

## **New Carlisle Board of Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes**

July 15th, 2024 - 6pm

### **Attendance**

Board Members: Jennifer Maure, Malaria Varnak, Bob Harbart, Carl Brown-Grimm, Triss Smith, Alison Abbott, Calyn DeNeve

Guests: Sam Boniface, Tristen Drake, Mike McClaran, Bob Middlebrook, Carol Middlebrook, Lloyd Keldsen, Tim Creason, Sam Colalillo Sr.

### **Call to Order**

Park Board President, Jen M. called the meeting to order: 6:01pm.

### **Minutes**

Motion made by Bob, seconded by Calyn to approve the 6/28/2024 Board minutes as written.

Motion carried and approved unanimously.

### **Appropriation Report**

Jen distributed and reviewed the appropriation report with the Board.

### **Visitor Comments**

#### **Ambulance program**

Mr. Middlebrook and Mr. Colalillo provided a detailed history of the Emergency Medical Service program in New Carlisle as this year marks its 50th anniversary. A request was made to have a memorial for the ambulance program similar to the one in Memorial Park for the Fire Department. An estimated cost comparable to the Fire Department memorial is \$6,000. Potential assistance from local businesses and historical society was discussed. Jen requested a quote (Bob and Sam volunteered to obtain) for the memorial. Potential location was discussed and the desire is to have the memorial in Memorial Park near the Fire Department memorial.

#### **Pocket Park**

Mr. Creason presented the Board with the idea to create a Pocket Park in New Carlisle. Mr. Creason noted he will present and make a request to the Town Board to obtain the property from the old church and turn it into a pocket park. Mr. Creason cited Bluffton's Veterans Pocket Park as inspiration. Mr. Creason highlighted that the church bell would be utilized along with benches and arborvitae for a separation between the property and the current parish house. Cost for the project would be \$40,000 donated solely by Mr. Creason with David Lawn landscapers to complete the work. It was noted that this pocket park would increase property value, would be enticing to the air BNB opening next door and would be Mr. Creason and his wife's contribution to the community. The request to the Town Board would include town support for electrical and installation of water spigot. Historical plaques will be discussed with the historical society.

### **Old Business**

#### **Park Board Ordinance Revisions**

Reviewed by Alison and Jen. Nothing notable was being changed within the ordinance.

### **Christmas Lights Display**

Triss displayed the flier for the Christmas lights for the Board to view. It was noted that Google forms will be utilized. Discussion was held regarding functionality for payment of entries. A fund portal for payment will be looked into; ie. Square. The Board requests a separate line item for the Christmas lights display. It was also noted to be mindful of electrical outlet utilization to ensure enough power.

### **Bourissa Fieldstone Repair**

An update was given that Zack Hale will be starting in the coming weeks to complete.

### **Spray Pad**

Discussion was held regarding hours for operation and water pressure concerns. The Board will discuss potential increases in hours in the future. Tristen noted that water pressure decreased during the week and increased on the weekend peak hours.

### **Summer Concerts in the Park**

Calyn provided the series schedule to the Board, which includes 6 bands that will play from every Wednesday starting August 7th - September 4th.

### **Pickleball Update**

Discussion was held regarding the new quote of \$259,000 from the contractor completing the New Prairie High School project. Carl found potential funding assistance from Okra. A question was raised regarding additional costs that could potentially be incurred during the project. It was noted that the Arnt quote does not include restorations including a trail to lead to the court. The Board requests a quote for an access trail. Jen M will reach out to John M regarding the quote and to discuss the trail access.

A motion was called and seconded to pursue the pickleball update project..

**Motion carried and approved unanimously.**

### **Bathrooms**

The Board briefly discussed concerns regarding site control and general oversight of security and maintenance.

## **New Business**

### **Children's Summer Park Program**

Sam B. provided a brief update to the Board regarding the Summer Children's Program. On average 15-20 kids are attending the camp each day. Moving forward, Sam will utilize the business amazon account for supply needs. Discussion was held regarding improvements for next year, including utilizing Google Docs for RSVPs.

### **Updates from Tristen**

Tristen introduced Mike McClaren to the Board. Tristen provided a brief update regarding preparations for the upcoming Hometown Days.

### **Farmers Market Update**

Tabled until next meeting.

### **Updates from Alison**

Nothing to report

**Next meeting**

The next Parks Board meeting will be held August 26th at 6pm. This meeting will be held at the New Carlisle Public Library.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, Calyn made a motion, seconded by Carl to adjourn. Motion carried and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 pm.