

ROME CITY PARK BOARD

Regular Meeting
February 20, 2024

The Rome City Park Board held their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 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

Tina Wilkinson
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.

Park Clean -up- President Wilkinson asked about park clean up. It was decided to have it after the roadside on April 13th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Not sure about the youth leagues at this time.

Softball/Baseball-Secretary Pranger informed the board the registration has started they will be at the school STEM event and school carnival for sign-ups.

Region IIIA update 5 five park plan. Secretary Pranger informed the board Region 3A will be attending the March 18th meeting.

Planning-Concert(s) in Gaff Park: Saturday, June 8 2024 President Wilkinson contacted Wallen Road, \$1000, they will play from 6-8 pm. Food Trucks- 5-8 pm. House of Brisket and Street Tacos or Fort Wayne truck. Need to have a sign prepared for the event. Board discussed asking for band sponsors. (Shepherd's, Spidel Iron and Metal, Howard Murray) Need to assign person contacting.

Food Trucks and Fireworks-Saturday July 6, 2024: Set up 4-4:30 p.m. and serving 5-10 pm Street Tacos, Hitchin' Kitchen, Party on the Patio, Tyrone's Dawgs, Kona Ice, Brewhouse BBQ. The board will start contacting the Trucks to get them on the calendar. Truck owners to donate \$100 to Park Dept.)

Park Cleaner's: President Wilkinson asked how much we paid the cleaners per occurrence? \$25 per week per park. The Ritchie's cleaned a couple of times a week and always before the weekend. President Wilkinson stated she may be interested if not possibly Sarah Ackerman or Sarah Geurs.

Kelly Park

- a) The Mommy and me and toddler swing have been installed.
- b) Secretary Pranger informed the board that the playgrounds in Kelly and Grant need wood chips added. Member Martin made a motion to order 2 semi loads of wood chips from Pallet 1 in Shipshewana. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.
- c) **Pickleball and Cornhole Tournaments on August 10th.** The board discussed holding the tournaments and President Wilkinson stated contacted Doug Eby, Hidden Ego and Steve Kirkpatrick to help with the tournaments. The board discussed not making the food this year as most participants bring their own. Registration will be at 8:00 a.m. pickleball

with the tournament starting at 8:30 a.m. Registration at 8:30 a.m. cornhole tournament starting at 9:00 a.m. Need to work on sponsors for the event. 2023 sponsors: R & S Boats \$100, B & J specialty \$250, Shepherd's \$500, Fruition \$250, Miller's Super Valu-Food, Outbak Photography-Haunted Trail Tickets

- d) 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 come to the April 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 the bricks at the entrance will be postponed to Spring of 2024. Mr. Maley stated we can open the park and finish the entryway in the Spring and then have a Grand celebration then. The board agreed.

Mr. Maley made a flyer to announce the park is open. Secretary Pranger will post it to Facebook. President Wilkinson will get the plaque for Flyaway Bay Kennels as they donated the money for the dog station. Member Maley informed Secretary Pranger the bricks are engraved and being stored at the town street garage until they can be installed. Do we need a plaque for the Lions Club donation?

Sycamore Park

Nothing for the Agenda

Lakeside Park

- a) 1/2 Court basketball funds have been encumbered from 2023 to 2024. Pulver Asphalt Paving-installation of a 1.2 court basket/pickle ball with lines \$28,500. The board agreed to encumber any funds left in the line items from 2023 to the 2024 budget to install the 1/2 court. Secretary Pranger stated she will ask the Town council at the next meeting. Member Martin made a motion to encumber funds from 2023 to 2024 for the installation of a 1/2 court. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.
- b) Playground design: after reviewing the design from Midstates and the sale flyer. The board said we just need to come up with a proposed playground and a cost for fundraising. The end product will change as the board stated they will most likely purchase sale items for the playground. The board decided they would like to install a separate area for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds.
- c) Playground Fundraising: The board needs to work on obtaining grants to help fund the playground. Noble County Community Foundation, Dekko, and Cole Foundation regarding their grant cycles.
- d) Discuss getting a landscaper to install native Indiana trees along lake this fall.

Gaff Park Trail head:

- a) The board discussed expanding the parking lot to the north. Secretary Pranger informed the board with the weather breaking early, she submitted the drawing with dimensions to the town guys and they have started the expansion. She stated they will also replace the existing plastic ties with railroad ties so they all match.
- b) No overnight Parking approved by Town Council. Secretary Pranger stated sign is here just needs to be installed.

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) Restrooms closed for the season.

e) **Sled Box**: The board discussed the idea of a Free Sled Box in Gaff Park. President Wilkinson brought proposal from Albion Parks Department about installing a free sled box for the kids to borrow a sled and then leave it in the box when they are done. No decision was made.

2024 Budget

Park Donation Account	\$24,524.13
#119-Park Maintenance	\$14,000.00
#135-Contractual	\$ 4,000.00
#234-Park Supplies	\$ 3,000.00
#341-Park Insurance-Don't Spend	\$ 5,000.00
#352-Park Light-Don't spend	\$ 4,000.00
#362-Park Repairs	\$ 5,000.00
#430-Park Improvement	\$15,000.00
#442-Park Equipment	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
Total	\$65,000.00 +24,524.13=\$89,524.13
Town/Park Project	\$15,000.00
Encumbered: asphalt basketball court Lakeside Pk:	\$28,500

Next Meeting: Secretary Pranger asked the board to move the November meeting due to Veteran's Day falling on the Monday night of the Town council meeting and they moved their meeting back one week. To the Park Board regular meeting night. Member Coe made a Motion to move the November meeting to Tuesday, November 19th. Second by Member Martin. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Member Martin a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted:


Leigh A. Pranger, Secretary