

## *Thorntown Park Board Meeting Minutes*

*September 26, 2022 – 6:00 PM*

*Location: City Hall*

*Attendance: Derek Babcock, MJ Fairfield, Lisa Vitaniemi, Leslie Doctor*

President Derek Babcock called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

### Approval of Minutes

MJ Fairfield moved to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2022 meeting. Derek Babcock seconded. Minutes approved. Lisa will provide signed copies of the minutes to Koren Gray for the Town Council.

### Public Input

There were no public comments.

### Town Council Update

Lisa Vitaniemi attended the September town council meeting and reported that the Town Council approved a request to add a metal roof to the large shelter house and the garage portion of the sides of the restroom building not to exceed \$9,000 which is the approximate amount of the lowest bid of the bids submitted to the Council. She also informed that the park budget for 2023 has been set for \$12,000.

### Old/Continuing Business

#### **Updates:**

**Trail Work Day** – The last work day on August 27 included Leslie Doctor, MJ Fairfield, Steve & Lisa Vitaniemi. We accomplished a lot but there is still a lot that needs done on the trail.

**Community/Family Fun Day** – We did host a community/family fun day on September 5. There were games, hot dog lunches and an opportunity to complete the park survey. There was not a huge turnout, but there were 5 Western Boone seniors who assisted with the day. It was fun for those who attended. It was discussed that maybe the next time we can partner with a current town event for better marketing.

**Master Plan** – The Master Plan is still ongoing. The community surveys have been completed. Lisa will provide the results of the surveys and the plan for the park improvements to Dax Norton for completion of the plan.

**Playground/Mulch update** – The playground mulch has been placed in the smaller children's areas of the playground. Jerry Seymour completed that and will finish by spreading the remaining pea gravel currently in the drive. Next year the board will continue to replace pea gravel with mulch.

**Fall Flowers** – Mums were planted at the trailheads before the festival weekend. They look nice. Thanks to Leslie and MJ for this project. Kelly from the Thorntown museum will help Leslie transfer some perennials. It was decided that we would like to add some ornamental grasses at the trailheads and the park entrance. These will be obtained free from members and friends. Derek suggested to Leslie that she start a gardening club to get help maintaining the areas.

**Weeds in Tennis Court** – Derek agreed to look in the shed for some RoundUp or pick some up and spray the court.

**Jerry Johnson sign** – It was decided to table this project until next year.

**Bridge Posts:** We still need to get two posts replaced on the bridge. Derek has purchased the supplies. October 8 is the next work day. We will replace the 2 posts on that date.

**Mowing of ball diamonds** –Jon Thompson and crew have continued to mow the ball diamonds. The area has looked nice all summer.

**Dead Tree Removal** – There is a dead tree on the southeast corner of the park. The utility department has agreed to cut it down this fall. We may need to assist with clean up.

**Budget Review** – We have used nearly all of our budget. Remaining expenses may need to come from the donation fund. There was a \$350 charge taken out of the budget for the playground assessment that the Town Council had agreed to pay. Koren is looking into this.

**Trail Walk this fall:** It was decided to table this for another year.

**Cameras:** Derek advised he will be going this week to talk with the company about what all needs done to get everything in better working order.

## New Business

**Next work day** – October 8 will be the next work day. Work includes replacing the posts on the bridge and tying down the gaga pit with 24” spikes. Derek made a motion that we can spend up to \$200 for materials for the work day. Lisa seconded. All approved.

**Parking log discussion** – MJ has been obtaining quotes for paving the parking lot. One quote is for a 50 x 70 area for approximately \$20,000. It was discussed that we would like to extend the area to the end of the horseshoe pit to allow additional parking. At least 2 trees will need to be removed. MJ is also attempting to obtain quotes for this work. It was discussed that when the town has streets paved that maybe we could piggyback on that project with the extra materials to either get the parking lot or the walkways between areas of the playground.

**Dog Poop bags** – Derek is looking into the costs of providing posts and dog poop bags around the park. This can be discussed further at the next meeting.

**Winterizing restrooms** – It was decided that after this week the restrooms would be open only on weekends for a couple of weeks and then in the middle of the month winterized. Lisa will contact Jeremy Young about winterizing. Lisa will also contact Hopper Excavating about cleaning and winterizing the port-a-potty near the trail.

**Winter Farmer's Market** – It was decided to table this until the spring farmer's market.

**Lost and Found** – MJ advised that Marilyn has several items in the lost and found. We did put pictures on Facebook once but did not receive any responses. Lisa suggested that anything that is useful be donated to the school and the rest disposed of.

**Piano at the park** – Lisa advised that the piano at the park is not working completely. She will take a look with the tool we have to fix. If she can't fix it, we will look at it on the work day October 8.

**Memorial Area request** – Lisa advised that we have received a request for a memorial area bench in the back corner of the park. It was discussed and since there is already a bench close to that area, it was decided to table this for now.


**Recycle Grant** – Lisa advised that we have applied for a grant from the Solid Waste Management for the purchase of two handicap-accessible picnic tables made of recycled materials from Snider Recreation. She has had a discussion with the project leader. We will learn in the spring if we will receive the grant.

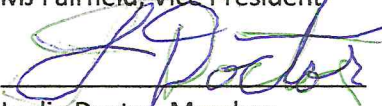
Derek moved that we adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM, MJ seconded. Meeting adjourned.

**Next meeting is October 24, 2022 at 6:00 PM.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Derek Babcock, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Vitaniemi, Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MJ Fairfield, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Doctor, Member