

WHITESTOWN



Whitestown Parks Board Meeting June 30, 2016

1. OPENING THE MEETING

A. Grant Calls Meeting to Order at 6:37pm – Roll Call – **Grant, Sam,** and **Kathy** are present; **Dawn** is absent, **Susan** is absent.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Election of 2016 Park Board Officers – **Kathy m/m** to table election of officers, **Sam 2nd,** 3-0 approved,

D. Approval of Minutes – May 2016 - **Kathy m/m** to approve minutes, **Grant 2nd,** approved 3-0.

2. PUBLIC REQUEST TO SPEAK – no requests

3. DEPARTMENT UPDATE

A. Department Report – **Nathan** said **Chuck** has been doing a great job helping with Parks.

B. Farm Heritage Trail Status – **Nathan** said the trail has been getting cleaned. Globe should be out to work on the grade. **Nathan** is working with a landowner to purchase land for the trail; they are possibly willing to donate. They want to negotiate on Impact Fees. **Kathy** said she is fine with it so long as the Board is kept up on the details. **Grant** and **Sam** agreed. The final grading and grass planting should be done in the next few weeks. The west side parking lot has been approved. It should take 2-3 days to get the lot finished. The **5k Fun Run** is on the trail soon. **Nathan** said he is looking into buying bat houses for the trail to help with the insect problem on the trail. **Kathy** suggested reaching out to the Purdue extension office in Boone Co., as they help promote and fund initiatives like this.

C. Event Updates

- **Whitestown Brew Fest** – **Nathan** said it is going well, and he has already sold some tickets. Indiana On Tap is working on getting some posters out, and some later posters will have the full list of sponsors, as we get them. Indiana On Tap is looking into adding some wine vendors, they couldn't sell, but they could give out tastings and take orders. **Nathan** heard there are 13 home brewers coming. After the 4th of July is over, **Nathan** is going to crunch the numbers and thinks the sponsor dollars will cover the event this year.

- **Fireworks Celebration** – Should still be the biggest 4th of July event. **Nathan** said he has been working all week to get volunteers and said the Lebanon Girls Soft Ball Champions have volunteered to help get money to pay for their Championship rings. We have the same food vendors as last year, including an ice cream truck, and snow cone vendor. The kid zone and band will be powered by a generator this year.

- **5k Series** – **Nathan** said the first 5k fun run had 5 people participating, and he is working to get more people out for the future runs. The next will be at the trail head.

- **Farmer's Market** – **Nathan** said he should have a few more coming now that their crops are ready. We are adding a shrimp vendor every other week. A few others have found out about our market and have paid for the full season. **Kathy** asked if the others were happy with their sales, **Nathan** said they were. We are currently clearing \$80-\$120/week. **Sam** asked about SNAP and **Nathan** said the process is started and should be ready to go in a few weeks. **Nathan** said he presented the newest resume for Market Master. **Sam** asked

who hired the last Market Master, **Nathan** said he and **Katy** hired him, for \$700/year. **Grant** said he was comfortable with **Nathan** moving forward with the new Market Master applicant. **Kathy m/m** for **Nathan** to hire the Market Master, **Sam** 2nd, 3-0 in favor. **Nathan** said the Market Master will get bonded.

4. PRESENTATIONS

None

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trail Re-Branding – This was part of Lebanon’s re-branding efforts. **Susan** said she worked with making the colors of Whitestown to White and Blue, the old Whitestown school colors. **Kathy** said the signs all show they all show for “all towns est. 1852” but was wondering if we were all established in the same year. **Grant m/m** to rebrand from Farm Heritage to The Big Four, **Kathy** 2nd, 3-0 in favor.

Department Purchases

Mobile Stage – It was tabled in the Council. **Nathan** said the smaller stages require add-ons for bands to perform on them, the 20x24 was the appropriate size for bands. **Susan** asked if there were cheaper stages, but **Nathan** said there are no other stages with these specs that are this cheap. **Nathan** said that buying a used stage would not save us much money. **Kathy** asked how we will have a savings of over \$30,000 a year, but said we aren’t spending that now and wondered how that number was determined. **Nathan** said it could be used at more events, and that is where the savings would come in. **Kathy** said we do not have the capacity to even afford live music at the events we have now, and wonders if this is a “chicken/egg” scenario, where we are looking to use it to justify buying it or if we already would be using it if we had it. **Susan** talked to Homeland Security and was told two different answers, but hasn’t been able to get clarification about which is correct.

Steve said all stages would need to be certified and a notice would need to be filed and the State could come out and inspect it at any time. **Kathy** asked what insurance would run. **Nathan** said the only insurance would be for only the asset itself. **Kathy** asked if there would be additional insurance for renting it, and asked if it would need to be built into the budget each year. **Nathan** said the renter would pay for that with a waiver.

Steve said an additional name insured would not cost a lot of money for renting.

Kathy asked about upkeep and setting up, **Nathan** said it could be done by one person and normally only the tires need replaced/kept up. **Kathy** expressed concern about the cost. **Sam** said it is only currently needed at the Brew Fest and July 3rd (when the town fireworks happen). **Kathy** asked if there was a plan for making this a wise investment and **Sam** said there could be a plan, but did not think we would have the money to utilize it. **Kathy** mentioned that it would be out of use for four months out of the year. **Nathan** said there are quite a few entities which would be interested in renting it out if we bought it.

Kathy thinks there are too many ifs in the various communities wanting to rent it. **Grant** said he would be open to other government entities being able to rent it. **Susan** said it seemed the other communities relied on too many “ifs”, and we do not know any of the “when’s”. **Nathan** said if we table it, we will miss out on the pricing we are currently offered.

Grant m/m to approve Parks portion of the funding and have Council pick up the rest, **Sam** 2nd, vote 2-1; failed.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Tree Clearing – **Nathan** said there are several trees in Walker Park which need to be cut down. The lowest bid to cut down the dead and problematic trees was \$11,100. The spring toys in the park are not lasting long and need to be replaced with other toys in the park. **Sam** said this needs to be done as it is a liability and **Grant** agreed. **Kathy m/m** to go forward with the cheapest quote to get the trees cut down and use the funds **Nathan** said, **Grant 2nd**, **3-0 approved**.

Nathan said the budget is currently at \$400,000 right now at its initial stage. **Nathan** suggested having a board meeting to go over each line item in the budget, and the board was all in agreeance that it would be a good idea and possibly include **Dax** in the meeting.

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 14th, at 6:30pm with a budget meeting just prior at 6:00pm.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Going back to unfinished business:

Grant asked if there was any further discussion regarding the mobile stage. **Kathy** said that since there are only 3 board members present, it might be worth looking at again. **Grant m/m** to approve Parks portion of the funding and have Council pick up the rest, **Kathy 2nd**, vote 3-0; passed.

Kathy m/m to adjourn, **Grant 2nd**, 3-0 approved at 8:17pm.

Grant Rummel

Kathryn Obenchain

Sam Grubbs

Dawn Semmler

Attest:

Matthew Sumner, Clerk-Treasurer