

The Michigan City Park and Recreation Board met in regular session on Thursday, May 3, 2007 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. McKee, Latchford, Milcarek and Mr. Freese (4)

Absent: None (0)

Also present were: Darrell Garbacik, Park Superintendent; Joe Doyle, City Council Liaison; Shannon Eason, I.T. Manager; Jim Baldwin, Port Authority Board; Juanita Kreidler, Resident; Barb Malewicki, Resident; and Bill Landing, ALCO TV.

- **On a motion** made by Mr. Freese, seconded by Mr. Milcarek and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved the minutes of the April 19, 2007 Park Board meeting.

Mr. Garbacik welcomed our Port Authority Liaison Mr. Jim Baldwin. Mr. Garbacik asked the Board to consider the Board meeting schedules for June, July and August so the staff can plan ahead. Mr. Garbacik asked the Board to confirm the June, July and August schedule at the next Board meeting. Mr. Garbacik reported that the Michigan City Police Department has been paying particular attention to Washington Park and Fedder's Alley. There have been no less than two arrests made in Fedder's Alley involving undesirable activities and some drug offenses. Mr. Garbacik stated he received a report from Deputy Chief Swistek this past Wednesday. The Special Operation Unit has been working hard. The unit includes Officers Brian Maxey, Greg Miller and Jason Holloway who have been very active down here in the park and we certainly appreciate their attention, help and diligence to protect the park and its' patrons. The Special Operations Unit will be working down here through September. Memorial Day weekend is when the ATV patrols start on a regular basis. Mr. Garbacik reported that the first annual Cinco de Mayo festival will be held this Saturday in Washington Park. Activities will begin at 9 a.m. and run through 6 p.m. and will include a parade, food, art, etc.

Mr. Doyle reported that there will be a variety of things going on including a Mexican band, a variety of foods, art classes, Spanish books, and works of art.

Mr. Garbacik reported that this Saturday evening will be the Jerry Karsten's Athletic Scholarship Banquet at Immanuel Lutheran Church where we will award two \$700 scholarships to a male and female graduating senior from a LaPorte County High School that has participated in at least one sport. This year's winners are Phillip Ouduis from New Prairie High School. He was a state caliber wrestler. Emma Walters from South Central High School was the female winner. Mr. Garbacik stated that they will also celebrate and pay tribute to the late great Jerry Karstens. Mr. Garbacik reported that the Port Authority, the Park Board, the Board of Works and a couple of citizens will be asked to join a committee in regard to the lighthouse situation. More specifically, it is being offered to the City or a not for profit agency. Mr. Garbacik believes that the Coast Guard is expecting a June 2nd decision or reply and we will be getting a memo from the Mayor's office on that issue. Mr. Garbacik stated that we have no vandalism to report.

Mr. Garbacik stated that Mr. Donoghue is absent tonight but he would like to ask the Park Board for an Executive Session on the May 17th in regard to lease issues.

Mr. Garbacik stated there is a minor addition to the Policy Regulating Use of Off-Road Vehicles Upon the Sheridan Beach Esplanade. Mrs. Eason has also created an application form. The revision that has been added is Item E. and we will be requiring documentation in regard to a BMV receipt and a copy of the handicap placard as part of this policy and criteria to analyze these requests.

Mr. Latchford asked if the Bureau of Motor Vehicles issues placard to non-driving people.

Mr. Garbacik stated that is correct; we didn't know exactly how that worked so we called and checked and the actual individual is issued the placard, even if they are a minor. Mr. Garbacik stated that the key thing that we are looking for is if the placard number matches up with the receipt number and matches the name of the Doctor's report.

Mrs. Eason explained that the placard belongs to the individual, not the vehicle, so they can ride in any vehicle with that placard.

Mr. McKee stated he has a concern as well. Does everyone in that situation get a placard?

Mr. Garbacik stated that absent the placard, it doesn't mean that we would necessarily or automatically deny them the license. However, if it is available it is another criteria we can look at to deem whether it is appropriate to issue the license.

Mr. McKee stated that the placard is just part of the application process and if it is missing that doesn't mean that they can't get the permit.

Mr. Garbacik answered that is correct.

Mr. Latchford stated that it sounds like anyone who is handicapped has that available to them.

Mr. Garbacik stated that is correct as well.

- ❑ **On a motion** made by Mr. Latchford, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved the attached policy titled “Policy Regulating Use of Off-Road Vehicles Upon the Sheridan Beach Esplanade.”

Mr. McKee read Resolution No. 632 regarding the conveyance of property for the passive park, LWCF Trail, Peanut Bridge, and Winding Creek Cove into the minutes.

- ❑ **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Freese and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved the attached Resolution No. 632 titled “Administration by Michigan City Department of Parks and Recreation of Passive Park, LWCF Trail, Peanut Bridge, and Winding Creek Cove.”
- ❑ **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 \$50,503.45.
- ❑ **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Latchford and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved payment out of the Zoo Endowment Fund in the amount of \$11,619.71.

Mr. Milcarek reported that invoices totaling \$1,334.88 were paid through the Board of Works meeting and charges of \$43.90 and \$175.00 were made to the Park Department credit card.

- ❑ **On a motion** made by Mr. Milcarek, seconded by Mr. Latchford and voted unanimously by the Board, the Board approved Payroll #9, 04/08/07 through 04/21/07, in the amount of \$53,050.86.
- ❑ **On a motion** made by Mr. Latchford, supported by all members of the Board, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Darrell L. Garbacik, Superintendent
Michigan City Park Board

Tom Milcarek, Secretary
Michigan City Park Board

Attachments to the May 3, 2007 Park Board meeting:

1. Policy Regulating Use of Off-Road Vehicles Upon the Sheridan Beach Esplanade
2. Resolution No. 632 Re: Administration by Michigan City Department of Parks and Recreation of Passive Park, LWCF Trail, Peanut Bridge, and Winding Creek Cove

Minutes prepared by Shannon Eason