

## **Columbia City Park Board Minutes**

**August 27, 2012**

The Columbia City Parks Board met in regular session with the following members present:

Park Board President Mark Ellis

Park Board Vice President Terry Baker

Park Board Secretary Mauri Bordner

Park Board Member Dennis Warnick

Park Board Member Keith Nickolson

After reviewing the minutes of the July 30, 2012 meeting, Mauri Bordner made a motion, which is seconded by Keith Nickolson, to accept the minutes as submitted. On the call of the vote, all voted aye.

Mark Green, Park Superintendent, stated the pool forum went great with around 40 people in attendance and the next forum will be on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at the Peabody Library. Mark stated after the second forum, the park will set up a pool committee to discuss how to move forward. Mayor Daniel suggested the Park Board keep handing out the survey on the pool to the public until the 1<sup>st</sup> of October to have a wider sample. Mark Green and Mayor Daniel have discussed having a Referendum on the ballot. It could not be done until 2014 and Mayor Daniel suggests having a direction by 2013. Mauri Bordner stated a pool direction needs completed by 2013 on opening Burnworth Pool or something else for the future. Mark states it will cost around \$15,000.00 to bring the pool up to code to open in 2013 if nothing else quits working after opening. Mayor Daniel asks for a direction by December for opening Burnworth Pool in 2013 for the last year and doing either renovation or building new.

Derek Frederickson, Engineering Resources Inc., presented a review of the Blue River Trail Expansion showing low bids from Hamilton Hunter Builders for the bridge and Niblock Excavating for the trail. Derek stated both companies have agreed to hold the pricing from the original bid in April. Mr. Frederickson stated the original bid had a completion date of five months from start of project. He states that completing the project through the unbuildable months of winter will push the completion date until June 1, 2013. Hamilton Hunter Builders informed the Board they are prepared to start the project. Mayor Daniel agreed to assist the Park in finding the \$20,000.00 shortfall from the bids allowing a vote to except the bid package. Dennis Warnick made the motion to accept the bid package, which is seconded by Mauri Bordner. Derek Frederickson reminded the board that even with the extra money for the bid, the Trail Contingency needs to be lowered to \$10,000.00 from \$20,000.00 in the original bid. Dennis Warnick made a motion to amend his motion to change the Trail Contingency to \$10,000.00, which is seconded by Mauri Bordner. Mark Green, Park Superintendent, ask for a vote to find additional \$20,000.00 funding, change the Trail Contingency to \$10,000.00, and accept the bid. On the call of the vote, all voted aye.

Mayor Ryan Daniel presented an update on the Fall Festival Schedule which is now a two-day event on September 21 & 22. Mayor Daniel informed the board approximately 750 runners have signed up to run the Elementary Mile Championship on Friday September 21. The Mayor stated Whitley County Transit will be running a loop from the parking lots at the YMCA, Library, and possible the Hospital to keep traffic from parking on State Road 205. Mayor Daniel reported that a two-day event will give the vendors and concessions stand an opportunity to serve more of the public. He stated that Friday night will be a concert by *Bluebird Revival* and the events will start at 5:00pm.

Mark Green, Park Superintendent, presented the activities planned for Saturday September 22 starting at 8:00am. Mark announced some events planned are the Whitley County Farmers Market, Hayrides, Remax Hot Air Balloon Rides, Vendors, Jump House, Chamber of Commerce competition, various music all-day, *Spike and the Bulldogs* at 7:00pm, and the fireworks at approximately 8:45pm.

Superintendent Mark Green gave an update on the JFL program for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be playing at the Middle School and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade is playing at the High School. Mark stated that the 6<sup>th</sup> grade has two teams this year which will present more home games.

Superintendent Green stated the Pow-Wow was a couple of weeks ago. Mark reported it was one of the best years ever.

Keith Nickolson, presented an update on the Softball Tournament on the previous weekend. Keith stated they received a lot of good feedback about the beauty of park, the facilities, and the organization. Mr. Nickolson stated they hope to have more teams next year by spreading the word around Fort Wayne, Angola, and the Freemont area.

Mark Green, Superintendent, stated around 90 kids, from the Eagle Tech sophomore class, worked at Devol Field. Mark stated they were divided in groups to work different areas in Devol Park. Superintendent Green stated they cleaned the trail, raked and seeded the outfield, placed wood chips around the tennis courts, installed new volleyball nets, put lines down on courts, and painted the tunnel black. Mark informed the board the Eagle Tech freshman are working next week and will bring wheel barrels and rakes to spread wood chips on the trails at Devol Park.

The next meeting will be September 17, 2012.

All business was discussed, the Board adjourned.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Andrea Pequignot, Administrative Assistant Parks Department.