

ROME CITY PARK BOARD

Regular Meeting
July 17, 2023

The Rome City Park Board held their regular meeting on Monday, July 17, 2023 at 5:30 p.m., held in the Rome City Town Hall. Called to order by President Wilkinson.

Members Present:

Leigh A. Pranger-Secretary
John Martin
Doug Maley

Tina Wilkinson
Bridgett Coe

Roll call a quorum was present.

Interested parties in attendance: Matt Brinkman and Sandra Tamez from Region IIIA.

Member Martin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Softball/Baseball-Secretary Pranger informed the board that softball season has ended. Fall ball started this week, they will practice in Rome City and play the games in Fort Wayne.

Guests from Region IIIA regarding updating of the Rome City Park Plan. Mr. Brinkman stated the current plan ends in December of 2023. An updated plan is required to apply for park grants. Mr. Brinkman stated the cost for updating the plan is \$7,500. Ms. Tamez stated we can start out with the survey being sent out in October. This will be a postcard with a QR code and link to fill out the survey. They have been very successful with getting responses to the surveys. We will need to do 2 or 3 public participation hearings. Completion of the plan can be by November 2024 or sooner. After some discussion the board agreed we need to move forward with the update. Member Maley made the motion to approve Region IIIA to do the new park plan. Second by Member Martin. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried. Ms. Tamez stated she will need the Park Members term date beginning and end, Residential utility list for survey mailings, upgrade and accomplishments for the parks along with the date completed. Mr. Brinkman stated he will forward the agreement to update the Park plan.

Public Notice on Bike Trail: Secretary Pranger informed the Park board about the notice on the bike trail from IDNR. The board stated they have no issues with the location of the trail.

July 1st Fundraiser: The fireworks were canceled due to a severe storm coming into the area. The fireworks were moved to August 12th during Chautauqua Days. The board discussed all the Food trucks agreed to come back for the event. Fundraiser for 2024 Playground at Lakeside Park-. Close street 3:30 p.m. Trucks to arrive by 4:00 p.m. Town Council approved road closure. Want trucks to stay until 9:00 p.m.

1. Tyrone's Dawgs-Hotdog cart. Replace Ed's Fish and More-Bridgett-canceled on us on Thursday of the event.
2. Street Taco's-Bridgett (Pull Through)
3. Party on the Patio-Doug (Drivable)
4. Hitchin' Kitchen-Tina (Pull Through)
5. Brewhouse BBQ-Doug confirmed on May 1st (Pull Through)
6. Kona Ice-Tina (Drivable)

President Wilkinson reiterated to the member that the truck owners know they are expected to make a donation of \$100 to be a participant. President Wilkinson contacted Noble County Disposal and they will bring trash cans for the August event. The board discussed the location of

the trucks to be on Front Street along the parking spaces on the north side. The board discussed the location of the port-a-johns for this year. Secretary Pranger stated she confirmed with Pepperoni's Pizza the location will be on their lot in the southwest corner.

Chautauqua Days-August 12th

The board discussed the pickleball and cornhole tournament to be held in the morning. President Wilkinson stated she met with Steve Kirkpatrick-Albion regarding the pickleball tourney. He noted we need a dry erase board to keep track of the brackets. Pranger will order one through Amazon. President Wilkinson suggested we have registration at 8:00 .am. and start the games at 8:30 a.m. Games will last about 2 hours. President Wilkinson stated we will need some small prizes- suggested Gift Cards 1st place \$20, 2nd Place \$15 and 3rd Place \$10. We will need a total of six since we are awarded men and women.

The Cornhole Tournament will be run by Doug Eby Hidden Ego \$500 to run tournament. He suggested a purse of \$1000 and to get a business or business to sponsor it. If we charge \$25 per person 10 teams=\$500 and 20 teams=\$1000. President Wilkinson stated we need to get donations for the prizes and suggest contacting the businesses in town. Secretary Pranger stated she will contact the businesses in the Industrial Park. Current Donations \$100 R & S Boats, \$250 B & J Specialty. President Wilkinson and Member Martin attended the Town Council meeting and received permission to allow BYOB coolers for the corn hole tournament. The board discussed running a small concession stand during the event. President Wilkinson stated we can have hotdogs and pork burgers with chips and a water.

Kelly Park

- a) The wheelchair swing has been installed along with the rubber mats for fall protection. Wilkinson asked Pranger to look into the cost of a mommy and me swing to install in place of the wheelchair swing.
- b) Secretary Pranger informed the board the quote from Kammerer in Kendallville to replace the 7-trash can lids is \$2475. Member Martin made a motion to approve the purchase of the new lids from Kammerer. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.
- c) Secretary Pranger informed the board of the quote from Summit Supply for the tennis court posts per set, 3-1/2 inch galvanized posts are \$532 plus shipping. The posts are starting to be pulled out of the ground and the entire court needs to be replaced. Secretary Pranger will look into quote for replacing the courts this fall. Member Martin made a motion to approve the purchase of the tennis court posts. Second by Member Maley. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Dog Park -Change name to Off Leash Area-Location between Kelly Park and Grant Park:

The board discussed the Dog Park. Trees planted June 2nd. The donations collected at the June 3rd event \$113.75 for the Dog Park.

Secretary Pranger sent a third email to Green -a-lawn for an application cost to treat fleas and ticks-never heard back- we will have to do the application ourselves.

Items needed for the park (Benches, trees, Dog Station, Signage, picnic table, dog exercise stations, fence, water fountain) Member Maley is looking into grants for dog parks. Doug Stated he received costs for the entry gates and fence from Alpha Builders in Shipshewana \$5,609.69 (Member Maley stated Heidi Lang needs to contact Alpha Builders to set up account for the tax exemption, rental of the auger for the post installation is \$200. They plan to do the installation on July 26th. Member Maley stated they will need water for the concrete and will borrow the town's water tank for the installation. Member Maley made the motion to purchase the fence and rent the auger for the fence installation. Second by Member Martin. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Grant Park

- a) The spring animal has been installed and mats placed for fall protection.
- b) Car bumper has been removed and rock put back in place.
- c) Spray weeds in playground area.

Sycamore Park

- a) Nothing new.

Lakeside Park

- a) Install half court basket/pickle ball along Park Drive or next to the fence by Sturdivant's.
- b) Playground upgrade: The board instructed Pranger to contact the play equipment company Summit Supply, USA and Play Time to begin the design of the playground. First step in working to getting a grant for the equipment. President Wilkinson stated she will contact, Noble County Community Foundation, Dekko, and Cole Foundation regarding their grant cycles. Cole and Noble Community Foundation have November deadlines with money distribution in February 2024.
- c) Replacement trees along lake in the fall.
- d) Boat ramp for kayak, canoes, and paddleboards-Land Water Conservation Grant

Gaff Park Trail head:

- a) Secretary Pranger informed the board that the well was rebleached and everything came back ok. Drinking Fountain is open again along with the restroom.
- b) Storage room code changed- add shelf for supplies
- c) Member Martin stated he is willing to donate a Reverse osmosis system to Gaff Park for the water fountain. Secretary Pranger said she will have Scott Neukom get in touch with Member Martin on the install.

Trail update: Pre-bid meeting July 13th and bid opening on July 27th. Final Completion date set for June 30 2024.

2023 Budget

Park Donation Account \$23,901.87

#119-Park Maintenance	\$6,612.70
#135-Contractual	\$ 4,000.00
#234-Park Supplies	\$ 2,358.59
#341-Park Insurance-Don't Spend	\$ 454.76
#352-Park Light-Don't spend	\$ 3,023.42
#362-Park Repairs	\$ 2,782.76
#430-Park Improvement	\$11,645.00
#442-Park Equipment	<u>\$11,504.33</u>
Total	\$42,381.56 +23,901.87=\$66,289.43

Town/Park Project \$14,693.30

Member Coe a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Second by Member Martin. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting: August 21, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Leigh A. Pranger, Secretary

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Old Items

Kelly Park

- a) *Replace baseball back stop or reinforce-on hold- fill in hole around manhole behind home plate.
- b) Look into reconstruction of tennis courts for future planning.
- c) *Secretary Pranger informed the board the sports complex had horseshoe and shuffleboard courts and Strawser Brothers did the work.
- d) *

Grant Park

- a) *Hold until 2024-Concrete pads under bleachers.

Lakeside

- a) Member Maley showed the board his power point on items that might be considered for the playground area. Musical Flowers \$1600, Xylophone \$6000, Musical Bench. He showed the board play equipment in the shape of a boat-the board expressed interest to keep with the lake theme. Exercise Stations for adults and kids could be added along the sidewalk. Secretary Pranger showed the board a new catalog from Summit Supply with ideas for a musical park or adult workout stations.
- b) The board requested Pranger look into a possible grant for the installation of a small boat ramp at the east end of Lakeside Park. Pranger stated there is money available through Land & Water Conservation funds for this type of project.

*location for President Furlow's bench-Pranger suggested it be installed between the pine trees at the public access- There will be room we will need to place a concrete or asphalt pad.