TOWN OF SCHERERVILLE SCHERERVILLE, IN
REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING MARCH 2, 2022

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, and Ed Repay. Staff members present: Superintendent John Novacich, Administrative Coordinator Irene Mireles, Attorney Christian Bartholomew, Councilwoman Robin Arvanitis, and Recording Secretary Kristen Bohling. Board Members not present: Joe Skvarek and Nicole Kelly.

THEREUPON, Approval of minutes for January 12, 2022

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2022 meeting, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (3-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence NONE

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Staff

Ms. Bohling reported on Community Center and Picnic Shelter rentals.

Joshua Barnes, Recreation Coordinator, reported on camp sign-ups and revenue brought in so far this year.

Ms. Mireles reported on Rohrman Ballfield rentals this year.

Mr. Repay asked Mr. Novacich if the Department has enough staff and can it bring in enough staff to do run the camps. Mr. Novacich said the Department needs more staff for the summer camps and events and anticipate bringing in more staff. He said that applications start coming in this month when kids are on spring break. Mr. Barnes said last year the Department had hired 20-25 additional staff for the summer. He said that he would like to bring some people in this month if he can as opposed to end May. Mr. Barnes said he released summer camp sign-ups sooner so he can have a better idea on how many new staff he needs to bring in. Mr. Novacich said that he, Mr. Barnes, and Ms. Mireles are in the process of interviewing for a new full-time Program Coordinator, as well.

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. Splash Pad Update

Mr. Novacich said there was a meeting between the Board, staff, and residents of Sherwood Greens about the splash pad last Saturday and there was a lot of good input. He said there has been further discussions since based on what was said at the meeting about moving the splash pad to the west side of the Community Center. He said the engineer has been out there and different utility companies have come out for locates to see if moving it there would be a viable option and it is a doable location for the splash pad. Mr. Novacich said there would be additional costs associated with moving it, but he does not know what those costs are yet. Mr. Bassick said that there should be a motion to move the location of the splash pad from its previously approved location to the new location.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to relocate the splash pad at the Community Center from the original location to the new location on the west side of the building as presented by Mr. Novacich. Mr. Repay seconded the motion. All in favor (3-0).

Mr. Bassick said that the meeting will move to Business from the floor so anyone who would like to speak can come up.

THEREUPON, Business from the floor

Sheila Vanek, from 1518 Doral Drive, approached the Board and said that while the residents of The Greens of Sherwood would prefer the splash pad not be at Scherwood Park, they appreciate it being moved to the side of building.

Dan Miller, from 1502 Doral Drive, approached the Board and said that in the meeting that was on Saturday, it was said that with Community Center would provide supervision of the splash pad. Mr. Bassick said yes. Mr. Miller asked if there is no one working at the Community Center will the splash pad then be closed. Mr. Bassick said no. Mr. Miller then stated the Community Center will not provide complete supervision. Mr. Bassick said that it would provide supervision when staff is there, however when staff is not there, supervision would have to be provided by the parents of the children using the splash pad. Mr. Miller suggested that if something like this were to come up again that the residents get reached out to beforehand and their input be considered. Mr. Miller then asked about the LED sign that will be put in front of Scherwood Park and how tall it will be. Mr. Novacich said the sign will be 8 feet from the ground. Mr. Miller suggested that the LED sign would be better at the Town Hall.

Pam Woslowski, from 1506 Doral Drive, approached the Board and said that she does not understand why the splash pad is being placed where there are no kids that live around it. Ms. Woslowski also said that there is an area that was planted and no one takes care of it. She said that the splash pad will not be maintained and it will deteriorate the value of the community around it.

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM B. Lake County Park Dept. Request

Mr. Novacich said Craig Zandstra from Lake County Parks forwarded him a conceptual plan of the Serros Property and what they plan to do. He said Attorney Bartholomew was researching the use of impact fees on this project. Attorney Bartholomew said it is a possibility to use impact fees to purchase this land. He said Indiana Code provides that impact fee can only be used for certain things; those being to provide funds to infrastructure agencies for the provision of new infrastructure that is necessary to serve the new development in the impact zone from which the fee was collected. He said he does not see that being an issue as this project would serve the zone where the fees are collected. Attorney Bartholomew said the complication arose with the second prong of the statute that requires the impact fees be used for infrastructure that is identified in the zone improvement plan, which in this case would be 2018 Schererville Parks Impact Fee Study. He said at the time that the study was put together, this project was not contemplated. Attorney Bartholomew said there are a couple options one of them being if there was an impact fee study that contemplated this project. He said that the issue is worthy of further exploration and consider whether the impact fee study is up-to-date and if it should be supplemented. He said the impact fee study was formulated on the basis of the master plan, which was put together even further back than the impact fee study, because of that he is considering that as incorporated by reference. Attorney Bartholomew said that there are line items within the master plan that contemplate building new parks and if the master plan is considered incorporated into the impact fee study that would mean the impact fees could be used for this project.

Mr. Repay said while the project has its benefits and the Parks Department will probably have to help with some maintenance, he does not think that the Park Board should not have a hand in the land acquisition. He said the Board should make a recommendation to Town Council for them to decide on how to proceed, instead of the Board making a decision without having the funds. Mr. Bassick asked Attorney Bartholomew what he would recommend if the Board thinks this is a Council matter, so that it is not something that has to be discuss at every meeting. Attorney Bartholomew said the Board can make a motion to table the topic, unless and until there is a something from the Town Council that directly involves the Park Board.

Mr. Repay made a motion to table the discussion about the Lake County Parks Department request, seconded by Mr. Malinowski. All in favor (3-0)

ITEM C. Any other from Park Board

Mr. Repay asked Mr. Novacich if he had received any information on the mountain bike park that was proposed in the fall. Mr. Novacich said no.

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. Park Special Event Request – Tri Town Safety Village

Bill Jarvis, from the Tri Town Safety Village, approached the Board to request to the use of Redar Park for a car show event on July 17, 2022. Mr. Jarvis said there will be bouncy houses, as well as craft and food vendors. Mr. Repay asked Mr. Novacich if the date was available. Mr. Novacich said yes. Mr. Repay asked Mr. Novacich if there has ever been cars parked in the center of Redar Park at previous events. Mr. Novacich said there used to be a car show at Redar, the only issue that arose was when it rained prior to the event and the grass area was not used. Mr. Jarvis said that if it rains the day before the event, his plan is to use the streets along Redar for the cars, craft and food vendors would remain in the same spot according to his event map. Mr. Novacich said there is a Special Event Committee with the town and he will need to speak with Sam DeCero. Mr. Novacich asked how many cars he is planning on having attend. Mr. Jarvis said he is hoping to have 200 cars.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to approve the Park Special Event Request from the Tri Town Safety Village at Redar Park on July 17, 2022, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (3-0).

ITEM B. Park Special Event Request – Fair Haven, Inc.

Ms. Bohling said that since the agenda came out, Fair Haven has decided not to hold their event at a Schererville Park.

ITEM C. Park Special Event Request – Schererville Chamber Corn Roast

Caleb Johnson, approached the Board on behalf of the Schererville Chamber of Commerce, to request the use of Redar Park for the Schererville Chamber Corn Roast on July 29, 2022. Mr. Johnson said everything will be the same as previous years.

Mr. Repay made a motion to approve the event on July 29, 2022, pending a formal written request. Mr. Malinowski seconded the motion. All in favor (3-0).

ITEM D. Disc Golf Tournament Request

Joe Duncan, from 6809 73rd Court, approached the Board to request to have a tournament at the Disc Golf Course at Autumn Creek Park on May 14, 2022 Mr. Duncan said there will be a $25.00 fee to enter that will be used to

purchase participants their own discs. He said there will be a limit of 45 people. Mr. Novacich said insurance will be required. Mr. Duncan said that can be provided.

Mr. Repay made a motion to approve the Disc Golf Tournament Request for May 14, 2022, at Autumn Creek Disc Golf Course pending the Department obtaining a Certificate of Insurance naming Town of Schererville as the additional insured. Mr. Malinowski seconded the motion. All in favor (3-0).

ITEM E. Consider Request for Beer & Wine Garden at Park Events

Mr. Novacich said the Department is asking to consider allowing beer and wine present at the following events:

Cinco De Mayo Party in the Park	Redar Park	Friday, May 6th – 5pm-9pm
Pokemon Party in the Park	Redar Park (Movie)	Friday, May 27th – 5pm-10:30pm
Celebrate Schererville Fest	Redar Park	June 8th – June 12th
Dino Day Party in the Park	Redar Park (Movie)	Friday, June 24th – 5pm-10:30pm
Fireworks (July 2nd – Rain Date)	Rohrman Park	Wednesday, July 1st – 5pm
Hocus Pocus Party in the Park	Redar Park (Movie)	Friday, July 22nd – 5pm-10:30pm
NWI Symphony	Redar Park	Saturday, July 23rd
Corn Roast	Redar Park (Chamber)	Friday, July 29th
Cars Party in the Park	Redar Park (Movie)	Friday, August 12th – 5pm-10:30pm
Sonic 2 Party in the Park	Redar Park (Movie)	Friday, August 19th – 5pm-10:30pm
Evening Under the Stars	Redar Park	Friday, August 23rd - 7pm

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to recommend the list of events to allow beer and wine to the Town Council, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (3-0).

ITEM F. Discuss Beer Garden RFPs – Fest & Fireworks

Mr. Novacich said the guaranteed fee of $6,000.00 for the Festival beer garden has not been raised in a while. He said the last few years the entertainment costs has increased and beer garden was expanded. He also said the Department would like to get a nicer tent for the beer garden this year. Mr. Novacich asked the Board to consider increasing the guaranteed fee that will be included with the RFP. Mr. Malinowski asked Mr. Novacich how much he would recommend the fee be. Mr. Novacich said at a minimum $7,000.00.

Mr. Malinowski asked if we will be asking the same for the Fireworks beer garden. Mr. Barnes said that in the past the guaranteed fee was $500.00. He said the most he would raise it to is $750.00. Mr. Barnes said that he would not raise much higher than that because Fireworks is only one day and heavily dependent on the weather, which makes it a higher risk.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to approve the Request for Proposal for the Fireworks beer garden, with a guaranteed rate of $500.00. Mr. Repay seconded the motion. All in favor (3-0).

Mr. Malinowski made a motion that the Request for Proposals for the Celebrate Schererville Festival guaranteed rate be raised to $7,000.00. Mr. Repay seconded the motion. All in favor (3-0).

ITEM G. Any other from Park Board

Mr. Bassick asked Ms. Bohling if the Cystic Fibrosis Event Request was in the packet for specific reason. Ms. Bohling said that request was put in there for an update on the status of their application. She said she received the security deposit and is waiting on the event fee. Ms. Bohling said she emailed her contact at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and they are in the process of getting that check cut.

Mr. Repay made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Malinowski. All in favor (3-0).

Next Park Board meeting will be held on April 6, 2022.

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ED REPAY
PARK BOARD SECRETARY

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