Meeting minutes for 9-18-19

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm. Gary Reaman, Lindsay Hoekstra, Brian Brucato and Matt Sandstrom were present. Ashley Luft was absent. With no public comment the meeting moved to the consent agenda. A motion was made seconded and voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2019 meeting. Motion passed. After many questions and discussion about some of the invoices a motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the invoices for payment. Motion passed.

Ann Cobb began with the post report on the Fiesta in fall event and it’s success. She expanded on when the festival was begun last year, it was to grow into a self-sustaining and then revenue enhancing event for the Park District. Updated website tool now being used and a cleaner, higher quality product has resulted. The levy was requested from the attorney’s office as to give more time for the Board to study the document, but was not ready. She recommended that each member make an appointment with the attorney and have all of their questions concerning the budget, levy and their processesanswered. The Park District has not been updated on the I-Parks or IAPD websites and Mrs. Hoekstra would like to make use of the online tools they had to offer. Mrs. Cobb said she would work on getting the updated information to those agencies, making the tools available to all the Board members. Catholic Charities would like to use the field house for a balance class for 8 weeks. It would be a free class for people 60 and over. The High School principal contacted the office about having the homecoming kick off bonfire again. Mr. Brucato expressed liability concerns. As it was short notice, the fire department would be present and there were no issues in the past, the event was scheduled. The high school also asked to borrow the bleachers for the home games for the Senior Class to be seated in the end zone during the home games. The building permit was secured for the replacement of the fencing which was scheduled for the second week of November by the fence company. Movie would go on rain or shine on September 28th. Main Street called about a sponsorship of Boardertown Hauntings. Mrs. Cobb reported having thoughts about combining efforts with Main Street and sponsoring their event in place of the Park District’s Hayride. Support for Main Street was accepted to be a great idea, but not having the Park’s Hayride was not well received. Mr. Sandstrom admitted that it was very hard to staff the hayride last year, but if the ride wasn’t put on it would be missed by the community. Mr. Sandstrom said he thought the event should go on this year and adjustments made after this year.

Treasurer Brian Brucato brought his concerns forward that he had no knowledge of the Fiesta. Much discussion took place. Mr. Sandstrom asked that going forward, for the event to be planned further in advance next year. Mr. Brucato expressed concern over the HVAC contractor’s license & insurance statuses. Mrs. Cobb thought it was on the paperwork at estimate and admitted failure to get hard copies from the contractor. Follow up was to be done to rectify the file.

No one else had anything to add. Mrs. Cobb brought up a portion that was Mrs. Luft’s item about a project for new signage for the City and the Park District. Funding and participation would be determined later when more information was available.

 Secretary Lindsay Hoekstra brought forward a request from the Glad Fest and the FFA to bring the tractor show back to the Glad Fest and the Island. More information would be forthcoming. She expressed thanks to Mr. Sandstrom for inspiring everyone to do their due diligence and become more involved and informed about their role on the Park Board.

President Gary Reaman brought up concerns about spending without Board approval and if a cap should be imposed. It was suggested that a text or phone call would be sufficient to approve a purchase. Mrs. Cobb suggested that before implementing such a plan that they read the statutes and meet the attorney before they involved themselves in something that could be against the State Statutes. Communication could be better and suggested that the best Board members she has worked with in the past have visited weekly to get reports and kept themselves informed about what was going on at the Park District. Mr. Sandstrom suggested that beginning with the Bylaws and the employee handbook would be places to start with self-education on the Park District. Further investigation would be necessary. A motion was made, seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion did not carry and the meeting was re-opened for a motion that was made, seconded and voted unanimously to allow Catholic Charites to host their class in the field house. Motion passed.

Motion made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 8:03 pm.