

## ROME CITY PARK BOARD

Regular Meeting  
May 15, 2023

The Rome City Park Board held their regular meeting on Monday, May 15, 2023 at 5:36 p.m., held in the Rome City Town Hall. Called to order by President Wilkinson.

Members Present:

Leigh A. Pranger-Secretary	Doug Maley
Tina Wilkinson	John Martin
Bridgett Coe	

Roll call a quorum was present.

Interested parties in attendance: No interested parties in attendance.

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

Softball/Baseball-Secretary Pranger informed the board that softball games start this week.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> Gaff Park Celebration: Need to purchase banners, confirm band and food trucks, yard games to be picked up from the Kendallville Library by Bridgett Coe, Tina Wilkinson will have a poster made up and confirm the band and who the check should be made out too, John Martin will get the cake from Costco, plates and forks, Leigh Pranger small table, tablecloth, knife and server, cornhole boards and bags, Doug Maley hot dogs, buns, condiments and grill. Pranger stated we can use the bottled water in the basement and pay the baseball league. Food Trucks-Street Tacos and House of Brisket.

July 1<sup>st</sup> Fundraiser: the board discussed the Food trucks who will be attending the event. Fundraiser for 2024 Playground at Lakeside Park

1. Ed's Fish and More-Bridgett
2. Street Taco's-Bridgett
3. Party on the Patio-Doug
4. Hitchin' Kitchen-Tina
5. Brewhouse BBQ-Doug confirmed on May 1st
6. Kona Ice-Tina

President Wilkinson reiterated to the member that the truck owners know they are expected to make a donation of \$100 to be participant. The board discussed trash cans for the event. Member Coe asked President Wilkinson to contact Noble County Disposal for the trash cans we had last year for the 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. The board discussed the closing of the half block starting at 4:30p.m. Pranger stated they need to ask the Town Council for the road closure at the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Have some picnic tables brought over from the parks for places for people to sit.

Secretary Pranger informed the board she is working on park rules to be passed by ordinance. She is checking with other towns to see what kind of rules they have. The Marshal requested

Ordinances on closing times for the parks and no alcohol. The ordinances were passed at the May 8<sup>th</sup> Town council meeting.

President Wilkinson stated she would like to do a walk through of the parks for the June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Meeting location to be determined.

### **Kelly Park**

- a) Keypad locks installed on concession stand door.
- b) \*Kelly Park Playground-Pranger informed the board the town guys are going to install the wheelchair swing posts on the west side of the path going to the playground. We will then put down rubbers mats instead of adding concrete. President Wilkinson asked Pranger to look into the cost of a mommy and me swing to install in place of the wheelchair swing.
- c) Four trees were planted on the west side of the playground. Donated by Graphic Packaging and Town of Rome City-plaque for Renisea Hoffman needs to be made and placed.
- d) Secretary Pranger informed the board we need to replace the lids on the trash cans at the pavilions in Kelly Park. Pranger stated the town employees said they can weld new rings for the cans.

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

The board discussed the Dog Park. Member Maley stated three trees will be planted by NIPSCO, they are contracted with Dogwood Hills to plant the trees at the end of the month. He is working on corporate and brick donations. Secretary Pranger gave the board a list of the donations for the Dog Park- \$881.00

Secretary Pranger sent a third email to Green -a-lawn for an application cost to treat fleas and ticks, waiting to hear back.

Member Maley informed the board Olivia Ruff (sheepdog)-anything is pawsible in Rome City, now has a Facebook page to get the word out about the Off Leash area. He asked the board members to friend her on Facebook. Member Maley stated he has a contractor willing to install the fence as long as we buy the material. This will give us a saving of almost 50%. 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 \$3,659.

**\*\*President Wilkinson informed the cost to mow the area may increase due to the additional cleaning from the dog poop. (The board stated the dog park area will only need to be mowed every other week)**

### **Grant Park**

- a) Secretary Pranger ordered the horse spring animal.

### **Sycamore Park**

- a) Member Maley stated NIPSO will be planting one Sycamore Trees in Sycamore Park, to be planted end of May.
- b) Pranger stated she had a community service worker pick up trash.

### **Lakeside Park**

- a) Discussion on Lakeside Park half court basket/pickle ball. The board discussed going back to installing a court along Park Drive or next to the fence by Sturdivant's.
- b) Playground upgrade: The board instructed Pranger to contact the play equipment company 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.

- c) Nicole Henschen requested to purchase a strip of land along the lake in Lakeside Park. The board discussed the request and stated they are not interested in selling off public property to an individual, especially in the middle of the park property. The board further stated they a previously decided not to sell the park property. Member Maley made a motion to deny the request to sell off a portion of Lakeside Park to Henschen's. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.
- d) Boat ramp for kayak, canoes, and paddleboards-Land Water Conservation Grant
- e) Secretary Pranger asked the board if they wanted to update the five-year park plan. The board stated to find out the cost and how long does the process take?

**Gaff Park Trail head:**

- a) Secretary Pranger informed the board we have received the well permit. The well will be installed on May 18<sup>th</sup>, then a line will need to be ran to the park. The Sewer line will be run on June 1<sup>st</sup> and connected to the restrooms. Everything should be ready for Saturday's event.
- c) \*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.
- d) 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: Design phase is complete and sent to IDNR for approval and easement paperwork sent to property owners.

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

Next Meeting: June 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. possible walk through of parks.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Leigh A. Pranger, Secretary

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) \*Secretary Pranger stated the addition to the concrete pad for the bleacher in Kelly Park will have to wait-we can enlarge the pad and add the base stone. The water fountain at Kelly Diamond will need to be relocated to the corner of the pavilion in order to move the bleachers.

**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.