

Griffith Parks and Recreation Broad Minutes September 2024

September 9, 2024

The meeting was called to order at the Town Hall, 111 N Broad Street, in Griffith, IN by President Tim Diamond. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The following members attended the meeting:

Tim Diamond, Daniel Perez, Tony Terzari, Tina Adams

Dan Rodriguez has stepped down from the Park Board. The Board currently has an open board member position.

Member Tony Terzari made a motion to approve the July 2024 minutes, second by member Dan Perez, motioned carried.

No claims from the previous month (July). They will be discussed for approval at the October 12th meeting.

Member Dan read the claims for this month in the amount of \$991,038.81, Member Daniel Perez made a motion to approve the claims; member Tony Terzari second the motion, motion carried.

Announcements:

1. The next Park Board meeting will be held October 14th
2. at 7pm. A study session will be held at 6pm before the meeting and one will follow in necessary.
3. Reminder to residents that if anyone sees any graffiti, damage or questionable behavior in any of the town parks, please call 911.
4. General comments or questions regarding the parks or bike path can be directed to griffithpark@griffith.in.gov

Correspondence:

September 21st will have handball tournament at Cheever Park. There was a request for the host (Griffith Park Board) to provide an alcohol permit for the tournament. Member Tim Diamond made a motion to provide an alcohol permit ; member Tony Terzari second the motion, discussion, motion carried. Tim will draft up application and send to Town Council.

The Parks Board received a request to add rules/guidelines sign for the pickleball court. The board will have further discussion on this request of what should be on the sign.

Reports:

Park Board Superintendent: Rich Powell

Rich Powell reported: Received one new riding mower and repaired one lawn mower.

School Board Liaison's Report

Member Tina Adam: on August 18th the School Board had the second reading for the GO Bond. The next school board meeting will be September 12th. Pre-K has been moved from Beiriger back to Wadsworth. Next school board meeting in October will discuss the GO bond.

Imagine Griffith

Dan Perez reported: Town Wide Garage Sale will be October 3, 4, 5, and 6th. Contact info@imaginegriffith.org for more information.

40 trees have been ordered for the annual Christmas tree display at Franklin Center. More information to follow.

Tree Committee

Tim Diamond reported: Tree committee did not meet in September. Tim met them and took a couple of tours of Tot Park and Woodland Park to discuss tree selection and tree location. Tim Diamond met with a gentleman who owns a company that Parks Board can order, place and maintain the trees for Cheever and Tot Parks. Tim is waiting on a proposal for the purchase of about 10 trees for each park. Tim has reached out to the Little Cal Basin Commission whom have a reimbursement program for trees, plantation and maintenance.

Finance Report

Tim Diamond was unable to review budget report. As of August, budget report Parks Department is on budget.

Unfinished Business

Grant/Tot Park: Tot Park Project has been completed. The board is currently waiting for reimbursement of \$450,000, from the DNR from the Tot Park Project. The board is currently adjusting the title of the deed, so if someone wants to change the park in the future, they will need approval from the DNR. Rich Powell brought up that drivers are speeding down the road next to the senior center and park. The Parks Department will address safety concerns with Town Council.

Babe Ruth Project: Tony Terzarial reported: On September 11th, NIPSCO will remove the poles from Babe Ruth fields. Rich Powell will supervise the removal. Once poles are removed, public works will cut up and dispose of the pole. The board is waiting for the final cost of six new metal poles. Once the poles are once down, the parks department will try and salvage the lighting, if possible.

Woodland Playground Project:

The playground equipment has been shipped and will be installed in the coming weeks.

New Business

Park Dept. Employee Salary Adjustment:

Tony Terzarial made a motion to increase full season parks department employees to \$15 an hour. Daniel Perez second the motion, motion carried. Tony Terzarial made a motion to increase summer help parks department employees to \$12.50. Tina Adams second the motion, motion carried.

Tony Terzarial made a motion to accept a PO not to exceed \$15,000 for a new riding lawn mower, a new push mower and lawn mower repairs. Daniel Perez second the motion, motion carried.

Cheever Park Proposal:

Cheever Park engineering proposal read. Will table discussion until next month.

Need to address the fence wire attachment breakage of center fence at the pickleball court.

Business from the floor:

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm



Tim Diamond, President Parks Department

Lori Rose, Recording Secretary