



**Regular Meeting with Work Session
October 26, 2020**

Call to Order: The Board met virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic per House Bill 197. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Bob Becker, Board Chairperson.

Roll Call: Bob Becker, Cindy Lombardo, Jeff Deluca, Pat Norris, Sandy Apidone, Maureen McGinty, and Art Gonzales

Also in Attendance: Administrative Coordinator Mindy Remec, and approximately 25 attendees.

Work Session

Modified All-In Plan:

Mr. Becker introduced and provided some history of how the Modified All-In Master Plan was selected with the assistance of the Environmental Design Group (EDG). Ms. Lombardo spoke about the concerns she has for the transparency and availability of a master plan document named the “Modified All-In Master Plan” and the importance of that information for being available to the public. Mr. Becker said he would work on having the website updated to make this more accessible. Additional trustee discussion included comments on ballot language for Issues 10 and 11, residents’ need to understand what was voted on, how money was used, what still needs to be done, why a levy renewal is imperative.

Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates:

Ms. McGinty introduced the resolution. The county budget commission provides the information on how much tax revenue will be received, and the board is required to certify these amounts back to the county auditor. The resolution was prepared by fiscal agent Mr. Tim Clymer.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application:

Mr. Gonzales said that one of the volunteer grant writers, Xavier, identified the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant as a potential source of funds for Phase II Dam work. The grant would provide for up to 50 percent of project cost. Grant awards are between \$50,000 and \$500,000. The application deadline is November 16, 2020. The award announcements are planned for early spring 2021.

Public Comments on Work Session:

Ms. Corey Ringle offered to send records she had available on the master plan process.

Regular Meeting

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION by: Ms. Apidone and seconded by Mr. Deluca to approve the August 24, 2020; September 22, 2020; and September 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented.

MOTION PASSED: Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous with exception of Mr. Gonzales abstention of the September 22, 2020 minutes

Standing Committee Reports:

Governance: No report.

Park Operations:

Mr. Deluca reported the wells will be tested for Nitrate per EPA request. Volunteers are working to winterize buildings and bathrooms. Seasonal employee John Webb has been mowing, blowing leaves, and making repairs to the Kirby house steps. His last day will be October 31, 2020. Snow plowing has been contracted for the season and the second kiosk is being constructed. Electric heaters have been ordered to supplement heating issues in Gund Hall by the supply tanks and in the bathrooms.

Mr. Norris reported on work completed on the boiler for heat in a portion of the floor of Gund Hall. This should reduce the need for the overhead heaters and reduce noise. As more revenue is generated the board could repair the rest of the floor heat next year.

Ms. Lombardo expressed appreciation for the weekly volunteer reports. Mr. Deluca also thanked the volunteer weekly cleaning crew and invasive species task force.

Park Services:

Ms. Apidone thanked Mr. and Mrs. Stoppenhagen for painting and weatherstripping Gund Hall doors. She reported on area companies reserving the hall. She announced that The Richfield Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon cutting of the newly renovated Gund Hall. She proposed changing the name of the hall to The Lodge at Richfield Heritage Preserve. Mr. Becker said this will be added to the next meeting agenda. Mr. Norris commented that The Lodge would be a more marketable name.

Mr. Deluca added that asphalt repairs have been made to the main drive. He also reported that all security cameras are working on the system and that WiFi is being added to Gund Hall.

Capital Projects:

Mr. Gonzales reported the bid approved at the last meeting was published. Mr. Norris said that a pre-bid meeting was held at the Mill.

Special Fundraising Committee Report:

Mr. Gonzales said the work session discussion on the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application will stand as his report.

Administration Report:

Ms. Remec reported the Pipeline Grant check for \$12,000 was received. She thanked volunteers for help in cleaning the park office in preparation for the park director's start date and moving offices and said a mobile phone will be ordered for the park director. She updated attendees on park reservations.

Volunteer Coordinator Report:

Mr. Deluca reported on behalf of Ms. Czaplicki. He said that an Eagle Scout project is being completed at Windy Hill. Volunteers have been working on leaves and cleanup and a lot has been accomplished on the Saturday volunteers work days.

Treasurer Report:

Ms. McGinty reported that expenditures to date are in good shape.

Unfinished Business:

Oviatt House: Discussion postponed for potential special meeting on November 18, 2020.

New Business:

Acceptance of Amounts and Rates:

MOTION by: Mr. Norris and seconded by Ms. McGinty to approve Resolution 04-2020 A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to the County Auditor

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

MOTION PASSED Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous

Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application:

MOTION by: Ms. Lombardo and seconded by Mr. Deluca to approve Resolution 05-2020 A Resolution to Authorize Filing of a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application and Agree to Obligate the Necessary Funds to Complete the Project

FURTHER DISCUSSION: Mr Becker asked if money already spent can be used towards matching grant funds. Mr. Gonzales said they caution applicants on starting a project before it has been awarded but said this will be explored.

MOTION PASSED Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous

Partner Reports:

Friends of Crowell Hilaka (FoCH):

Ms. Ringle reported that FoCH has received requests for assistance from RJRD and FoCH will respond to those requests. FoCH is remaining focused on their priority projects and maintaining their 503(c)(3) status. Ms. Ringle is working with Mr. Becker on FoCH's financial policy and will keep working with him.

She asked the RJRD Board to reconsider Park Services decisions on Winter Wonders, specifically to pursue a one-day occupancy for Kirby House for tours and permission to have outdoor decorations around the lower lake area up for the month of December for fundraising purposes. Board members commented that they disagreed with pursuing the occupancy permit and having indoor activities during the pandemic. Ms. Apidone stated that RJRD wants FoCH to be successful but that Park Services had addressed these requests. Mr. Norris and Mr. Becker asked for clarification on the timing of the requests for Winter Wonders and denied requests. Ms. Ringle and Ms. Apidone provided information. FoCH members Ms. Cynthia McWilliams and Ms. Karen Smik made comments on decorations and keeping them for a longer period of time. Ms. Ringle and Ms. Smik expressed disappointment.

A discussion between board members was conducted about FoCH members submitting volunteer hours to the RJRD Volunteer Coordinator, Ms. Czaplicki, for recognition. Ms. Czaplicki joined the meeting and asked for the discussion to be postponed and handled through Park Services.

Ms. Ringle asked to add Garfield Hall to the Historic Home Stabilization Task Force Plan before donating efforts to repair windows. She requested that the work plan for the task force be formally approved and signed. Mr. Becker said this would be added to a future agenda.

Ms. McGinty asked the status of donations from Running Forward Giving Back that were made to FoCH for RJRD to make beach improvements. Mr. Becker said they were working to come up with a solution. A discussion was conducted about FoCH's financial policy.

Questions / Comments from the Floor:

Ms. Jennifer Douglas from Running Forward Giving Back commented on the donations made for specific purposes at the Richfield Heritage Preserve. Additional discussion was held on FoCH's status as a 501(c)(3) status, the intended use of donations, and public records requests for donation information.

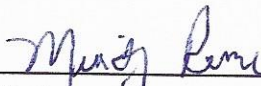
Adjournment:

MOTION by: Ms. Lombardo and seconded by Ms. Apidone to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: NONE

MOTION PASSED: Vote taken by voice, which was unanimous

Submitted by:



Mindy Reme, Administrative
Coordinator

Accepted by:



Bob Becker, Board Chairperson