

ROME CITY PARK BOARD

Regular Meeting
September 18, 2023

The Rome City Park Board held their regular meeting on Monday, September 18, 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 Tina Wilkinson
John Martin Bridgett Coe

Members Absent:

Doug Maley

Roll call a quorum was present.

Interested parties in attendance: No one in attendance.

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 the softball league will be holding a year-end meeting.

Restricting parking in parks: Secretary Pranger stated the town hall has been receiving complaints that Gaff and Lakeside Parks are being used for overnight parking by Air b and b's. The board discussed the issues and decided to restrict parking in Gaff Park to daytime only, No parking overnight as this park is also a trail head for the bike trail and we need to keep the spaces open for the people using the trails. Member Martin made a motion to prohibit overnight parking in Gaff Park. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried. Secretary Pranger stated an ordinance will be developed and brought to the town council for their approval. Pranger will let the board know when the ordinance will be in front of the TC for approval. The board also asked Pranger to have the town employees expand the parking lot toward the pavilion.

Closure of Restrooms and concession stand for the winter: The board stated to close Kelly Park concessions anytime and the restrooms by the tennis courts October 16th after the last rental on October 14th. Watch the weather on Gaff Park to close later.

Trash can lids: Secretary Pranger informed the board the trash can lids were made incorrectly and she is waiting for word on who made the error-Kammerer or town employees.

Planning-Concert in Gaff Park: June 7 2024 Discussed possible Bands-Whoa Man, Wallen Road, Mason Dixon Line. Food Trucks

Kelly Park

- a) The Mommy and me swing has been ordered.
- b) Tennis court posts will be installed by the next meeting.
- c) The board discussed redoing the tennis courts into one tennis court and two pickleball courts. The board stated we need to obtain quotes so we can encumber funds from 2023 budget to have the work performed in 2024. Secretary Pranger stated she contacted K and M Asphalt (they will get us a quote for the November meeting. And she still needs to contact Pulver Asphalt (to see if they do courts) for quotes. If the board knows or any other companies, they should forward the contact information.
- d) Secretary Pranger informed the board Green-a-lawn treated the baseball fields for grubs and asked if we still want to continue the treatment even if we have no league using the field next year. The board stated yes, they have spent a lot of money to get the field in good condition and do not want to go backwards.
- e) Secretary Pranger informed the board Susan Garringer (lives on the lake) is interested in starting a kids tennis program for one-week next summer. The board stated this would be

great, but we would need to get the word out early and asked Ms. Garringer some to the January or February meeting to start the planning and find out what she will need to make this happen.

Grant Park

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

The board discussed Grant Dog Park. Member Maley informed Secretary Pranger they are working on lowering the existing fence. Secretary Pranger stated the signage for the dog park and potty station have been ordered. Member Maley stated he is closing the brick fundraiser and working on getting the brick to have them engraved. The board stated we can move a bench from Gaff Park and put it in the dog park. Member Maley asked for suggestions on landscaper to install the bricks. (Rookleif, Schmidt Services, Lake Country). Secretary Pranger stated Member Maley would like to organize a workday to fill holes from burrowing animals. The town can provide the dirt. **When do you want to do the official opening of the park?**

Sycamore Park

a) The board discussed the need for a hitching post in Sycamore Park so the Amish quit tying their horses to the trees. Secretary Partner suggested we contact the Amish bishop and ask them to maintain a poop station, so the manure is not leaching into the Little Lake. President Wilkinson stated she might have a contact. The board also stated if a hitching post is installed someone needs to be responsible for cleaning up the horse waste-this can also be discussed with the Amish.

Lakeside Park

- a) Install half court basket/pickle ball along Park Drive or next to the fence by Sturdivant's- The board suggested we contact Pulver's to see if they can quote a half-court basketball court as they will be here doing the trail next year.
- 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) Discuss getting a landscaper to install native Indiana trees along lake this fall.
- d) Secretary Pranger informed the board the contract has been sent to Region IIA for the new park plan update and she sent the updates of what the park board accomplished on the old plan so they can get started working on the plan.

Gaff Park Trail head:

- a) The board discussed expanding the parking lot to the north. Need a drawing with dimension to give to the town guys to do the work.
- b) 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 installation.
- c) Member Martin asked if we could install a sign in Gaff Park to match the other town signage. President Wilkinson stated she will ask her husband Jim Wilkinson to give us a quote to have the sign done in 2024. The board agreed this would be a nice addition to the park and tie all the signage together.
- d) Well has been approved by IDEM.

2023 Budget

<u>Park Donation Account</u>	\$25,129.97
#119-Park Maintenance	\$3,231.52
#135-Contractual	\$4000.00
#234-Park Supplies	\$2306.63
#341-Park Insurance-Don't Spend	\$ 199.58
#352-Park Light-Don't spend	\$2654.69
#362-Park Repairs	\$ -142.50
#430-Park Improvement	\$ 6,561.08
#442-Park Equipment	<u>\$10953.93</u>
Total	\$29,764.93 +25,129.97=\$54,894.90
Town/Park Project	\$14,693.30

Member Martin a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting: October 16, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


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) *

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. Boat ramp for kayak, canoes, and paddleboards-Land Water Conservation Grant

*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.