

Porter Park Board

September 6, 2005

Roll Call: President Bud Tilden, Vice President Juan Magana, Secretary Nancy Whisler, Member Zathoe Sexton, Park Supt. Jim Miller, Park Admin. Stephanie Miller.

Minutes: Motion to approve August minutes with one correction of a misspelled name was made by Zathoe Sexton, second by Nancy Whisler.

Public Input: Sue Martin-Urback of Chesterton asked the Park Board if she can hold a family oriented fundraiser in May of 2006 to benefit her niece Jamie Hartman of Chesterton. Jamie has Acondroplasia which is dwarfism and needs several surgeries. Jamie's insurance will not cover all the related costs for surgery and rehabilitation. She proposed using the Park and Community Center to sell food, beer, soft drinks, and listen to bands playing. Children's events would include a moonwalk and a dunk tank. They plan to also sell raffle tickets. There is a large wedding booked that day in the Gazebo for 4 hours. After a discussion the Park Board tabled their decision until their next meeting in October.

Mike Medley asked the Park Board to use the hall and kitchen of the Community Center for a welcome home party. His stepson, Navy Airman Christian Peters (age 23) will be returning home from the Persian Gulf this November. After a short discussion of how thankful we are to our service men and women overseas, Zathoe Sexton made a motion to waive the rental fee, second by Nancy Whisler. It was also explained to Mr. Medley that the Park Board will still require him to pay for a security guard and a clean up. Mr. Medley agreed and thanked the board.

Carrie Ailes asked the Park Board about the clean up of the pond in Dune Meadows. Jim Miller said he is working on a grant for a clean up to take place next spring.

Claims: Motion to approve the claims was made by Nancy Whisler, second by Juan Magana.

Supt. Report: Routine building and park property checks made. General building maintenance was done. Mowing and trimming was done. Trash barrels were dumped as needed. The grounds were cleaned as needed. The new plant bed was installed with the donated lilies and hostas. The plant bed is located on the hillside west of the Gazebo Bridge. Approximately 90 plants were used. The Hostas were donated by Jim Miller. The Playground equipment in Hawthorne Park has been repaired. Considerable tree trimming has been done at Dune Meadows. In time we will have the north shoreline, south of the playground area thinned to a point that anyone located in the park will have a clear view of the lake.

Park Admin: None

Old Business: Our town lawyer has not responded yet to the questions that were asked about the new rental form.

Lavare Cleaning Service has decided not to accept the cleaning contract. Jim interviewed “The Cleaning Crew” and asked the Park Board to approve them as the Park’s cleaning contractor and waive the bond portion of the contractor’s license. A motion was made by Nancy Whisler to approve The Cleaning Crew as the Park’s cleaning contractor and waive the bond requirement. It was second by Zathoe Sexton.

Dave Kinel opened all the contractors’ bids (6) for the remodeling of the front porch of the Community Center. The lowest bid was from Taylor & Bartholomew with a base bid of \$56,163. The next lowest bid was from R.A. Snemis Construction with a base bid of \$57,431. Zathoe Sexton suggested having a special meeting to hear Kinel’s report and formally accept a bid at that time. After a discussion a motion was made by Juan Magana to accept the lowest bid with the contingency that Dave Kinel will review the bids in more detail including a list of planned subcontractors. The motion was second by Nancy Whisler. If Kinel finds no problems with Taylor & Bartholomew, the contract will be awarded to them. If Kinel finds any problems with Taylor & Bartholomew, then R.A. Snemis Construction will be considered. The Park Board decided to go with the base bid and not consider any deductions. Kinel was told to keep Jim Miller advised of the bid review. Jim Miller said that he is using \$42,000 of CEDIT money and the balance from the Park’s budget to fund the project. The project will begin October 17, 2005 and finish by the end of November.

The Taste of Porter was held August 27, 2005. According to Nancy Whisler it was a successful day. Stephanie thanked the Taste of Porter committee for leaving the Park building and grounds clean after their festival. Jim Miller reported that there were scrape marks caused by the train ride on the bridge and in the Gazebo. It was noted and will be looked into by the Taste of Porter Committee. Jim Miller reported the electricity cost for the day was \$23.

New Business: None

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Zathoe Sexton and second by Nancy Whisler. The next Park Board meeting will be Tuesday, November 8, 2005, at 7pm at the Community Center in Hawthorne Park.

Secretary

President

Minutes taken and report prepared by: Park Administrator – Stephanie Miller