

**CITY OF HANOVER  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 23, 2019 – OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Mat Boie called the Park Board meeting of April 23rd, 2019 to order at 7:02 p.m. Present were Chair Mat Boie, Jeff Grupp, Dani Vetrano, Leslie Murphy, Council Liaison Jim Zajicek, City Administrator Brian Hagen and City Accountant / Deputy Clerk Jackie Heinz. Absent was Scott Jamison. There were no guests present.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Vetrano to approve the Agenda, seconded by Murphy. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of Minutes from March 26, 2019**

**MOTION** by Murphy to approve the minutes from March 26, 2019, seconded by Vetrano. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Open Forum:**

None

**Unfinished Business:**

**Easter Egg Hunt Recap**

Boie stated the Easter Egg Hunt had great weather and a good turn-out of people. Murphy stated people liked pictures with the Easter Bunny, perhaps we use signage in the future. Zajicek stated the inside of the hall looked great, could add a back drop for pictures outside next year. Boie stated there was a consistent line for pictures outside, could add a bench outside as well. Vetrano stated the older section needed more eggs. Murphy inquired if there is a cap on larger prizes, suggested getting bikes. Zajicek stated bikes could be donated since there isn't enough money in the budget to purchase. Zajicek inquired if anyone has purchased clearance items for next year. Murphy stated yes, she purchased 4 baskets and some stuffed animals.

**New Business:**

**Park Amenity Priorities**

Hagen stated money put into the Park Dedication Fund is used for new park amenities identified in the Park Dedication Study. The city also puts money into the Park Capital Fund for routine maintenance of park items not identified in the study. The Park Dedication Study looks long term at what the City will need and the amenities. Hagen further stated if no developments come to Hanover, there is no money put into the Park Dedication Fund.

Hagen stated a spending plan needs to be created, some items will be simple and inexpensive, while others will have more involvement. What do we want to see first? For example, could acquire land for a future park near the historic bridge or install a basketball court at Cardinal Park. If purchasing land is chosen, other items won't be don't for some time until the fund has money again. Hagen stated we are anticipating to collect roughly \$150k into the Park Dedication Fund this year. Hagen further stated there has been discussion with developers about the Schendel Farm property just north of the industrial park. As an example, the developers could install a park valued at \$3m, but only owe \$1m, the City would pay the developer the difference, so don't spend the fund as fast as you receive it.

Boie inquired where the \$150k would be collected from. Hagen stated there are 18 lots in the River Town Villas on Church Street and roughly 36 lots in the Crow River Heights 4<sup>th</sup> addition. Boie stated if the money collected has to be used at a certain park. Hagen stated the money collected can be used city wide, but must be used for what is identified in the plan.

Jeff Grupp arrived at 7:20 pm.

A recap was given of the discussion so far.

Boie inquired about maintenance versus improvement at existing parks. Hagen stated as an example, we are unable to use money from the Park Dedication Fund to upgrade or improve existing items at Settler's Park. The money must be used for new items.

Boie stated the idea of a bandshell has been thrown around for a couple years. Hagen stated the initial estimate of \$50k was for a very basic structure with money being used from the general fund and donations. Zajicek asked about doing something similar to buy a brick with the bandshell. Hagen stated it could work, but historically was done in the memorial garden and a brick hasn't been sold in 6 years. Zajicek stated a deadline could be created for those interested, the bandshell could generate revenue back to the City. Grupp stated the bandshell could be used for the Harvest Festival, need to keep in mind where to point to music as to not affect residents. Hagen stated to also keep in mind the 2 acres owned by the city behind the burm. If the bandshell is a priority we could start designing, then educate the public and move forward. Hagen further stated a cost – benefit analysis could be done on the 2 acres.

Grupp stated something for kids 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up needs to be looked at, such as an archery park. Hagen stated an archery park is scheduled to be installed at Riverside Park this year.

Hagen stated there are some dilapidated structures in town, one is located near the old bridge. Could prioritize for land acquisition of that structure with the Park Dedication Fees as well. Grupp inquired if the land purchase and price to demolish the building would all come from the Park Dedication Fund. Hagen stated yes.

Boie inquired on the status of the Crow River Regional Trail. Hagen stated it's a 20-year project. All the land has been acquired but no construction has started. Construction will begin in Watertown or Dayton, Hanover will be at the tail end.

Murphy stated the land acquisition improvement could be done as a 2 prong plan, do some small items while saving for larger items. Grupp inquired on the value of the property by the historic bridge. Hagen stated roughly \$300k - \$350K.

Hagen stated tonight was to get ideas flowing and to review things during the park walk thru in May. Heinz suggested walking the current parks in May and the future parks in June. Zajicek inquired about having some of the bandshell work done in house. Hagen stated most items could be done in house, except for the electrical and construction. Grupp stated we should get council backing on the bandshell. Zajicek stated the land could be prepped now and bandshell construction done later. Hagen stated if you're going to do it, then do it right. Grass won't grow in the sandy soil so an irrigation system may need to be installed.

#### **Reports:**

##### **Zajicek**

- The new ball field looks great, the lights are fantastic

##### **Hagen**

- The council, planning commission and staff will be attending a strategic planning session on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Council and park board will meet separately after the session to go over items and future amenities.

##### **Heinz**

- The May and June meetings will begin at 6:00 pm to do park walk thrus.
- Please sign the Egg Hunt Thank You letters
- The Easter Bunny suit is out for Jim to take and get cleaned

**Grupp**

- Used roughly 6,500 eggs and \$343.00 in candy. Will ask the scouts again next year to help stuff eggs. Budget should be increased closer to \$500 - \$600. Hagen stated in past years the event only spends what is donated, if the costs are increasing we will need to look at decreasing them or look at other donation options.

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION** by Grupp to adjourn at 8:23 p.m., seconded by Murphy. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ATTEST:

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Jaclyn Heinz, Accountant/Deputy Clerk