

SUMMARIZATION OF MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

On Thursday, May 9, 2024, the Board of Park Commissioners, and the Staff of the Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation Department held their monthly Board meeting, in the City Council Discussion Chambers Room 30 (garden level), Citizens Square, 200 East Berry Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Board President Mr. Justin Shurley, Vice President, Mr. Richard Briley, Commissioner, and Mrs. Jenna Jauch, Commissioner.

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Steve McDaniel, Harlean Falls, Mike Gore, Chuck Reddinger, Kathy Pargmann, Eric Ummel, Derek Veit, Rob Hines, David Weadock, Sandra Odisho, Steve Schuhmacher, Alec Johnson, Chad W. Shaw, and April McCampbell.

Absent: Mr. Cory Miller – Board of Park Commissioners, Vice President

Others in attendance were: Mr. Kurt Culbertson, Design Workshop, and Pat Stelte of the Allen County Public Library.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Board President Justin Shurley called the monthly Board meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Board President Shurley, called for the approval of the monthly meeting minutes from Thursday, April 11, 2024. Board Commissioner Richard Briley moved and Commissioner Jenna Jauch seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was duly carried. On file are the monthly Board minutes.

3. **PAYROLL & COMMERCIAL VOUCHERS:** Manager Sandra Odisho requested the Board's approval of payroll and commercial vouchers. Included in the report is the number of full-time and part-time employees, for pay periods ending 04/12/24, and 04/26/24, account payables payment vouchers #0746 to #1066, with a Payroll Sub-Total of \$974,373.93 ***NOTED*** were Capital projects and equipment lease payments. The totals are in the Park General Fund, Park Trust Fund, Park Non-Reverting Operating Fund, Park Non-Reverting Capital Fund, Park Cumulative Building Fund, and Other City Funds, for Account Payables Total of \$3,701,603.14, and a total of \$4,675,977.07, Commissioner Briley moved and Commissioner Jauch seconded the motion to approve the payroll and commercial vouchers as presented. The motion was duly carried. On file is the April 2024 report.

4. **TRUST FUND DONATIONS:** Finance Manager Sandra Odisho navigated the Board members through a listing of the donors, amounts, and purpose, along with donations, endowments, and grants from the Park Foundation, Psi Iota Xi, Pi Chapter, Fort Wayne Metals, Park Place II, LLC, Martin Riley, Inc., Susan Doell, Fort Wayne Trails Inc., Taylor Milliken, Cheryl Stark, Nadine Crouse, Design Collaborative, Anthony Wayne Lions Club, Cash Donations, and from the Registrations/Web Donations. Also, the General Trust, Showcase Trust, Marketing Trust, and General Fund Operations, received as of **April 2024**, with a total of **\$9,341.05**, and **YTD is \$1,288,969.89**. By acclamation, the Board accepted the Trust Fund Donations report. On file is the March Trust Fund Donations report.
5. **INTRODUCTION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** Deputy Director Alec Johnson, distributed the first 5-6 pages of the Comprehensive Plan as a visual aid to the PowerPoint presentation; while the process and plan were introduced. Mr. Kurt Culbertson, representing a team from the Design Workshop, was introduced, and elaborated on the process and the importance of honesty, utilizing working plans, and utilizing adequate information. After a brief Q&A, cost, walkability, transforming spaces, and other issues, Deputy Johnson stated that comments will continue to be received through June 13, 2024. on the Comprehensive Plan. The draft is available to view [online](#) and also in printed form at the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation office, 705 East State Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46805, and at <https://engage.cityoffortwayne.org/> Feedback will directly influence the decisions that shape the future of our parks and can be provided through an online [survey](#), or by emailing FWPR Deputy Director of Planning and Developing Alec Johnson at Alec.Johnson@cityoffortwayne.org. The will run through to June 13, 2024.
6. **PARK PRIORITIES:** Deputy Director Johnson narrated a Drone video of the Franke Park Renaissance Project. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nc_ffSKwvvgg Deputy Johnson mentioned both Brewer and Packard Park redevelopment projects are reaching completion, with bidding and construction schedules in focus. Drawings for Riverfront Phase 2B are essentially complete, and still waiting for the Army Corp permit to be signed. Director McDaniel stated River City Ventures has contacted the Department with a proposal, for review; with the next step being a Public Hearing.
7. **AGREEMENTS / FEES/ RESOLUTIONS / POLICY APPROVALS:**
 - A. [2024 Summer \(June, July & August\) Fun Times Brochure – Reddinger](#) - [2023 Summer Fun Times Brochure – Chuck](#) – Commissioner Jauch moved and Commissioner Briley seconded the motion to approve the 76-page Summer 2024 Fun Times Brochure, highlighting fee recommendations for 385 fee-based programs, and granting the approval for the authority to modify, adjust and add programs (and their associated fees if applicable) until with written approval from the Deputy Director or Director. The motion was duly carried. On file are the fee recommendations, programs, and services for the 2024 June, July, and August Fun Times Brochure.
8. **BIDS / CONTRACTS / CHANGE ORDER APPROVALS:**
 - [Irishtown Plaza Construction Project #2024037 QuestCDN No.:9062336 - Shaw](#) – Commissioner Jauch moved and Commissioner Briley seconded the motion to approve a contract with Schenkel Construction for the project concept for a new public space. The motion was duly carried. On file are the bid tabulation sheet, contract, drawings, landscape beds, trees, shrubs, perennial plants, the scope of work, and the signed approval form.

Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory Glass Roof Project #2024011- Weadock – Commissioner Jauch moved and Commissioner Briley seconded the motion to approve a contract with O’Neil’s Glass for the replacement of twenty panels of tempered glass in the roof of the Botanical Conservatory structure.

Brewer Park Playground Equipment New Project#2023007–Weadock – Commissioner Briley moved and Commissioner Jauch seconded the motion to approve a contract with Landscape Structures, Inc. The motion was duly carried. On file are the scope of work, the bid tabulation sheet, the contract, and the signed approval form.

The following Change Orders were all approved as Commissioner Briley moved and Commissioner Jauch seconded the motion to approve the following:

Foellinger Theatre Concrete Improvements Project #2024008 – Weadock – Approved a change increase of the contract project amount with CME Corporation, for the scope of work on two separate terrace improvements. The motion was duly carried. On file is the original contract, the bid tabulation sheet, change order #1, and the signed approval form.

Johnny Appleseed Campground Improvements Project #2022014 Quest CDN #8587863 Change Order #1 – Weadock – Approved a change decrease of the contractual amount with Schenkel Construction. The motion was duly carried. On file are the original contact., the bid tabulation sheet, change order #1, and the signed approval form.

Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory Tropical Path Project #2023060 QuestCDN #8914419 Change Order #1 – Weadock - Approved a change decrease of the contractual amount with Shannon Concrete Construction. The motion was duly carried. On file is the original contact., the bid tabulation sheet, change order #1, and the signed approval form.

9. **FORT WAYNE PARKS & RECREATION SHOWCASE** – Deputy Director Steve Schuhmacher will periodically, narrate a PowerPoint presentation, on various parks, facilities, and parklands; to be listed on the agenda as Parks and Recreation History and Highlights. Showcased during this meeting were the valuable and enlightening historical information, acreage, maps, monuments, signage, walking paths, and connecting trails, with actual photos, improvements, and amenities of the following parks:

Hurstown Reservoir – Located at 16000 Roth Road, in Grabill, Indiana. The best fishing spot in Allen County features a 2.75-mile walking path, and areas for picnics, kayak, and rowboat rentals. Admission is \$5/car or \$1/person to walk or bicycle in.

Albert G. Jennings Center – Established in 1948, formerly named McCulloch Recreation Center, after the former McCulloch Elementary School. Mr. Albert G. Jennings was a long-time Supervisor of the youth center, located at 1330 McCulloch Street. The Jennings Center continues to fulfill its unique mission, by providing activities for both youth and adults.

Memorial Park – Established in 1918, as a donation of land from Minnie Hill White. Located on 42 acres on Washington Boulevard, Maumee Avenue, and Glasgow Street; the park is a tribute to the men and women of Fort Wayne and Allen County who gave their lives in service of their country during World War I, several other monuments, and a memorial wall tribute to elected officials, and City

employees, who died while still in office. For a complete review of the presentation and location of all parks listed go to: www.fortwayneparks.org

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no Public Comments during this meeting.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS: Director McDaniel and the Deputy Directors reported the following:

- + April's wet conditions have impacted several areas in parks. Several sections of the Rivergreenway have been closed due to flooding conditions. We were forced to close the golf courses due to standing water. This continued with either walking or cart paths only days. Our mowing team is keeping up with how fast the grass is growing this spring.
- + We are only a few weeks away from the start of this year's Foellinger Theatre concert season. We have several great acts lined up including:
 - o Rick Springfield
 - o Rockin' the 80's with Great White, Slaughter & Vixen
 - o Lee Brice
 - o Blues Travelers with Big Head Todd and the Monsters
 - o The High Kings with Gaelic Storm
 - o Rocky Horror Picture Show by the Civic Theatre
 - o Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark with music by the FW Philharmonic
 - o Tesla
 - o Fort Wayne Area Community Band
 - o New Millennium Jazz Orchestra
 - o Fort Wayne Children's Choir

Many other concerts are scheduled to complete the concert season.

- + A Press Conference at Boon Playground on May 10 at 10:00 am
- + Plant Sale at McMillen Park Community Center
- + A significant amount of Life Guard applications has been received, as Staff trainings continue
- + Sweet Breeze has launch
- + The DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area) Cup policy was a massive success on the first day, with a variety of Downtown restaurants and bars participating – Not allowed on Sweet Breeze
- + Pool, LSA, Campground, Camps, and Summer activities are ready to open
- + 328 Seasonal employees have been hired
- + 401 program registrations have been input into the system
- + Registrations on our waitlists have been opened to complete registrations
- + The Parks App will be released soon
- + Working with IT for the Attendance on-demand
- + Grounds crew members are busy with the unusually wet season

- ✚ The Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale will be open to the Public on May 10, 1-7 pm May 11, 10 am -4 pm, and on Sunday, May 12 – 11 am – 2 pm; with plenty of parking at the McMillen Center, 3901 Abbot Street 46806
- ✚ Successful Arbor Day celebration in Bob Arnold/Northside Park
- ✚ First tours of Sweet Breeze tickets are now on sale
- ✚ A grant for LSA is due at the end of May
- ✚ We are still hiring, and many job opportunities are listed at www.fortwayneparks.org

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Commissioner Briley shared a positive experience with visitors encountered in Franke Park, near the Renaissance Project. Commissioner Briley inquired if we distributed the Fun Times Brochures to any of the local Hospitals. President Shurley mentioned the especially busy season in the Department.

There was no further business to come before the Board of Park Commissioners, on Thursday, May 9, 2024, in the City Council Discussion Chambers of Citizens Square (*garden level*) Room 30, 200 East Berry Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802. At 11:07 am, the meeting was adjourned.

**CITY OF FORT WAYNE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**

Justin Shurley, President

Cory Miller, Vice-President

Richard Briley, Commissioner

Jenna Jauch, Commissioner

Steve McDaniel, Director/Board Secretary

All documentation, correspondence, and prints/site plans presented at this meeting are on file in the office of the Parks and Recreation Department. This meeting was recorded by the Park staff and videotaped by Pat Stelte, Government Access Coordinator, in Television Services of the Allen County Public Library.

Here is the link to the Thursday, May 9, 2024 meeting online:
<https://acpl.viebit.com/player.php?hash=GO5QmJsfoqbB4Jj6>