

**CITY OF HANOVER
PARK BOARD MEETING
September 22, 2021 – OFFICIAL MINUTES**

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Jeff Grupp called the Park Board meeting of September 22, 2021, to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Jeff Grupp, Dani Vetrano, Leslie Murphy, Alex Holslin, Council Liaison MaryAnn Hallstein and Accountant Jackie Heinz. Absent was Scott Jamison. Guests included Linda Eckard.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes from August 24, 2021

MOTION by Holslin to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Murphy. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Open Forum:

Linda Eckard – Hanover Lions

Eckard stated two long time members of the Lions have passed away and the Lions would like to honor each of them with a memorial bench. The members were Gek Kottke and Willis Kiphuth, Eckard stated the Lions would like Kottkes bench to be placed near the ball fields, and the Kiphuth bench by the Crow River. Grupp inquired if it was possible to place a bench near the river. Heinz stated she was unsure with the switchback by the historic bridge. Hallstein suggested one at Eagleview Park overlooking the river. Holslin inquired on the timeline of the switchback. Hallstein stated there are lots of pieces, the property owner Bryan Reitzner must come to a financial agreement with Three Rivers. Hallstein further stated Three Rivers has the funding for the project and will be incorporated into the trail system, could be completed within 3-5 years. Heinz stated she talked with Public Works Supervisor Jason Doboszinski regarding the bench for Kottke, they thought a good placement would be between the south side dugout and the concrete. Grupp asked Eckard to look at both locations and come back for the October meeting with her thoughts. Hallstein stated another option would be the Wright County Park down 8th street. Eckard inquired on the cost of the benches, Heinz stated \$750 - \$800.

Unfinished Business:

Concert in the Park Recap – Thursday, September 16, 2021

Holslin stated he counted 100 people consistently in attendance throughout the evening. Holslin further stated the number of people was lower than we had hoped for, perhaps the rescheduling hurt attendance. Grupp stated he heard from multiple people they were glad it was moved; the first date was a busy weekend. Holslin stated overall a good show, the weather was a damper. Murphy stated she heard all positive comments. She was with the more senior crowd, and they stated they really enjoyed both acts. Murphy stated it's a good event to bring the community together and we need consistency with the events going forward. Murphy further stated the date move hurt, but the event still turned out wonderful. Grupp stated it was a good, all-around event. Holslin stated the atmosphere felt free form. Vetrano stated it was a great event, a bumper with school sports in session but still a great turn-out and great food. Vetrano suggested adding additional nights next year. Murphy stated the banners are awesome. Heinz stated she talked with Greg at the end of the night, and he stated he had great sales for the evening and would love to come back for future events. Heinz further stated, Greg could get Shane Martin to perform for a decent price.

Eckard stated great stage placement, perfect for sitting in the grass, loved the games and the food in the shelter house was great. Murphy inquired if the Lions would be interested in selling beer next year. Eckard replied yes.

Hallstein suggested creating a Facebook event instead of posts, then people are informed of any changes, reminders are sent and can be shared on the community page. Grupp thanked Hallstein as the only council member who attended the concert in the park. Grupp thanked the food vendors as well and stated the ice cream truck left at 6:30 pm as she felt the sales weren't there. Grupp further stated What's the Scoop will be invited in the future. Grupp stated beer sales would be a good addition for next year and we need to plan 3 events and make them consistent and start advertising sooner than later. Heinz stated dates for the concerts need to be picked now and get scheduled, can't wait until January. Grupp asked Heinz to find out the cost of Shane Martin. Vetrano inquired on contracts, Heinz stated yes, they're needed and can be forwarded to her. Grupp stated he loves Mitch Gordon; The White Sidewalls don't bring a community crowd but rather their crowd. Vetrano stated she is concerned with the dancing area. Grupp stated the stage could be pushed further back and suggested adding a car show to the event. Grupp further stated we need to make it an event and a destination, get the word out to surrounding cities and advertise in the cities. Hallstein stated What's the Scoop has a following, that's Facebook advertising at no cost and they won't leave an event.

Grupp stated dates need to be picked. Hallstein inquired what night, Maple Grove has a \$30k concert budget and we can't compete with that. Hallstein further stated she personally likes the smaller events where kids can run and be scene. Murphy stated to conquer Hanover first, then surrounding areas. Holslin suggest Monday or Tuesday. Vetrano state the second Tuesday of each month. Murphy stated Tuesday is difficult, Wednesday would be better. Hallstein stated there are meetings on Tuesday nights and there are no church events to compete with on Wednesdays. Vetrano suggested the second Wednesday of each summer month. Grupp stated to tap into Buffalo, St. Michael and west side of Maple Grove and bring them into the community, they're already here visiting River Inn and Big Bore. Grupp inquired about going with Mitch again, Holslin stated yes. Grupp suggested an acoustic night. Vetrano inquired about openers. Grupp suggested Joe Kahl's band. Eckard suggested a blue grass band she has seen. Grupp asked Eckard to send in the information to Heinz.

New Business:

Pumpkin Decorating Event – Saturday, October 16 from 1-3 pm

Grupp stated Rutgers has no pumpkins and there is very limited access through others for \$1.00 per pumpkin. Inquired if other members had any success. Murphy stated she has no connections. Grupp stated he talked with Tim Zimmerman's sister, and she has no pumpkins either. Grupp further stated River Inn is okay with pizza certificates to pass out and we need to decide to cancel or make a coloring event. Heinz stated in Oriental Trading there are small Styrofoam pumpkins that kids could decorate. Hallstein stated there is lots going on everywhere, people won't be heartbroken if it doesn't happen. Grupp suggested a trunk or treat event. Vetrano stated she likes the oriental trading suggestion for next year, but we should cancel the event for this year.

MOTION by Holslin to cancel the Pumpkin Decorating Event for 2021, seconded by Murphy. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Reports:

Hallstein

- Stated the Park Board can go to Council if they would like to increase their budget. Heinz stated the Park Board budget no longer runs out of the general fund, but rather from gambling proceeds. Suggested getting FYCC for Movies in the Park in 2022.

Grupp

- Thanked everyone and appreciates their efforts.
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Adjournment:

MOTION by Murphy to adjourn at 7:53 p.m., seconded by Holslin. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ATTEST:

Jackie Heinz, Accountant