

The Michigan City Park and Recreation Board met in regular session on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at the hour of 5:00 P.M. in the Michigan City Parks and Recreation Office, City of Michigan City, Indiana.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

On the call of the roll, the following Board Members were found to be present or absent:

Present: Messrs. Latchford, Freese, and Milcarek (3)

Absent: Mr. Dabney (1)

Also present were: Darrell Garbacik, Park Superintendent; Patrick Donoghue, Park Department Attorney; Joe Doyle, City Council Liaison; Shannon Eason, Director of Administrative Services and Special Projects; Shawne Sheldon, Zoo Office Manager; Johnny Martinez, Zoo Director; Glenn Neal; Deb Sederberg, The News Dispatch; and Andre Steele, ALCO TV.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved the minutes of the February 21, 2008 Park Board meeting.

Mr. Garbacik referred the Board to a proposal submitted by John A. Doyle and Associates. Mr. Garbacik stated he believes the Board received this proposal and it has been discussed previously in regard to encroachments. Mr. Garbacik asked the Board for formal approval to proceed with this work and to issue a Notice to Proceed.

Mr. Donoghue stated we have talked about this and he mentioned that this is to re-establish the center line points on Lake Shore Drive from the east end of Washington Park out to the city limits. This is something that needs to be done; it is an overall reference for surveying for the whole Sheridan Beach area.

Mr. Latchford asked if this would allow us to use GPS to map our property line; is this the first step in getting that done.

Mr. Garbacik stated it is a step in that general direction and it won't exactly be a GPS type of approach in itself but it will get us the end result we desire. In some instances even the GPS is not as precise as some people would like it to be. This will be a best case scenario that utilizes that when and if it can be utilized. We will get a map at the end of this.

Mr. Donoghue stated the way he recalls it being explained, regarding GPS, is the concept of way points and way points are necessary for the whole GPS system and what this does is to re-establish and resurvey where the important way points are; it is an underlying effort for the future GPS.

Mr. Latchford asked if the reason the GPS points are no longer there is due to the construction on Lake Shore Drive.

Mr. Donoghue answered that is correct.

Mr. Milcarek asked if this is a necessary step to achieve the GPS.

Mr. Donoghue stated that is correct.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Freese, seconded by Mr. Milcarek and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved the attached proposal submitted by John A. Doyle & Associates, Inc. for additional surveying services on Lake Shore Drive and Colfax Avenue.

Mr. Garbacik reported he provided to the Board a lease renewal with Xerox Corporation for a new and improved machine which will allow us to be more productive. This machine will have a scanning feature which will allow us to continue on an approach automating the Park Department as much as possible and in particular in regards to archiving minutes, documents, articles, etc. We will now have that ability. We will also be able to print in color. Mr. Garbacik stated Mr. Donoghue has reviewed this document and it is similar to the last one we had with them; everything is appropriate and Mr. Garbacik asked the Board to approve the lease agreement.

Mr. Donoghue stated he worked with Mrs. Eason and she reviewed the software section of this document which he is not familiar with but she is and paragraphs 13, 14 and 15 indicate the requirements and what we are agreeing to as far as software goes and they were satisfactory to Mrs. Eason. Mr. Donoghue stated the rest of the lease is in legal form and is satisfactory to him.

Mr. Latchford asked what happens to the old copier.

Mr. Garbacik stated Xerox will take it.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board agreed to enter into the attached lease agreement with Xerox Corporation for a new copy machine.

Mr. Garbacik introduced Zoo Director Johnny Martinez.

Mr. Martinez reported they were fortunate to be contacted by Super Wal-Mart. They wanted to do something for the community and they chose the zoo as a benefactor for a donation in the

amount of \$2,500.00. Mr. Martinez reported the money will be used to purchase a handicap water fountain for the zoo which will make cool water accessible to children in strollers and handicapped individuals. Mr. Martinez reported he was happy to receive this check; it was a nice gift from them.

Mr. Garbacik added he and Mrs. Eason attended the event at the Super Wal-Mart when the check was presented and we were happy to see the zoo recognized and Mr. Martinez looked sharp as a tack.

Mr. Martinez reported he was contacted by the Zoological Association of America and he was asked to serve on their Accreditation Committee. Mr. Martinez accepted the position and he will be one of their Accreditation Inspectors for zoos and public and private facilities. Mr. Martinez stated he is happy with that recognition. Mr. Martinez reported there will be no cost to the zoo or the Park Department; it is all financed through the ZAOA and the host site that they are inspecting.

Mr. Garbacik stated beyond Mr. Martinez being recognized by receiving a Fellowship Award from the ZAOA, last year the zoo was accredited by this organization and now Mr. Martinez has been asked to join them in inspecting other zoos and that is a great testament to Mr. Martinez's knowledge and service to the zoo industry over the years and certainly is a big flower in the credibility of our zoo's cap.

Mr. Latchford congratulated Mr. Martinez.

Mr. Freese asked Mr. Martinez where the new fountain would be located.

Mr. Martinez reported it will be located between the farm yard and the primate building.

Mr. Garbacik reported the new primate exhibit is looking awesome and is on track to be ready for opening day.

Mr. Martinez reported the inside of the exhibit will be ready for opening day but the outside ground is still frozen.

Mr. Garbacik reported at the Board's last meeting representatives from Trail Creek Baseball attended as well as representatives from the Park Department and MCUBO and he is pleased to report the meetings with Trail Creek Park Department and Town Council were successful and we are well on our way as a merged and unified baseball program for the City of Michigan City.

Mr. Garbacik reported a very good friend of the Park Department and very good personal friend of his and a long time teacher in Michigan City, Mr. Fred Lee, passed away. Mr. Garbacik stated he knew Mr. Lee very well from the time he was a child. Mr. Garbacik participated in sports with him. Mr. Lee played in our Park and Recreation basketball and softball programs and he officiated for us in basketball for many, many years. Mr. Lee really loved the beach, any beach, wherever there was a beach you would find Fred. Mr. Lee loved our beach of course. Mr.

Garbacik stated he always dreamed when he retired he would go to this place he liked in Florida to be on the beach and ride his motorcycle. Mr. Lee had done that; he was in Florida three or four years and unfortunately he was killed in a motorcycle accident. Mr. Garbacik stated Mr. Lee was the kind of guy if you knew him, you didn't just like him, you like really, really liked him and especially if you are a sports nut. Mr. Garbacik stated we will certainly miss Fred and our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Mr. Garbacik reminded everyone Zoobilee will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2008. Mr. Garbacik stated it should be especially fun this year as everyone is encouraged to wear their favorite sports team paraphernalia. Mr. Garbacik stated the Tom Milo Big Band will be providing entertainment. This is the Zoo Society's largest annual fundraiser and will be held at Blue Chip. For tickets and information contact Julie Wozniak at the Zoo Society. The R.S.V.P. date has expired but if someone wants to go they can contact Julie to see if seats are still available.

Mr. Garbacik reported a special event will be held this Sunday at the Senior Center in honor and tribute to Evelyn Baker. There are tickets available at the Park Office.

Mr. Donoghue added we have put a lot of planning into this event and it will be something that Evelyn will always remember and it will be enjoyable for the people who attend and it will be an honor for her. There will be some presentations and some interesting things for her. There are 300 tickets available and we could use some interest on the part of her friends and the public to help fill the hall so she gets the honor she really deserves for all of her years of public service. Mr. Donoghue stated it has been fun for him to work on the event and he looks forward to enjoying the brunch on Sunday.

Mr. Doyle stated serving on the Council for four years, Evelyn was a teacher to him, and he could sit down and discuss things with her even when they would agree to disagree. Most of the time Evelyn was right. She also spent over twenty years with Summer Festival and anybody that has that kind of dedication, thirty-two years on the Council, deserves recognition. Mr. Doyle stated brunch will be supplied by Rodini's Restaurant. Tickets are available at the Park Office, the Senior Center and the Mayor's Office. There will be a limited number available at the door as well.

Mr. Garbacik stated he doesn't have any vandalism to report with the exception of some knuckleheads that are enjoying our sand build up and doing doughnuts in the parking lot; we'll try to keep our eye on that.

Mr. Latchford asked for an update on the progress at Memorial Hall and asked Mr. Garbacik if he has met with the Forester in regard to the controlled burn and tree planting.

Mr. Garbacik reported Memorial Hall is progressing well and is on schedule. Some of the details are in place as far as the artificial rock. The log cabin siding is being installed. The floor has been installed but needs to be stained and finished. The audio/visual equipment has been

delivered to the vendor and is in his possession and will be installed after the construction work is completed. We are on target and ready to offer rentals in April 2008.

Mr. Garbacik reported City Forester Frank Sileheimer will be at the Park Board's next meeting and he will give an expansive report.

Mr. Milcarek reported he walked through Memorial Hall last week and he can attest to the progress. The hood and fan that we put in the kitchen is quite impressive.

Mr. Freese reported the Zoobilee will be really neat this year; it centers around sports and the whole idea of the dinner is it will be like a tail-gate party. There will be delicious food but they will also have a place where you can get hot dogs if you want. You will move around just as if you were going to people's tail-gates.

Mr. Donoghue reported on the subject of the Water Department and the new easements for their Water Intake Project they constructed last year. Mr. Garbacik provided copies of the form of easement that was prepared and that has been reviewed by the Water Department Attorney and by the Superintendent of the Water Department and they are in agreement with it and Mr. Donoghue recommended they Park Board approve it tonight and sign it and return it to the Water Department. Mr. Donoghue pointed out the revision area that we talked about, if the Board will recall the Park Board spent some \$80,000 plus on renovating the far west end of the Senior Center parking lot. There were some drainage improvements made there and the actual structure was increased with a thicker surface. Mr. Garbacik had worked on that with Tim Haas on behalf of the Park Department. The engineers for the Water Department had provided their contractor with the specifications to get the work done and the work was done very nicely. Mr. Donoghue stated the easement goes across the parking lot and it is about 50' at the southwest corner where the easement goes across our parking lot and then it stretches out about 100' at the northwest corner because the easement is at an angle. Mr. Donoghue reported in the wording of the easement document, if the Water Department has to get in there to repair anything on those big water intake pipes they are required by this document to restore that parking lot with the same specifications we had when the work was done last year and that is an important addition because it does give the exact materials and thickness and the kind of things that need to be done. Mr. Donoghue recommended the easement be approved and the President and Secretary of the Park Board be authorized to sign it tonight.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Freese, seconded by Mr. Milcarek and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved the attached Permanent Easement Agreement with the Michigan City Water Department.

Mr. Donoghue stated we have had a flurry of activity, as the Board can imagine, with the encroachment deadline that has been imposed. Mr. Donoghue finalized the negotiation of a lease just today. Mr. Donoghue stated at this point he thinks we'll have everybody rounded up and in hand for signatures for the Board's next meeting. Mr. Donoghue stated he thinks there about two that we haven't gotten pinned down yet; we are down to two out there that we are still kind of chasing around but we have had pretty good results here in the last couple of weeks.

Mr. Milcarek asked if the two are because we can't reach them and have you had any contact with them at all.

Mr. Donoghue stated they are represented by a specific Attorney in Michigan City and that Attorney is working with Attorney Carl Greci of Baker & Daniels and Mr. Greci has not been able to get communication with that Attorney in order to negotiate the leases but he is still working on that. Mr. Donoghue can't really say if there is an avoidance factor there or what is going on.

Mr. Milcarek asked Mr. Donoghue if this Attorney has been notified of the lease fee change.

Mr. Donoghue stated the Attorney does know that. Mr. Donoghue put a call into him today because Mr. Donoghue was a little concerned the South Bend Attorneys haven't been able to get an answer. Mr. Donoghue stated he knows this Attorney very well and his point was to call and say hey, why haven't you gotten back to the Attorneys in South Bend but Mr. Donoghue hasn't received a return call but he will keep after that.

Mr. Latchford reported on the Michigan City Area Schools Contract stating discussions are ongoing and hopefully we will have a resolution soon.

Mr. Garbacik reported the Board may recall Mr. Tom Offerle from SCO Engineering appeared before the Park Board and his services were retained to conduct a very comprehensive analysis, recommendations and project management to provide some very important and long overdue improvements to the electrical systems, loads and capacities throughout all of Washington Park. Mr. Garbacik reported this past Thursday afternoon and into the evening a meeting took place with Mr. Offerle, himself, Jeff Kutch, who on a volunteer basis is helping Mr. Garbacik along as an owner's representative for this project, and Mr. Joe Doyle. At that meeting it was agreed there was no question we have a primary objective to address situations that both involve some risk and loss prevention issues as well as by need and demand. We have prioritized sectors, or broken Washington Park into sections based on those criteria. The first one, without question, that is of significant importance and in need of these improvements is the festival area. That is where you would typically see the Summer Festival events, the Labor Dayz event, the Lakefront Art Festival, etc. Mr. Garbacik stated we need to move on these necessary improvements as expeditiously as possible and it has been deemed and declared an emergency that we do so by the engineers, meaning Mr. Offerle and Mr. Kutch, as well as by Michigan City's Electrical Inspector Francis Rooney. Mr. Garbacik stated he initially thought the first event that would come up where we needed to have this completed was June 14th and have since realized today the Fireman's Ball is scheduled for June 7th, so we lost another week. Mr. Garbacik has communicated with the Mayor and we all agree that we need to move on this and move expeditiously so Mr. Garbacik asked the Park Board to approve the approach we are recommending which is to move as expeditiously as possible and seek proposals to get this work accomplished. As part of this process, plans will be implemented. Engineer's estimates will be available shortly at which time we would forward those to the Mayor and it would be up to him to make a commitment of funding for the project. Mr. Garbacik asked the Board for a motion for us to proceed in that matter.

Mr. Donoghue reported the Statutes we act under that govern the Board in setting up contracts and other things that the Board does provide for emergency situations like this and in the sense that the bidding process requires going through the newspaper and the kinds of things we do on a project of this size, if there is an emergency, can be eliminated and the Park Department can go directly to contractors to get proposals. There is still the same treatment in terms of contractors giving us a sealed proposal with their best price and so forth. It is very much compressed in terms of the amount of time it takes; we can do it quite rapidly.

Mr. Milcarek asked if we have taken into consideration all of our needs for our winter Festival of Lights.

Mr. Garbacik answered absolutely and to further expound we are viewing this project as having one opportunity to do this right and correctly and it takes into consideration not only the entire park, but also all four seasons of activity.

Mr. Milcarek stated things have certainly changed; more electricity is being used and there is more activity in the park.

Mr. Latchford asked if we have to have the funding mechanism in place before we solicit bids.

Mr. Garbacik answered we have to have the funding in place before we award a contract for the work and that is part of the arrangement with the Mayor.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board agreed to seek proposals to implement the SCO Engineering improvements in Washington Park.

Mr. Donoghue stated before the contract will be negotiated we will ask the Mayor or the City Controller to send a letter, over their signature, that states they understand what the project is, they have been advised about it and the money is in place for payment under that project contract. Mr. Donoghue stated we always have a letter to that effect in our records here and the State Board of Accounts is always interested during the audit in seeing that.

Mr. Latchford asked if there would be plenty of alternates to make sure we have options.

Mr. Garbacik answered yes.

Mr. Garbacik reported the draft version of the 2007 Annual Report was given to the Park Board at their last meeting for review. Mr. Garbacik reported we received some feedback and we may have a few more changes before the report is finalized. Mr. Garbacik and Mrs. Eason are doing some additional analysis in some areas but for all intents and purposes, unless there is more information the Board may provide to us tonight, the report is finished and Mr. Garbacik is asking for approval of the 2007 Annual Report. Mr. Garbacik reported he has a quick 2 minute presentation to show the Board tonight on one of the many events we hosted and probably the

biggest and one of our proudest moments and that was hosting the NSA Girls Fast Pitch World Series and the Splish Splashin' Pin Swappin' Beach Bash. Mr. Garbacik reported the video presentation was put together by South Shore Sports Promotions out of Lake County, Indiana.

Mr. Latchford commented he thinks the 2007 Annual Report is the best ever. It can be used to see what actually gets done in this Park Department and it is pretty amazing from the zoo to the maintenance department to the lifeguards. It is easy to forget how much work gets done until you take a look at this report. This acts as a wonderful historical reference guide; if you ever need facts and figures about anything the Park Department has done it is all there. Mr. Latchford encouraged everyone to look through noting you will gain a whole new appreciation of everyone in the Park Department and the work they do.

Mr. Donoghue asked Mr. Garbacik if we place a copy of the report in the City Clerk's Office.

Mr. Garbacik stated we will provide the report to the Mayor and the City Council and we certainly could provide a copy at the City Clerk's Office. Mr. Garbacik noted it will also be available on our website.

Mr. Donoghue suggested we provide a copy to the Michigan City Public Library; it is a real feather in your cap with all of the things that your department does during the year. A lot of people come to the library from out of town and they ask to see things like that.

Mr. Garbacik stated he would be glad to provide a copy to the library.

Mr. Latchford stated in addition to that he would like to point out the painstaking effort it takes to compile such reports. Mr. Latchford commented that Mrs. Eason and Mr. Garbacik did a nice job.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Freese, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved the attached 2007 Annual Report.

Mr. Garbacik read the following minor transfer into the minutes noting it is the first of 2008:

GOLF DECREASE

1314/0000-02-422.037	Other Clothing	\$1,500.00
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GOLF INCREASE

1314/0000-02-422.022	Oil	\$1,500.00
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Mr. Garbacik recommended the Park Board accept the \$2,500 donation from Super Wal-Mart.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board accepted the \$2,500 donation presented to the Washington Park Zoo by Super Wal-Mart.

Mr. Milcarek thanked Wal-Mart for being a good corporate citizen.

Mr. Garbacik stated similar to the exercise and research that occurred with the Park Department administrative operations and staffing, we have conducted a similar exercise within the zoo. This exercise involved Shawne Sheldon, Johnny Martinez, Shannon Eason and Darrell Garbacik. We provided the Park Board with an outline of what we are proposing and what we are going to ask the Board to approve. Mr. Garbacik reported basically this consolidates the Office Manger position along with Gift Shop and Concession Management positions with other duties that Mrs. Sheldon performed previously as Office Manager and it includes a retail emphasis. We all firmly believe it will serve to provide a lot of benefit to the zoo in a variety of ways. For example, one of the most important things it will do is get Mr. Martinez away from the concession operation, where he worked over the past few years going from a sub-contractor to running it in house. Mr. Garbacik believes we are in good shape with Mr. Martinez's diligence as far as getting the equipment we needed. In any event Mr. Garbacik thinks the proposal is pretty self explanatory. The four of us are here tonight to answer any questions you may have. Mr. Garbacik stated a revised job description was provided to the Board as well. Mr. Garbacik stated we are asking the Board tonight to approve this proposal that restructures and adds some efficiencies to the zoo that includes the approval of an Office Manager/Secretary I/Retail Manager job description for the zoo.

Mr. Milcarek stated it looks like by making these changes we are still going to come in under our estimated budget.

Mr. Garbacik answered that is what we are predicting and along with that we think we stand to generate increased revenues.

Mr. Latchford asked if the number of full time people will remain the same.

Mr. Garbacik stated that is correct.

Mr. Latchford commented he really likes the new structure; it is more streamlined and having one person in charge of both retail operations makes a whole lot of sense. By reviewing the reports it is obvious we might have some potential to increase the gift shop revenue with more focus and concentration and increasing the part time people will give you the option of flexibility. Mr. Latchford stated this is a well thought out plan and he is certainly in favor of it.

Mr. Martinez stated a lot of people don't realize, they forget, that besides being a recreational facility the zoo is a business and with the success we had last year with Mrs. Sheldon's input we generated quite a bit of revenue compared to previous years; in fact we exceeded expectations as far as admission and that, of course, was with the Board's approval of an increase in admission fees that really helped. Mrs. Sheldon has been with us for two years in this type of position taking care of financial concerns at the zoo and Mr. Martinez is really happy we are moving her into the new position.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Freese, seconded by Mr. Milcarek and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved the attached proposal to restructure the zoo staff along with the attached new job description for Office Manager/Secretary I/Retail Manager.

Mr. Garbacik reported the Board may recall we advertised for proposals for the Patriot Park concession operation. We received two proposals and those were provided to the Park Board at your last meeting for your consideration and with a desire for you to make a decision at tonight's meeting. Mr. Garbacik has reviewed the proposals and he personally believes one has more advantages than the other. Mr. Garbacik likes the proposal submitted by Catfish King, LLC and this was due to the expanded menu that was provided that included specified extra specials to the menu during weekend tournaments. The menu included healthy alternatives including vegetables and fruits which have proved to be very successful at both outdoor and indoor arenas today; certainly parents and coaches appreciate very much. Mr. Neal's proposal including taking or delivering the product to the people by use of a golf cart which Mr. Garbacik feels will be a nice amenity and an added addition to the services we provide out there and this will help to increase his revenues. Mr. Garbacik stated Mr. Neal has specific observations and is familiar with our operations out at Patriot Park and has been very enthusiastic in researching these matters and in submitting his proposal. Mr. Garbacik stated for those reasons he views Mr. Neal's proposal as the better of the two proposals and he did ask Mr. Neal to join us this evening in the event the Board had any questions for him.

Mr. Latchford stated he is pretty impressed with the menu options Mr. Neal is offering. Mr. Latchford asked Mr. Neal if he planned to have the extended menu during busy time periods and a scaled down menu during the off peak times.

Mr. Neal answered during tournament games when there are a lot of guests coming in to Michigan City he would like to extend the menu. Keep the expanded menu on a regular basis wouldn't really work, he made add some things during slower times but he will focus on tournaments. Mr. Neal explained he will mix and match the menu during the off peak times.

Mr. Latchford asked, considering the extended menu during busy times if Mr. Neal will add more people; is that how he will be able to expand those choices during peak periods.

Mr. Neal answered he has a staff of six people. Mr. Neal will set up beverage stations throughout the park as well so people don't have to stand in line for a beverage. Those stations will be scattered throughout the park. Mr. Neal is in the process of getting a portable hot dog cart so he will be able to bring food to the people so they don't miss the game.

Mr. Garbacik stated the proposal also calls for two cash registers so there can be two service windows going when it is busy.

Mr. Neal answered that is correct; he will have two registers operating when they are busy; people want to be able to get a snack but still be able to enjoy the game.

Mr. Latchford asked Mr. Donoghue, even outside of these proposals; we have had a problem with fulfilling terms of the contract. Mr. Latchford asked if there is anything the Park Department can do to protect ourselves any more than what we have done in the past.

Mr. Donoghue stated we try to get a personal signature. If the bidder is a corporation then we get a personal guarantee. Mr. Donoghue stated, unfortunately, there is really nothing more we can do. If there is a problem with payment and we have to go through the court system then at least we have the personal value of the assets, bank accounts or whatever it might be, instead of just the corporation but that is really the best we can do.

Mr. Milcarek asked if we could request a bond.

Mr. Donoghue stated he is not sure there is a bond on a restaurant; he has never heard of one; we could look into that but Mr. Donoghue has never heard of a food service bond as such.

Mr. Latchford stated we have very, very good proposals in front of us; one is from someone who is enthusiastic and a start up business and the other is from someone who is also enthusiastic and has been around for quite awhile. Mr. Latchford stated one menu is far more expansive than the other which gives the attendees out at Patriot Park a lot more to chose from which is very advantageous. The financial considerations are close but not equal. Mr. Latchford stated, in his opinion, he would recommend following Mr. Garbacik's recommendation because Mr. Garbacik has been out there and he has seen many concessionaires in the past and he knows what works and he has faith that Mr. Neal's proposal is better for Patriot Park and he has faith Mr. Neal will fulfill the terms of the contract.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Freese, seconded by Mr. Milcarek and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board accepted the attached proposal submitted by Mr. Neal of Catfish King, LLC.

Mr. Neal thanked the Board for having faith in him and stated the Board won't be disappointed.

Mr. Garbacik informed Mr. Neal that he and Mr. Donoghue will prepare a contract for Mr. Neal's consideration.

Mr. Garbacik presented another vendor service provider that has been with us for three or four years and provides rental opportunities for bikes, kayaks and a beach butler package. This is identical to the arrangements in the past years with a \$5 increase to the monthly rent as compared to last year. The proposal is from Sports Endeavors, Inc. owned by Ross Balling who many of you are familiar with. Mr. Garbacik recommended approval of the Sports Endeavors proposal.

Mr. Freese asked why the rent is different from September through April.

Mr. Garbacik stated the business is not open during those months and what that actually is is a rental space fee because he leaves his shed down here and we get some consideration for that.

Mr. Latchford stated the vendor has identified three weekend dates to pass out flyers and/or business cards and Mr. Latchford asked Mr. Garbacik why the vendor would want or we would want it limited to three weekends.

Mr. Garbacik answered he doesn't know.

Mr. Latchford stated he doesn't have a problem with that he was just curious.

Mr. Garbacik stated he would guess those are high traffic weekends where it would be worth it for them to do so and possibly even pay somebody on their end to be doing that.

- ❑ **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board accepted the attached proposal submitted by Ross Balling of Sports Endeavors, Inc. for the 2008 bicycle, kayak and beach butler rental service.
- ❑ **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved city claims filed on account of appropriations for the Parks and Recreation Department in the amount of \$7,772.49 and \$44,725.76.

Mr. Milcarek reported invoices totaling \$22,446.26 were paid through the March 3, 2008 Board of Works meeting.

Mr. Milcarek reported charges totaling \$1,021.56 were charged to the Park Department credit card this period.

- ❑ **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved Payroll #5, 02/10/08 through 02/23/08, in the amount of \$44,349.29.

Mr. Freese congratulated Mr. Martinez on his appointment to the ZAOA. Mr. Freese thanked Mr. Martinez for the effort he is putting in, working seven days a week and working very long hours, as is the rest of the staff, to make sure the zoo is ready for opening day. Mr. Freese stated this is a great service he is giving us.

Mr. Latchford thanked Wal-Mart for their contributions. Mr. Latchford thanked Shawne Sheldon and the staff for continuing to look at how we can work smarter and consolidate things and improve efficiencies and our budget. Mr. Latchford stated he is looking forward to the celebration for Evelyn Baker.

Mr. Donoghue asked Mr. Garbacik to provide a copy of the Park Department 2007 Annual Report to the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Doyle stated a lot of things are happening in the Park Department; all of them positive from what he can see, between Memorial Hall, the zoo and the restructuring there. Mr. Doyle stated you don't see too many government agencies thinking outside of the box, normally they are

trying to add people and people forget they can sometimes do things by restructuring people from within. Mr. Doyle stated the longer you work for an organization the more opportunity there is for improvement. Mr. Doyle told the staff to keep up the good work; it is great to come to the meeting here. Mr. Doyle stated the Council is trying to see what they can do to make things work better and if anyone from the Park Department has suggestions they will always keep an open ear. Mr. Doyle stated they want to send Evelyn Baker off to retirement with a nice party.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Freese supported by all members of the Board, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Darrell L. Garbacik, Superintendent
Michigan City Park Board

Tom Milcarek, Secretary
Michigan City Park Board

Attachments to the March 65, 2008 Park Board meeting:

1. Proposal submitted by John A. Doyle & Associates for Additional Surveying Services on Lake Shore Drive and Colfax Avenue
2. Xerox Lease Agreement
3. Letter Appointing Johnny Martinez to ZAOA Accreditation Committee
4. Water Department Grant of Easement in Washington Park
5. John A. Doyle & Associates Location Plat of Water Department Permanent Easement Dated 02/27/07
6. Grant of Permanent Easement to Water Department
7. 2007 Annual Report
8. Washington Park Zoo Staff Restructuring Proposal
9. Zoo Office Manager/Secretary I/Retail Manager Job Description
10. Bid Proposal for Patriot Park Concession Services 2008/2009 Submitted by Glenn Neal of Catfish King, LLC
11. Bid Proposal for Patriot Park Concession Services 2008/2009 Submitted by Charlie's Bar and Grill
12. Proposal from Ross Balling of Sports Endeavors, Inc. for Bike, Kayak and Beach Butler Rental Service in Washington Park for the 2008 Season

Minutes prepared by Shannon Eason