

## Huntingburg Park Board

September 26, 2012

**Board Members Present: Mike Fulkerson, Mande Keusch, Joyce Fleck, and Jason Lange**

**City Employees Present: Jim Rueger**

- I. Mande made a motion to approve the claims. Mike seconded. Board approved 4-0.
- II. Jason made a motion to approve the August 30<sup>th</sup> minutes. Mike seconded. Board approved 4-0.
- III. Sam Blake, V.P. of Business Development for Spear Corporation was present to discuss the Splash Park. He explained that once the colors were selected he could place the order and the features would be here in 6 – 8 weeks. It was decided that Board member Mande Keusch would select the colors after the meeting. Other possible changes such as some of the features being changed or traded out can occur. Sam will e-mail Jim a catalog of various features and it will be forwarded to Mande to review. Since the Board preferred awnings instead of the plan for umbrellas, the Park Department will purchase the awnings and Spear will install them when doing the construction. Sam also said that the solenoid valves are common and not a special order which makes repairs easier. Their goal is to have the features installed this year before the snow flies. The Splash Park will be operable on May 6, 2013. Once the work begins, construction will take one month. Before the unit starts up, Spear will train our employees about the start- up process, next spring. Also, in the fall of 2013 Spear will winterize it with our employees and finally in the spring of 2014, they will help us one last time with start-up. Sam stressed that no construction will begin until the equipment arrives which is 6 – 8 weeks after colors and features are decided upon.
- IV. Director's Report
  - A. 2012 Herbstfest – With the four inches of rain that we have already received this week, we will have some ground damage that the City Park due to the fest. The stage that is normally erected by the dirt area of home plate is being relocated to the first base area that is more solid and less likely to shift with the stage weight. With the accident at last year's State Fair, the stage builder said that if it was put at the home plate area, the State Fire Marshall would red flag it.
  - B. League Stadium – Since Labor Day, five skids of Bermuda sod has been laid to help patch worn and bare areas on the infield and foul territory at League Stadium.
  - C. Golf Driving Range – The Golf Driving Range has taken in \$9,600 to date. The best previous year was \$9,200 in 2009.
  - D. Projects – Some of the bare areas at Niehaus Park have been reseeded and seven replacement trees have been planted. When the Herbstfest is completed we will be aerating and reseeding damaged areas of the circle area of the City Park. During the same time period, we will over seed League Stadium with rye grass.
  - E. Jim proposed installing a grass infield at Southside Park on the Ed Hoffman Field. The past season, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Middle School baseball teams played one

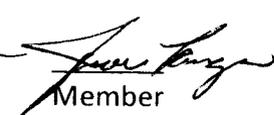
half of their games on this field and the other half at League Stadium. The price of the turf type fescue sod is \$1,637.50. Our employees will do the work at the field. This is a total of 8,100 square feet. Jason commented that coaches he talked to loved playing at the field and he was glad that their age group was being given a chance to play. Jim mentioned that with their age group trying to share League Stadium with the High School, there were conflicts with practices and playing games around the High School schedule. In the spring, this would eliminate some of the traffic on League Stadium. In 21 days this spring we had 17 games on field. This does not count the practices that were also held. Jason said that he would like to see the Middle School teams each play one season ending game at League Stadium. Jim mentioned that the third base dugout will be rebuilt before next season and that the batting cages need work after not being used for three years. Mike made a motion to purchase the sod. Jason seconded. Board approved 4-0.

- F. Jim mentioned the discussion about a possible archery range at Niehaus Park. Several residents had approached the City Council and several officials had met with the Dubois County Sportsmen's Club along with some DNR officials who are very much interested in an archery program. The Sportsmen's Club would be willing to provide funds for the range. The range would have to be handicap accessible and extra parking may be needed. The Board had concerns of liability, maintenance costs, protection of the walkers, and felt that the site needed more separation from other park users.
- G. Jim and Mande will be working on items and features for accessible equipment north of League Stadium before the surfacing is started.
- V. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

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President

  
Secretary

  
Member

  
Member