

The Regular Park Board Meeting of the Town of Schererville, Indiana, was called to order by President Brad Bassick, at 6:00 p.m. in the Schererville Town Hall, 10 East Joliet Street, Schererville, Indiana.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance was taken with the following Board Members present: Brad Bassick, Tom Malinowski, Ed Repay, Joe Skvarek, and Nicole Kelly. Staff members present: Superintendent John Novacich, Assistant Superintendent Irene Mireles, Recreation Director Josh Barnes, Attorney Alfredo Estrada, and Recording Secretary Kristen Bohling.

THEREUPON, Approval of minutes for January 10, 2023

Ms. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 10 meeting, seconded by Mr. Skvarek. All in favor (5-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence NONE

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Staff

Mr. Novacich reviewed statistics from 2022. There were over 120 room rentals, with 8,000 guests. 4,523 registered participants for 147 park programs offered. The non-reverting revenue is up 54% from 2021 at \$453,000.

Mr. Novacich listed the projects completed in 2022: installation of the LED sign, sponsored benches, splash pad, 8 tennis courts were striped for pickle ball, renovated the playground at Redar Park, a new playground at Rohrman Park, repaved the Pine Island Trail spur, the Erie Lackawanna Trail, 85% of the Pennsy Trail extension was finished, and in conjunction with Lake County Parks 76 trees were planted along the trail.

Mr. Novacich said the Fest revenue numbers were about the same as last year. He mentioned that an estimated 50,000 people attended the summer events. He stated there were 5 tournaments held at the Rohrman ballfields, 92 games, and 272 practices. He also shared that the Dog Park had 118 members, with 145 dogs.

Mr. Novacich spoke on advertising and social media statistics for 2022, as well. The Department had 2,863,000 views from the Town Planner. On Facebook there are 17,299 followers and reached over 600,000 people.

Mr. Novacich also went over Civic Rec numbers. There were 86 online shelter rentals. There are 5,000 users signing up through Civic.

Mr. Novacich discussed the breakdown of funds for 2022. Fest makes up 30% of the special event revenue, with the remaining coming in from Fireworks and Party in the Park events. Programs brought in \$87,000.00, concession brought in \$22,000.00, ticketed events made \$40,000.00, and craft shows made \$31,000.00.

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. Any other from the Park Board NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. Consider Approval of Schererville Chamber Special Event Request

Ms. Kelly said she will recuse herself from this request since she works for the Schererville Chamber, but will be happy to answer any questions, as the person that was supposed to come to the meeting could no longer make it. Mr. Repay asked if everything is the same as last year. Ms. Kelly responded yes.

Mr. Skvarek made a motion to approve the request from the Schererville Chamber for their Corn Roast and to waive the fees as done last year. Mr. Repay seconded the motion. All in favor (4-0-1).

ITEM B. Consider Approval of NICK Foundation Special Event Request

Ms. Bohling said the representative from NICK Foundation could not come due to an unexpected emergency.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to table the Special Event Request from the NICK Foundation, Mr. Repay seconded the motion.

Mr. Skvarek stated that according to the report from last year, that was included in the packet, the NICK Foundation was invoiced \$500.00, but only paid \$250.00. He asked if the NICK Foundation still owed. \$250.00. Ms. Bohling responded that the invoice sent was for the event fee \$250.00 and the security deposit of \$250.00, totaling \$500.00. Ms. Bohling stated the \$250.00 security deposit was returned to the NICK Foundation, after their event.

Mr. Novacich asked Attorney Estrada if the Board tables this item, then it will have to be brought back to the floor at the next meeting. Attorney Estrada responded yes, if there is a motion and a second, only general discussions are limited to that motion, not any substance of the matter. If there is any discussion on a motion to approve, then a motion will have to be made to be able to discuss the item. Mr. Repay asked if there is a better way to move forward. Attorney Alfredo said a motion to continue would be preferable and then the item can be placed on next month's agenda automatically. Mr. Bassick asked how to proceed with there already being a motion and a second to table. Attorney Estrada said to withdraw the motion.

Mr. Malinowski withdrew the motion to table the item. Mr. Repay made a motion to continue the event request from the NICK Foundation, seconded by Mr. Malinowski. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM C. Consider Approval of Indiana NSA Tournament Requests

Ms. Mireles stated the requests are for the Midsummer Showdown on June 23-25 and the Fall Brawl on September 30 – October 2. She said that there is no change with the tournaments from previous years. She mentioned that last year the Board approved a fee of \$200.00 for each field per day.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to approve the NSA Midsummer Showdown Tournament on June 23-25 and the NSA Fall Brawl on September 30 – October 2. Mr. Repay seconded the motion. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM D. Discuss Girls Softball Lease Agreement

Mr. Repay made a motion to continue the discussion at a later date, seconded by Ms. Kelly. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM E. Discuss Beer Garden RFP

Mr. Malinowski made a motion for staff to send out the RFPs for the beer garden at the Schererville Fest and Fireworks, seconded by Mr. Skvarek. All in favor (5-0).

ITEM F. Any other from Park Board NONE

THEREUPON, Business from the floor NONE

The Board discussed the next meeting and decided to hold it on Tuesday, March 7, at 6pm.

Mr. Skvarek made a motion to reschedule the March 1 meeting to Tuesday, March 7, at 6pm, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (5-0)

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Kelly. All in favor (5-0).

Next Park Board meeting will be held on March 7, 2023.

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TOM MALINOWSKI  
PARK BOARD SECRETARY

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