

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1999
6:30 P.M.

- Call to Order:** The Parks and Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 W. 15th Street, Rushville. President John Gridley called the meeting to order. Parks Board Members present were Roy Bartlett, George Coons, Wilma Jo Kile and Jack Harmon. Greg Raike was absent. Also present was Ron Wilson, Attorney; Don Rains, Assistant Parks Director; Carla Sharpe, Secretary; Jan Voiles, Rushville Republican; Scott Murray, WRCR; and several concerned citizens in the audience.
- Minutes:** Minutes of October 12, 1999 was presented for approval. Kile moved to approve minutes. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.
- Reports:** None at this time.
- Claims:** Harmon and Kile reviewed the claims prior to meeting. Kile moved to approve the monthly claims. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.
- Old Business:** Idea's on Direction – Development of New Park Area
Gridley stated that he had invited the old and new elected officials here this evening so that we can all be on same wave length and discuss a place to start with the new park. Gridley asked if anyone had any questions or concern.
Gridley stated that he had received a letter from Jack Harmon on his ideas for a new park and felt that it was an excellent letter and made copies to share with everyone and encouraged everyone to read it.
Brian Sheehan stated that he feels people are interested in a new park and that we should get in contact with DNR to see what grants would be available. He asked if the Parks Board had contacted the County? Gridley stated he don't think we will get a lot from the County.
Kevin Snyder stated that he is involved with the Economic Development Group and that he knows of two grants we could qualify for through Cinergy and Indiana Gas.
Kathy Lienemann stated that the Rush Shelby Energy has a Round Up Program and that they have money available for Community Projects. She also stated that there could be some money available through the Rush County Community Foundation.
Harmon stated that this is just a starting point to throw on table for discussion. He felt that we needed to start someplace and this is just one idea.
Scott Murry asked if the City would man this park? Gridley stated yes this would be a City park.
Kile stated that there would have to be restrooms installed and didn't feel there would be a considerable amount of maintenance and should only have to hire a couple more employees.
Coons stated that with Easley's pond being gone and the Second Street pond will be gone soon he just feels that it would be nice to have a pond for kids to drop a pole into.
Dave Matney stated that he feels this is a tremendous idea and feels it will look good if whole community spends money towards this. He feels that different groups can host events from this location.
Matney said that the area is hunted in for deer and there could be a lot of slugs flying across the river.
The Board all agreed that these grants will be looked into and that everyone should continue getting information on this new park.
- New Business** Paul Barada & Friends Request
Barada spoke to the park board and a large crowd in attendance and requested two things. He stated he was trying to find an appropriate way to remember Bob Waggener for all his contributions to this City and that while searching for information on Memorial Park he has found the original article dated June 22, 1923 that stated that Memorial Park was City's gift to war Veterans and the public.
Barada handed out copies of articles at this time.
His first request is to carry forward to the City Council the idea of changing the part of Memorial Park which remains by renaming it Veterans Memorial Park to show the original intent of the City Council in 1923.
Barada's second request was to have an appropriate remembrance for Roy Bob Waggener. Barada introduced several people in the audience at this time.
- Albert Hodge handed out a list of Bob Waggener's community contributions and stated he was the best man he ever known, has a long track record and never made a dime. Mr. Waggener started working for Rush County in 1930 and worked up until his last day in June.
Barada said he would just like to urge this board that everytime you have a man as good as this to name something after him.

Paul David Smith stated that Mr. Waggener was always coming up with ideas to recognize other people. He would take a challenge and see it to the end. Bob is certainly a deserving person. He lived in Fayette County but loved Rush County and did so much for Rush County.

Kathy Lienemann spoke on behalf of Mr. Waggener. She stated he always hounded people to give to the Community Foundation and worked very hard to the end for the foundation. Bob was on the board and was very instrumental in giving the \$600,000 to the City for the new swimming pool and feels we should name the new pool the Waggener Community Pool.

Kevin Snyder stated that he served on the Community Foundation Board with Mr. Waggener. He stated he has a very impressive list and he just wished everyone would serve and give like Bob Waggener did.

Barada again stated that his two requests were:

- 1) Rename Memorial Park the "Veterans Memorial Park"
- 2) Name the new swimming pool the "Bob Waggener Memorial Pool"

Kile stated she felt we should establish a committee and then make a recommendation to the City Council.

Wilson suggested having 3 Parks Board members and 3 Common Council members on committee.

Gridley stated that he didn't want to rename the whole park but this was very well presented. He stated that he knew Bob and his wife Emily and they both were wonderful people and feels that both should be recognized. The board all felt that a more appropriate name would be the "Waggener Memorial Pool". Lienemann stated that Bob and Emily go swimming twice a week at the Golay Center. They both love to swim so much.

Gridley named Jack Harmon, Wilma Jo Kile, Roy Bartlett from the Park Board and Dan Shanahan, Mike Pavey and Denny Corn from the Common Council.

Shanahan spoke up on behalf of the City Council and suggested meeting tonight and do voice poll and get an answer tonight instead of dragging feet on this.

Board all felt would be best for committee to meet and make a recommendation to the Common Council.

Steve Land spoke on behalf of Veterans Memorial Park.

Gridley asked if we rename Memorial Park the Veterans Memorial Park will that exclude anything from going into the park such as memorials from those that have passed away other than veterans? He stated that now there is a memorial with a tree planted in park and thinks this is important. Everyone agreed that renaming this park would not exclude any other memorials.

Barada said he just feels that Memorial Park should have the name it was originally given.

Mark Ellis told a veteran story and stated that things can be forgotten without memorials to remind people.

Board all agreed the committee will meet and get back with Council.

Pam Crabtree – Fayette County/Rush County Red Cross spoke to the board about the new swimming pool. She stated she has worked very hard the past 20 months on a lifeguard program for Shelby/Rush County.

She is willing to teach lifeguard classes at Connersville High School after Christmas.

This will enable them to have trained Lifeguards ready for pool opening.

She explained that the Training Regulations for American Red Cross are:

Diving from Deck 9' Pool Depth

Spring Board – 11'6" Pool Depth

She then went on to let the board know what supplies will need to be purchased for the pool and for the training of the lifeguards. Those being:

Ring Buoy and Shepher's Crook – So much line per pool footage Cost: \$43 (5')

Rescue Tubes – Needs one tube per station and 2 or 3 extras. If a Lifeguard is walking around on deck, they are required to have a rescue tube under their arm. Cost: 11 for \$44. Backboard at a cost of \$189.00, V Backboard Straps at a cost of \$50 need 3 at least plus two extras at \$10.00 each, Heal Immobilizer at a cost of \$120, Ccollars local EMS, mega Phones at a cost of \$20 each, Training Softboard 9' Cost \$320 each, Commercial First Aid Kit – Either 16 or 32 Unit \$60, a 2,000 sq. feet pool needs at least 1 elevated platform chair and a 4,000 sq. ft. pool needs more elevated chairs. She explained a new program called Guard Start to get kids interested and prepares them for lifeguarding. She stated she wants to work with us on the pool and get Red Cross involved and serve the youth of Rush County. She stated that Lifeguards are very much in demand.

Items Not Known In Advance:

Dave Matney requested using Memorial Park on June 25th for an event Rush County Salute 2000 to honor veterans. Board gave approval. Also requested using the JV Ball Diamond to land a military helicopter and jeep there and erect a tent on the 4th of July and tie in with the car show and fireworks. Wilson stated that the Council of Clubs leased that and he would need to get permission from them to do that. Board agreed if there was anything further they could do to accommodate they would.

Sharpe presented a copy of Payment #4 to R. L. Turner in Markoe's absence. The board went ahead and approved Payment #4 to R. L. Turner when the original bill is submitted. Kile moved to approve Payment #4 subject to the original bill being submitted. Coons seconded. Motion carried.

Sharpe presented paperwork that was sent to her from Bonar concerning the color of toilet partitions. The color needed to be selected. Sharpe explained that gray had been circled. The board felt the color should match the lockers, if not, then gray would be fine.

The Committee meeting was discussed and decided to meet next Monday 15th or Tuesday 16th. Sharpe will check those days and get notice out.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

The next meeting date will be Tuesday, December 14, 1999 at 6:30 P.M.

JOHN GRIDLEY, PRESIDENT

JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

ROY BARTLETT, MEMBER

GEORGE COONS, MEMBER

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

GREG RAIKE, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY