

**PARK & RECREATION MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2012**  
**6:15 P.M.**

The Parks & Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

Vice President Dave Malson called the meeting to order. Members present were: Will St John, Aaron Gurley, James Zachery, Sue Otte and Paul Barada Sr. Also present were: Parks Director Danny Mathews, Secretary Carla Sharpe, City Attorney Julie Newhouse, Board of Works member Gary Cameron, Parks Liaison/Council Member Brad Berkemeier and Solid Waste Manager Carol Yeend.

Malson welcomed new members to the board. New members are Aaron Gurley who is replacing Liz Crain, James Zachery who is replacing Denny Corn and Will St. John is replacing Anna Karen Pennington. Malson also welcomed City Attorney Julie Newhouse back to the board.

**Approval of Minutes:** Otte moved to approve minutes from October 11, 2012 as presented. Malson seconded motion. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

**Budget:** Sharpe presented board members with current budget. Malson explained the first two pages was the Parks budget which is tax money.

The second sheet is Non Reverting Fund budget which is money from the pool and shelter rentals. Non Reverting money is rolled over and continues year after year.

**Personnel:** Mathews then shared with the board that last year's Pool Manager resigned in the middle of the season and the board replaced her with Rita Kaster who was Assistant. Kaster did a good job in taking over and stepping up and finishing out the year. Mathews recommended the Parks Board put Rita Kaster back in as Pool Manager for the 2012 Season. Kaster will then hire her own staff.

Malson shared with the group that last year they interviewed five people for Pool Manager and Kaster was hired as Assistant. Kaster implemented swim programs, kept the pool open longer in the season and did a very good job.

Malson stated the budget for the Pool Manager has been cut \$2,500 as the line item is now down to \$9,500 but Kaster is aware of this.

Malson stated we will have Kaster come back next month and give us an update as to what she would like to implement this year.

Mathews stated he is very supportive of Rita Kaster.

Barada moved to approve the hiring of Rita Kaster as Pool Manager. Otte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Facilities:** Mathews reported that the Mayor would like for each department to clean up their area. The Parks Department and Police Department have been working hard this week to clean up their area around the bicycles. This effort is moving along really well and both facilities are really shaping up.

**Programs:** Mathews discussed the Valentines Dance which will be held on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at the Benjamin Rush Middle School. This being our 10<sup>th</sup> year putting this on and explained he likes to do programs for all ages and this dance benefits the middle age kids.

The school gives us their approval and Kevin Green is the D.J. The Parks Department furnishes the soft drinks and cookies. It is a great time!

Mathews stated he would appreciate any help we can get to chaperone and that he looks forward to this every year.

He will order supplies which will run \$65 to \$100 and that will be taken out of Special Events in the Non Reverting Fund.

Barada moved to approve the Valentines Dance and to take the money for supplies out of the Non Reverting Special Event Fund. Gurley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mathews asked helpers arrive around 5:30 as the dance is from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**Claims Approval:** Otte made a motion to approve the claims for the month. Barada second the motion. Claims approved.

**Unfinished Business:** None at this time.

**New Business:** Discuss Lighting for City of Rushville Signs – Mathews stated he received a quote for \$2,268.74 for adequate lighting to light up the City of Rushville signs.

Mathews stated he had no idea this would cost this much.

Mathews asked if everyone feels this money should come out of the Parks budget.

Barada stated he raised \$6,000 to put the signs up and now no one can see them once it gets dark. He feels its only \$2,268.74 to light up signs and the least we can do is luminate them. Barada doesn't feel this is inappropriate at all.

Malson asked if other quotes were received. Mathews stated no that this quote was from Mark Osborne at Radio Shack. He in turned received the quote from solar lighting through siliconsolar.com. Malson stated there are several local electricians in town and suggested getting a quote from Rosfeld Electric and Custer Electric.

Malson feels we need two or three comparisons.

Malson then went on to say the past administration was going to take the money out of the General Fund but Malson suggested taking the money out of the Non Reverting fund.

Mathews is to contact Rosfeld and Custer and get a quote on solar powered lights and bring to next meeting.

Barada stated he would like to see the money spent locally.

**Amphitheater Report/Dates/Bands:** Sharpe reported that last year the Amphitheater Booking Agent Vicky Richmond had resigned to take on another job. The Amphitheater board has hired Andy Wilson with Bohlsen Group out of Indianapolis. Andy is John Wilson's son who is from Rushville.

Sharpe explained that Andy has done a great job as this year our acts have been booked to date.

Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup> will be Community Day which will consist of a free meal, kid's games, music and silent auction. This is our kick off to our exciting season.

Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> will feature ZOSO which is a Led Zeppelin Tribute band as headliner and Healing Sixes as the Opener.

Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> will feature Free Fallin which is a Tom Petty Tribute band as headliner and Zeek and the Geeks as Opener.

Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup> will feature Off the Wagon which is a Country/Bluegrass band as headliner and returning Cee Cee James Opener. This concert is labeled our "Shades of Blue" concert.

Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup> will feature John Waite as headliner and Monofication as Opener.

Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> will feature Young Dubliners as Headliner and an Acoustic Opener. This being our Irish show.

Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> will feature An Innocent Band which is a Billy Joel Tribute band as headliner and a Jazz Trio to be announced.

Sharpe stated she is excited for this year as the tribute bands have always been our biggest crowds and hopes the weather cooperates with us this year and isn't as hot as last year.

Sharpe then shared with the board the Amphitheater's Sponsorship packages ranging from \$25.00 to \$5,000. If anyone would like to be a Sponsor please get with Carla.

Sharpe said Andy has booked us some phenomenal acts this year and excited for the year to start.

**Election of Officers:** Malson shared with the group the offices of President which was presently held by Denny Corn, Vice President which was presently held by Dave Malson and Secretary which was presently held by Liz Crain are now up for Re-Election.

Floor opened up for nominations at this time.

Barada nominated Dave Malson as President.

Gurley nominated Sue Otte at President.

Barada moved nominations be closed. Zachery seconded the motion.

All Board members wrote their choice down on a piece of paper and Attorney Newhouse counted the votes and informed the board that Sue Otte is our new President.

Floor opened for nominations for Vice President.

Malson nominated Paul Barada.

Barada moved that nominations be closed.

Barada won Vice President by acclamation.

Floor opened for nomination for Secretary.

Barada nominated Malson.

Barada moved that nominations be closed.

Malson won Secretary by acclamation.

**Items not known in advance:** Solid Waste District Manager Carol Yeend was present and shared with the group information on the Indiana Clean Community Challenge Internal Quality Assurance Program. Yeend shared with the board her goal is to decrease landfill. She would like to decrease the trash left in the parks. Get everyone to recycle.

She is here to encourage more recycling in parks particularly ball diamonds.

St. John said they did this last year and it is a good project.

Yeend stated we need to revise our vendor contract and educate the vendors and renters of the parks about recycling.

Yeend provides the containers.

Yeend stated she has three years to get this goal accomplished but wants to start now.

Yeend suggested stipulating in the ball leases that all groups must recycle. She will educate and produce the materials to support this effort.

Yeend also shared with the board that she would like the Parks Department plant more native trees in the parks. She has been working with Mathews on this. Mathews stated himself and the Utilities are already working on this.

Barada moved to consider Yeend's two requests. Gurley seconded. Motion carried. Yeend is to get us the info for us to look at.

Parks Liaison/Council Member Brad Berkemeier introduced himself. Berkemeier said he is looking forward to working with Danny and the Parks staff. Berkemeier stated we have a great parks system. Hoping to make continued progress in the next four years. His mother-in-law is in charge of Relay for Life in Veteran's Memorial Park. The kick off to this is this Saturday. We have a great venue at Memorial Park and it is going to be great to serve the City and help the Parks Department.

Mathews then personally welcomed the new members. Mathews said he has been in this position 12, going on 13 years and loves what he does. Is passionate on how our parks look. Stated his door is always open and is always willing to set down and get things done. Will take all suggestions. Excited to work with everyone the next four years.

Mathews then welcomed Julie Newhouse back to the board.

Malson stated Carla Sharpe is back taking Paula Shelton's place as Secretary and that the Mayor is fine with this. Malson made a motion to pay Sharpe based on her regular hourly rate. Gurley seconded. Motion carried.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Sue Otte, President

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Paul Barada Sr., Vice President

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Dave Malson, Member

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Will St. John, Member

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Aaron Gurley, Member

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James Zachery, Member

ATTEST:

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Carla Sharpe, Secretary