



*Johnson County Parks & Recreation Department will develop, operate and maintain parks that enrich the quality of life for residents and visitors alike, and preserve greenspace for future generations.*

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
**Johnson County Park Board of Directors**  
**Johnson County Park Department**  
Thursday, March 7, 2024

The regular meeting of the Johnson County Park Board was opened at 6:00p.m by Park Board President, Michael List. Dannette Morgan, Shalee Bradley, Penny Lee and Gary Cooper were also in attendance. Park staff and audience in attendance: Kevin Leonard, Superintendent; Brad Wisner, Assistant Superintendent; Christy Howe, Recreation Director; Peggy Racke, Indiana Live Steamers; Dwayne Hansford, Antique Machinery and Hal Bossingham, Columbus Model Railroad. **Roll call was taken of those in attendance.**

**Dannette Morgan moved and Gary Cooper seconded that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.**

**Dannette Morgan moved and Penny Lee seconded that the February 1, 2024 minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.**

Claims for March were presented for approval. **Gary Cooper moved and Shalee Bradley seconded to approve the March claims, as presented for \$38,807.83. Motion carried.**

**Christy Howe's Recreation Director Report:**

- Christy informed the Board that there is currently 51 reservations for the weekend of the solar eclipse.
- The Brazilian Soccer Club was approved by the County Commissioners.
- The County Commissioners approved the Park to apply for the grants requested to Festival Country.
- Christy asked for the Board to approve a concert at the Amphitheater hosted by D.O.G.T.A.G.S of Johnson County. The event would take place on May 25<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion on the details of the event. **Gary Cooper moved and Shalee Bradley seconded to approve the event for May 25, 2024. Motion carried.**

**Brad Wisner's Assistant Superintendent Report Read by Kevin Leonard:**

- The Horse Park has had 2 event this year so far. The Central Indiana Little Ropers where the host for both shows. This was their first time using the Park and they were happy with the facilities and staff. March has 2 more events, April has 5 events and May has 8 events.
- Brad informed the Board of a camper at the Horse Park who backed into one of the campsites. An accident report was filled out. The driver was compliant and said he would pay for any damages. Brad stated he would be contacting Davis Electric to quote the repair.
- The furnace in the Dining Room of Dunn is in need of replacement. Brad presented 3 quotes to the Board. The quotes were to replace the Furnace and AC and also add additional ductwork to heat and cool the entry way of the Building. **Dannette Morgan moved and Gary Cooper seconded to approve C&S Heating and Air to complete the work. Motion carried.**
- DOC will begin sending a crew out to the Park on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The crew will be scheduled for 3 days a week so the Parks' budget will hopefully last through the entire Horse Park season.
- Duke placed the Park on their schedule to have the transformers installed at both campgrounds for the new sites.
- Indiana Whips and Wheels made a donation of \$1,000 to the Horse Park.

**Kevin Leonard's Superintendent Report:**

- The maintenance staff has been working on cleaning up B Barn and the old garage. The staff has been cleaning up the grounds around the new campsites and adding the new fire rings and picnic tables.
- Kevin and Brad have several people to interview in the coming days for part-time help.



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- Kevin contacted Davis Electric to get a price on adding a site to the current camp-host site. This way both camp host will be on the same campsite pad.
- Kevin informed the Board that he has joined the Indiana Parks and Recreation Association Conference Committee. This committee plans the yearly conference for the association.
- Brad and Kevin met with the Nut Growers Association and the Indiana Live Steamers to discuss their proposal. The discussion went well and both groups are on the same page. Their proposal will not interfere with the Indiana Live Steamers.
- Kevin, Brad and Christy attended a meeting about the upcoming eclipse with representatives from Camp Atterbury, local fire/police, DNR, and others. The discussion went well and helped to make sure everyone was on the same page.
- The County Commissioners approved for Leann's Animal Rescue to be placed at Independence Park. Leann will be responsible for stocking the pantry and for any damage done to the shelter. Kevin informed the Board that they will also have to approve this project. **Gary Cooper moved and Penny Lee seconded the approval of the project. Motion carried.**
- A group from Atterbury reached out to the Park about holding a change of command ceremony at the Park, which the Park has done several times in the past. The group will have the ceremony on April 24-25, and asked permission to land a Blackhawk helicopter and also shoot off fireworks. Kevin informed the Board that he and Brad would make sure this event would not interfere with Horse Park events those days. After discussion, **Gary Cooper moved and Shaylee Bradley seconded to give Kevin Leonard the authority to approve the event pending Commissioners approval and no conflicts with the Horse Park. Motion carried.**
- Kevin Stickels contacted the Park about hosting his model rocket launch event again in the Park. He is looking to have the event on September 7<sup>th</sup>. He has hosted this at the Park several times. **Dannette Morgan moved and Shaylee Bradley seconded the approval of the event. Motion carried.**

#### **President's Report:**

- Michael commented on wanting the Park to prioritize removing Honeysuckle.
- Michael requested that the Park look into making the Park be prioritized on google searches in relation to the eclipse.

#### **From the Floor and More:**

- Peggy Racke informed the Board that Indiana Live Steamers will run on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. The g-scale will also be running that day.
- Dwayne Hansford presented the Board with drawings of the new shed that will be built in their area. The shed was approved in 2023. Dwayne mentioned vandals damaging the group's tractor pull strip and asked permission to rope or cable off the pull strip to keep vehicles from entering. Kevin said the Park can provide signage for the cable to make it visible and that he would check with the Park Attorney to make sure there is no issues with blocking the area off.

**Gary Cooper moved the meeting be adjourned at 6:44 p.m. Dannette Morgan seconded. Motion carried.**

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Gary Cooper, Interim Secretary