


## AVON PARKS, RECREATION AND BEAUTIFICATION COUNCIL MEETING

November 1, 2017

Avon Town Hall Conference Room

6570 E. US Hwy. 36, Avon, Indiana

1. **Roll Call** was taken by Director of Public Works, Ryan Cannon. Council members present were Jennifer Thompson, Bill Reed, Pat Tutsie, and Steve Schaecher. Louise Watkins and Craig Emsweller were absent.
2. **Public Comment**
  - a. No public comment.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. June 7, 2017 meeting minutes were approved with correction as follows:
    - i. In "Roll Call" section correct spelling of "Pat Tusie" to "Pat Tutsie".
4. **Old Business:**
  - a. **Park Land Purchase update and discussion**
    - i. The Town made an offer of \$265,000 for the Burnett Property (14.25 acres). Closing on the property should occur before the end of the year. The Phase I environmental assessment was just received today.
    - ii. The Winton Meadows development donated some land to the Town for park development. The property is roughly 20 acres located off 900E.
    - iii. The Town has also acquired a couple of properties along the White Lick Trail. Approximately 12 acres of land. This land fulfills the deficiency identified in the Recreational Impact fee that allow it to be used for the Burnett property purchase.
    - iv. Other prospects were discussed that could impact future parks development plans. The Redevelopment Commission is meeting in December to discuss these prospects further. More discussion will occur after further direction is determined.
  - b. **Discussion and Identification of Trails and Parks to be officially named**
    - i. Delbert may be tasked with helping develop a plan to name parks.
    - ii. Aspects to be considered were discussed as follows:
      1. Sponsorship opportunities should be discussed.
      2. Price needs to be determined.
      3. Involving the community in the efforts would be great.
    - iii. "Railfan" Park was discussed. The intern at the Town this past summer researched the project further. There were several points to consider that countered the first report presented. The location for such a park may need to be investigated further and worked through with CSX. CSX needs 90 days to review any plans and need to verify alignment with their future plans.
5. Tree Board

  
2/7/18

- a. Tree sales have continued to decline. About 5 years ago the Town was selling 125 trees in the fall and 150 in the spring. Last year the Town sold 7 trees in the fall and 12 in the Spring.
- b. Avon does have a requirement for developments to plant one tree for every tree they remove. If the development does not plant the tree on their property they can pay the Town to plant one somewhere else in the Town.
- c. Reasons for sales drops may be attributed to the price increases over the years and the trees do not have a warranty.
- d. If the Town wants to continue the program they may introduce some shrubs to have more variety for purchase. Advertising has ramped up over the last few years but sales have still not increased.

**6. 2018 Meeting Schedule**

- a. This is the last meeting of 2017.
- b. PRBC Members will all be getting an invitation to the Town Christmas Party on December 4.
- c. It was motioned to maintain the PRBC meetings on a similar schedule to that used in 2017. Meetings will held every other month unless there is a specific need. The motion carried 4-0.

**7. Staff updates:**

- a. Farmer's Market in 2017:
  - i. The Parks Council did not help as much with the Market as they have in past years.
  - ii. Vendors have indicated that this is their most profitable market.
  - iii. Hendricks Regional Health may plant some trees to help cool the pavement.
  - iv. The drought over the summer hurt some of the veggie stands.
  - v. There has been a waiting list for vendors the last 2 years.
  - vi. The market has run through to September the last 2 years.
  - vii. More picnic benches and outside seating would help. Perhaps located in the center of the market.
- b. Staffing Update:
  - i. Delbert Harmon will start full-time in January as the Parks Programmer and Events Coordinator. He graduated Indiana State University with a degree in Recreation Management. He was an intern for Danville Parks and is a resident of Brownsburg. Britt will transition out of Parks and the Town is looking to hire another person to assist with programs.
- c. Thoroughfare Plan Steering Committee:
  - i. The Town would like to have a representative of the PRBC on the Thoroughfare Plan Steering Committee. The first meeting will be in early December. There will be 3 to 4 meetings focusing on not just roads but other modes of transportation. Steve will be the primary representative, with Pat and Bill as backups if a conflict arises.

**8. Other Business**

- a. Budget:

- i. The Parks budget was approved at the last Town Council Meeting – see attached.
- b. Artwork:
  - i. With the developments of the trails in the Town and the future Parks to be developed it was discussed to budget some money for public art. Perhaps research to see if there are any grants available. Delbert will look into this further.
- c. PRBC terms:
  - i. The terms for Steve, Bill, and Louise all end in December. If anyone is interested in serving again they need to let Ryan Cannon and Tom Klein know.
- d. Website:
  - i. The Town's website is updated by each entity. Britt has been maintaining the Park's site as well as social media updates. More attention needs to be paid to it, the Board Members are not current.

**9. Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.
- b. Next meeting will be Wednesday, February 7, 2017, at 7:00 pm.