

Park Board Minutes
August 3, 2020
Park Office- Garden House
5:30 p.m.

- I. Call to order by Vice President Mark Coder
 - a. Members present: Mardie Long, Mark Coder, Anita Chappuie, Val DeFever, Alix Oreck, Molly Reynolds, Barb Beurskens
 - b. Members Not Present: Alex Moore, Todd Young, Jim Hogan
- II. There were no minutes to approve because the previous meeting was a zoo tour.
- III. COVID Update
 - a. They are still running rides, opening the zoo and concession stand for normal hours. To adhere to social distancing on train, they are only using every other row and the carousel horses are 6 feet apart. The park is down \$5462.29 from this amount of time last year. Concessions is up \$1266.05. This could be explained by a punch card that gives a free ride. Not lots of advertising, just dealing with what we get.
 - b. Building reservations are way down. Refunds have been given. Park revenue will be down about \$15,000.
 - c. Animal acquisition – FORPAZ has agreed to purchase 6 alpacas from sunflower farm in Fort Scott, Kansas. We were able to obtain them for \$1500 total. We should receive them this month. If we had to pay full price, it would have cost \$6500.
 - d. 4H Fair was held with various changes. Staff did not do clean up because people were not wearing masks. Trailers were not allowed to be on the 10 acres; they showed up the day of the show and then had to go back home.
 - e. Park Department has received their new 2020 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab 4x4 truck.
 - f. It was discussed whether to cancel Zoollooween and Christmas in the Park. Val said since Neewollah is cancelled, so should Zoollooween. Mardie suggested waiting a little longer to cancel Christmas in the park to see what things look like in December. Barb said we don't need to know very far in advance for Christmas in the Park.
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Tobacco Free Policy passed at the July 23rd Commission meeting. The policy includes the entire park and city owned property. There will be signs put up.
- V. Staff and Committee Reports
 - a. New Memorial Benches – Carol Leonard purchased a bench to be placed at the Leonard Open building located at the entrance of Well Drive. Lois Emerson purchased a bench in honor of her brother Paul Viets, to be placed at the entrance of the carousel on the east side and the Michel's Family is going to purchase another bench exactly the same to be located on the west side of the carousel entrance.
- VI. Other Concerns of the Board
 - a. Alix thought there were changes to the zoo plan, but none have been made.
 - b. They plan on trading some bison to prevent too much inbreeding. The monkeys need to increase their birth control because one got pregnant.

- VII. Upcoming and Past Activities
- a. Glow Golf will be August 28th, September 25th, and October 23rd. Trying to get more money to add more things.
 - b. Independence Chamber Movie Night on the Oval – August 29th and September 26th. Weather permitting.
 - c. Indy Goes Back to School Night has been cancelled.
- VIII. Adjournment – Alix made a motion, Anita seconded, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Molly Reynolds – Secretary

Approval  _____
Chairman – Jim Hogan

Date: September 14, 2020