profits (generally small, local organizations) which will continue to see larger discounts for their meetings, events, or fundraisers.
 - iii. Not-for-profit organizations looking to be added to the approved list in the future may attend a future Board meeting to make this request.
 - iv. Political organizations will see no exception/discount for room rental at HPCC out of a good faith effort to present the City-owned space as an impartial location. These organizations will be charged the full, standard price to reserve rooms.
 - v. Angel will send along a clean copy of this proposal to be reviewed with the minutes at the next meeting, and to update the website.
7. Old & New Business
- a. LARE grant application for stream bank stabilization in Bolton Park is due Sunday. Tara will use the quote received previously to submit. Matching funds from BG would come from stormwater fund.
 - b. INRC grant funds for bike rack and signage at HPCC are still in a holding pattern while grantmaker reviews any need for permit. There shouldn't be any need for permits on the project we've submitted. Looking forward to program funds disbursement.
 - c. Hornet Avenue will be repaved soon between the high school and Emerson Avenue. Sidewalk will also be added to the north side of the roadway, and spot repairs will be made to sidewalk along the south side. Discussion commenced around encouraging collaboration at the time of this project's construction (and construction of upcoming Hornet Trail) with Indy DPW to prioritize pedestrian safety at the Emerson/Hornet intersection, be that with signal timing, signage and/or markings.
 - d. Members of the Parks Board and City leadership met Monday to discuss initial points of consideration for an amphitheater, if indeed such a thing would be built in a park. With a more robust understanding now written down and in-hand for future guidance, Janice will present this discussion to the RDC at their next meeting to keep a partnership on the table.
 - e. 16th/Detroit park project: Ben spoke about new information learned about this property—It is currently zoned D5 and would need to be zoned PK1 to develop as a park. The change in zoning does not prescribe any specifications for amount of parking or drainage capacity (only a site plan is required), but pulling permits for such a project would give Indy DBNS the opportunity to deny based on a poorly designed project.

- i. After reaching out to Indy DBNS for information (and hearing nothing), Ben heard from Jim Coffman that Paul Summers may be a help in this discussion. Paul confirmed the understanding above by email, and suggested that any engineering firm should be able to know and design for the specifications required by permit.
 - ii. In tonight's meeting, Tom suggests that he will work with Jim to see if Paul may be able to draw up something that will fulfill all requirements, such that we can move forward with cost estimates ahead of the LWCF grant submission deadline in June 2023.
 - f. Continued discussion around the needs of various spaces within HPCC which could be used as a co-working space, and how to capture fees for use to generate revenue for the HPCC. An immediate need is a sound-proof area to hold private phone calls and/or video calls free of noise from other workers. Ben suggested soundproof pods, but these are expensive. Angel notes a regular grant opportunity through MIBOR which could supply funding as this may be considered an eligible economic development project.
 - g. The Board of Works recently approved the termination of an HPCC employee and also the switch to full-time status for Amy.
 - h. The Breath Easy Beech Grove group continues to be unresponsive. The ball is in their court for any collaboration with the BGBPR going forward.
- 8. Round Table
- 9. Adjournment
 - a. Motion by Ben Easley; second by Jeff Woehler. Adjourned at 8:42 pm.
 - b. Next meeting will be February 8, 2023 at 7pm at HPCC.