

## BEECH GROVE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Minutes for meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2021—7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
  - a. Attendees recite the Pledge of Allegiance
  - b. Members Present: Joe Grant, Rick Skirvin, Tara Wolf, Ben Easley
  - c. Also present: Parks Director Tom Hannan, Facility/Special Events Coordinator Angel McKenna, and new Program Assistant Brittany Sichting-Midyette
2. Guest Recognition - Mayor Dennis Buckley. Presentation notes/Q&A:
  - a. RDC is in preliminary talks for an amphitheater; a Parks location could be considered.
  - b. The upcoming Parks Master Plan should include action for a new roof for the HPCC building (less than 5 years left in its life), and some resurfacing items for the Hornet Park parking lot.
  - c. As a historic FYI - The square footage around a cell tower took from Parks property but was replaced elsewhere. Some percentage of money made from the tower should be (and is) going into a non-reverting fund for Parks.
  - d. It is recommended that the Parks Board should be setting the annual budget and taking it to the Council, rather than the administration.
  - e. The Board should expect regular updates from the Franciscan Trail team.
  - f. The City has recently awarded a landscaping bid for three gateway locations: Emerson/Main; 17th/Albany; Churchman Bypass/Arlington
  - g. A Mayor's Dinner fundraiser for Parks may be planned for this summer.
  - h. Regarding tree replacement in parks: There's been a large gap in time between old-growth trees and newer trees which may continue to be a concern.
    - i. FYI - As a part of the Franciscan Trail project, the contractor will replace in BG parks 500 trees removed due to construction along the corridor
3. Review Past Meeting Minutes
  - a. These include several meetings from 2020 as well as the most recent meeting 1-13-21
  - b. Motion by Rick Skirvin; second by Joe Grant. Unanimous approval.
4. Claims Review
  - a. Appropriations report is available.
    - i. One clarifying question regarding multiple checks with the same number for Black Widow Pest Control: This vendor comes every Friday to clean HPCC due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Angel explains that this reporting is done by the Clerk's staff. The same check number is used in accounting for weekly invoices, even as the City is only billed once a month.
5. BG Parks Director's Report
  - a. Parks staff has helped in recent snow events. John Morgan helps with salting sidewalks for City buildings
  - b. All current picnic tables have now put together; more will be ordered.
  - c. Shade structures are being considered for playgrounds after a small study into alternatives.

- d. Tom and Jim Coffman have followed up on a complaint about the dog park. All parts of the issue seem resolved.
  - e. Soccer league organizers need to provide a certificate of insurance and a method to sign up prior to their programming. Parks Department will continue to coordinate and provide a port-a-let.
  - f. Rick will contact Little League asking them to come next month to present their 2021 program. Angel will send around the previous agreement for review.
6. HPCC Update
- a. Introduction of a new employee-- Program Assistant Brittany Sighting-Midyette. She is a professor in the UIndy Sociology Department and a resident of Beech Grove. She'll work to find funding for various programs, and organize a calendar of programming to keep track of various events. Buzz Club program info will allow us to apply for CCDF funding to make the program available for more BG residents.
  - b. HPCC will keep capacity at appropriate levels for various rooms per state direction while necessary during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - c. Buzz Club – 5 kids signed up even this week.
  - d. Staff started handing out USDA food boxes last Saturday. 70 boxes were handed out last week and program will continue each Saturday going forward.
  - e. A recent revamp of the pantry has better organized food items.
  - f. Two new projectors will be installed in the two HPCC large meeting rooms. Another projector and TV have previously been provided by the school.
7. Old & New Business
- a. Pickle Ball: Superintendent reached out regarding ongoing research into the needs for tennis court and number of students involved; if there is space, the schools would partner in converting some facilities to a Pickle Ball court.
  - b. Website is now up to date with BG Parks Board minutes and new people/positions.
  - c. Board will consider how to preserve minutes—Is a minute book necessary? What about a three-ring binder?
  - d. Tara spoke to the Director of Logansport Parks. This would be a good connection, should the Board have any questions/considerations for a comparable city size.
  - e. The Board hasn't yet heard back from IDNR on our initial submission of the working 5-year master plan draft. A pre-meeting an hour before the next Board meeting will be scheduled to focus and solidify the master plan goals.
8. Round Table
- a. No comments.
9. Adjournment
- a. Motion by Joe Grant; second by Rick Skirvin. Unanimous approval.
  - b. Next meeting will be 3/10/21