

City of North Vernon Park Board

Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2021

Members Present: Bob Ertel, Tracy Eder, David Fox and Denny Hatton

Guest: Chad Speer, Jack Kelley, Sarah Daugherty, Jeannie Olds and Jeff Yeager

The April 5, 2021 Park Board meeting was called to order by Park Board President Bob Ertel at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by David to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Denny. Motion to approve the previous meeting minutes carried 4-0.

Sarah Daugherty, Jeannie Olds and Jeff Yeager were in attendance to discuss on event planned at Tripton Park for May 21. The event will be sponsored by ResCare and will be held as a job fair/fundraiser for Mercy Rescue. The event will consist of food vendors, animal show and concert. The Board was provided with the proper proof of insurance. Jeff Yeager of the Exotic Zoo from Columbus also provided the Board with permits pertaining to showing animals. A motion was made by Denny to allow the event. Motion seconded by David. Motion carried 4-0.

The Nuisance Waterfowl Permit has been approved through DNR and the City Council has approved the discharging of firearms within city limits. Currently the population of geese of Tripton Park is low in numbers.

The Parks and Recreation Department was awarded the Tactical Urbanism Grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the temporary walking/biking path along Vernon Street. A virtual meeting will be scheduled in May for award winners.

Director Speer recommended the hiring of Tom Webster to help with mowing at Tripton. A motion was made by Denny and seconded by David. Motion carried 4-0. The department is actively looking for another individual to help.

The work release group from the Jennings County Jail will start trimming at Tripton Park this week. The plan is for the group to trim every two weeks.

Director Speer will have a list of pool employees at the next meeting, along with the contract for the Baseball/Softball Commissioner. Director Speer recommended that the Department hire Gabe Lowman again this year. Tracy asked the question if we could look into seeing if we afford to give the Commissioner a raise?

Director Speer informed the Board that he has concerns with the possibility of the July 4th Firework Show being shot from the old Pony League field location due to ground work not being completed in the fall. O'Mara Construction is to return this spring to finish the work. His concern is that we will we have limited grass in the area and if wet conditions happen the day before or day off the area maybe to wet/soft to shoot from. The Board understood the concerns but seemed like would like to due everything that can be done for the show to be at the City Park.

The Disc Golf League at Tripton started tonight and will be played on Monday and Tuesday. Around 50 disc golfers are registered for the league. Last year the league made a \$300 donation to the Tripton Park pass through account.

Jack Kelly asked the Department give him a price and installing a memorial bench inside the splashpad.

Bob Ertel is continuing to work on the central restroom plan for renovation.

Cameras are to be installed around the end of April on the pool site.

A motion to adjourn was made by Denny at 7:30 and seconded by David. Motion to adjourn carried 4-0.