



400 Lafayette Road - Noblesville, IN - 46060
317.770.4400 - fax: 317.896.3528
www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com

Park Board

Stephen Andrews
President
Larry Roudebush
Vice President
Mark McCauley
Secretary
Dr. Judith Campbell
Treasurer
Tom Clover
Member
Robyn Pauker
Member
Susan Peterson
Member
Chris Neeson
Attorney

The regular meeting of the Hamilton County Parks & Recreation Board was held Monday, July 17th, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the Administration Office at 400 Lafayette Road, Noblesville, IN 46060.



Present: Stephen Andrews, *President*
Larry Roudebush, *Vice President*
Dr. Judith Campbell, *Treasurer* (Virtual)
Mark McCauley, *Secretary*
Robyn Pauker, *Member* (Virtual)
Tom Clover, *Member*

Absent: Susan Peterson, *Member*

Staff: Chris Stice, *Director*
Bruce Oldham, *Deputy Director*
Reese Ebersole, *Program Assistant*

Attorney: Chris Neeson

Guest: Tom Fansler, *Tiii Environments*

Park Staff

B. Christopher Stice
Director
Bruce Oldham
Deputy Director
Jaymee Ayers
Office Manager
Amanda Smith
*Superintendent of
Natural Resources & Education*
Chandler Bryant
Regional Parks Operations Manager
Andy Kingsley
Coxhall Gardens Park Manager
Kyle Stocks
Facilities & Grounds Manager
Don Nicholls
Resource Development Specialist
Christopher Gullion
Events Coordinator

****In compliance with the directive outlined by the State Board of Accounts, the County Commissioners and County Council, the Parks Board is meeting via video conference. Physically present are: President, Stephen Andrews; Vice President, Larry Roudebush; Board Member Mark McCauley; Board Member, Tom Clover; which meets the compliance requirements. Also, physically present representing the Parks Department are: Director, Chris Stice; Deputy Director, Bruce Oldham; Program Assistant, Reese Ebersole.**



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A.) Call to Order:

Mr. Andrews called the Hamilton County Parks & Recreation's July 17th, 2023, Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

B.) Agenda Amendments:

No agenda amendments were recommended at this time.

C.) Public Comments:

Mr. Andrews opened the floor to public comments

Mr. Roudebush took this opportunity to congratulate Director Stice, Deputy Director Oldham, and the rest of the Department on Osprey Point Pavilion upgrades. He and his family were the first group to rent the pavilion since its renovation. Mr. Roudebush stated that the sound dampening system is effective and by his estimates, reduces the noise by 40-50%. He and his family thanks the Department fir their hard work and dedication.

D.) Approval of June 19, 2023, Minutes:

Director Stice explained that there is an error with the minutes contained within the Board packet regarding the signature line. A corrected version was presented to the Board

Mr. Roudebush made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. McCauley seconded.

Yea: Mr. Andrews; Mr. Roudebush; Dr. Campbell; Mr. McCauley; Ms. Pauker.

Nay: None.

Abstain: Mr. Clover.

Motion carries.



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E.) Finance Report:

1.) Approval of Payroll and Claims

Director Stice read the finance report. As of June 19th, 2023, there was a beginning cash balance of \$6,402,796.78. Revenue was \$60,072.07, as of July 17th, 2023. Payroll was \$288,392.32 as of July 17th, 2023, being approved. Claims presented as of July 17th, 2023, to be approved was \$325,369.48. The ending cash balance as of July 17th, 2023, was \$5,849,107.05.

Director Stice stated that the Department will need to do inner line-item transfers base on services. He requested a transfer of \$25,000.00 from Account # 1179.3500 to Account # 1179.3001.

Mr. McCauley made a motion to approve payroll and claims as presented. Mr. Clover seconded.

Yea: Mr. Andrews; Mr. Roudebush; Dr. Campbell; Mr. McCauley; Mr. Clover; Ms. Pauker.

Nay: None.

Motion carries.

F.) Committee Reports:

1.) Foundation Update

Director Stice stated that there may be a follow-up meeting regarding the Coxhall Gardens Conservatory later in the month.

Deputy Director Oldham stated that the Foundation was present at the Whispering Walls dedication at Coxhall Gardens.

Mr. Neeson recommended an executive session in the near future to discuss business. The Board decided to hold an executive meeting prior to the next scheduled Board meeting on August 1st, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.



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2.) Koteewi Trails

Deputy Director Oldham presented the Board with images of horse safety signage that will be displayed at Strawtown Koteewi Park.

G.) Old Business:

1.) Project Updates

Director Stice noted that the dedication for the Whispering Walls at the Children's Garden at Coxhall Gardens took place earlier that day. The Coxhall Guild and the Master Gardeners were in attendance.

a.) White River Campground

Deputy Director Oldham stated that the finishing touches on the campground are underway. The restrooms and manager's office have been completed. Deputy Director Stice stated that the exterior railing and HVAC ductwork are being constructed.

b.) Morse Beach Playground

Deputy Director Oldham stated the Department has added six benches and made ADA improvements to the sidewalk.

c.) Osprey Point Pavilion

Deputy Director Oldham stated that the kitchen remodel, as well as the acoustic upgrades have been completed at the pavilion.



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d.) Coxhall Centerpiece Fountain

Deputy Director Oldham stated that Tony Fansler will be presenting plans to the Board later in the meeting.

e.) Williams House Renovation

Deputy Director Oldham stated that the paint study has been received. The Department is now waiting for the renovation plan documents to move forward with the project.

f.) Potter's Bridge Roof

Deputy Director Oldham stated that the Department will be installing lightning protection on the new metal roof.

1.) Master Plans for Bray & HC Farms

Director Stice stated that during the last Board meeting the Master Plans were presented to the Board, as well as the public. No public comments or suggestions were made since then. Director Stice clarified that there is no timeline for the implementation of the Master Plans. The Department requested a motion to approve the master plans.

Mr. Roudebush made a motion to approve the master plans for both Bray Family Homestead Park and HC Farms as presented. Dr. Campbell seconded.

Yea: Mr. Andrews; Mr. Roudebush; Dr. Campbell; Mr. McCauley; Mr. Clover; Ms. Pauker.

Nay: None.

Motion carries.



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2.) Coxhall Centerpiece Fountain

Director Stice introduced Tony Fansler, stating that he has immense experience and is the foremost authority regarding fountain repairs and installations. He is a trusted local and Director Stice has worked with him since the beginning of his career in parks and recreation.

Director Stice stated that Mr. Fansler's firm was hired in 2022 to assess what issues are present. This presentation will explain what the assessment found and what options the Department must repair the fountain. Director Stice then gave Mr. Fansler the floor.

a.) Tom Fansler Presentation – Tiii Environments

Mr. Fansler detailed his skills and experience, stating that he has designed, restored, repaired, built, and maintained fountains all over the United States. His portfolio encompasses around \$150,000,000.00 worth of water features which includes work done at IUPUI, Eskenazi Hospital, Garfield Park, Disney, SeaWorld, and resorts throughout the United States, including one in Maui.

Mr. Fansler explained that there are many issues throughout the Coxhall fountain system, but it is impossible to detect the full scope of the failure due to the excessive buildup of hard-water deposits. This creates a situation in which the Department has 2 options; one where the bare minimum is done to get the fountain running as soon as possible, and the other where additional work is done to descale the system so that a more detailed assessment can be completed.

The first option involves repairing the sand filter, filter pump, effects pump, and float system. This is a temporary solution and will require constant maintenance to keep the water running. Mr. Fansler stated that even with routine care, this option would only keep the fountain operational for a year or two. The repair cost would be approximately \$17,000.00

The second option includes all aspects of the first option with the addition of descaling systems, as well as additional maintenance checks. This option



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would allow Mr. Fansler to examine any additional issues that may be present. The cost is approximately \$60,000.00.

With the understanding that the Coxhall Centerpiece Fountain needs a full restoration, Mr. Andrews suggested another option that involves a full replacement of all the parts and systems. The first two options aim to get the fountain operational as soon as possible. This third option aims to do what is necessary to completely restore the fountain so that no more issues remain, and the fountain stays operational long into the future. This option would take approximately 12-14 months to complete once started.

Deputy Director Oldham added that there are several other issues regarding the centerpiece area that would benefit from a redesign. He questioned if it would be worth it to have Mr. Fansler create several different design options.

The Board decided that they want Mr. Fansler and Department to have discussions with each other, as well as with key staff members to get an idea of how the centerpiece should be redesigned. Mr. Fansler is scheduled to attend the September 18th, 2023, Board meeting to present a few quoted redesign options. The Foundation and the Coxhall Guild will be invited to attend these discussions and meetings.

H.) New Business:

1.) Board Meeting Location

Director Stice stated that the Department would like to move the August, September, and October Board meetings to Osprey Point Pavilion. This is to test out a potential new location for future Board meetings to accommodate larger attendance.

Mr. Roudebush made a motion to temporarily change the location of scheduled Board meetings. Ms. Pauker seconded.

Yea: Mr. Andrews; Mr. Roudebush; Dr. Campbell; Mr. McCauley; Mr. Clover; Ms. Pauker.

Nay: None.



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Motion carries.

2.) 2024 Total Solar Eclipse – (Amended)

Deputy Director Oldham informed the Board of the upcoming total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. He stated that Hamilton County is in the direct path of the eclipse and experts are saying the county should expect to be inundated with visitors from all over the world. The entire county will be working together to make the day run smoothly.

The Department is planning three separate events that day: one at Cool Creek Park; one at Coxhall Gardens; and one at Strawtown Koteewi Park. It is a very ambitious prospect and HCPR will be the face of the county during that time. The Department wanted the Board to know that there will be a great deal of work in preparation for the event.

I.) Director's Report:

1.) Land Acquisition – (Amended)

Director Stice stated that the Department has been in contact with a private landowner adjacent to the White River Campground about acquiring 2 acres to construct needed utility upgrades. Two appraisals were done on the property with an average of \$34,250.00. The Department needs a motion to continue pursuing the land.

Mr. McCauley made a motion to approve the pursuit of the 2 acres adjacent to the White River Campground. Mr. Clover seconded.

Yea: Mr. Andrews; Mr. Roudebush; Dr. Campbell; Mr. McCauley; Mr. Clover; Ms. Pauker.

Nay: None.

Motion carries.



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J.) Deputy Director's Report:

None.

K.) Additions and Announcements:

None.

L.) Adjournment:

Mr. Roudebush made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Clover seconded. Motion carries. Hamilton County Parks & Recreation's July 17th, 2023, Board meeting is adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Hamilton County Parks & Recreation Board

Approved

/S/ Stephen Andrews
Stephen Andrews, President

/S/ Mark McCauley
Mark McCauley, Secretary

Date: 8/21/23