

HARTFORD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees

19 May, 2021 minutes, submitted by Jen Holst, recording secretary:

The board met in Executive Session at 4:30 p.m. to discuss the job performance of and evaluate an individual employee as authorized under I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(9).

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Michael Tabor.

ROLL CALL: Members April Bartlett, Dave Bowman, ~~Camille Mealy~~, Kelli Ruble, Judy Soddors, Michael Tabor, ~~and Kay Waters~~; Director Michele Risinger; Admin Jen Holst; Park Manager Dustin George.

Dustin George presented an update for the Nature Park:

1. When the state building inspector, also a fire marshal, was onsite to approve the construction project, he alerted Michele to the need to have nature park projects approved by the state as well, as they seemed to be above the threshold for such action. Progress on the park has been temporarily halted while project plans were drawn up and submitted, particularly for the outdoor classroom, which had just gotten underway that day. Warren Brown was able to have a city engineer draw up formal plans, which allowed the design to be load tested, etc. Results assured officials that the park projects thus far completed are more than safe for patrons and community members to use. The original plan was to have all the projects approved together, but the cost involved was more than currently affordable (approx. \$7,000 per structure). Money recently received from the city will be put toward costs so far accrued. We should get approval in approximately two weeks then Jerry can resume.
2. The outdoor classroom will feature a rain gauge, windsock, thermometer, and barometer.
3. Other projects on the horizon include adding sand and water tables, a funnel stand, art boards, and large-scale outdoor musical instruments, one of which will be provided by Psi Iota Xi; also a cedar bridge on the east side bounded on one side by a boulder wall. Each area will be named with a children's book title, signified with a placard. All projects are planned and added to the park with the intent of getting certified as an official outdoor classroom by INDNR.
4. City will be putting curbs around the street-side perimeter of the park when they do the storm water separation in the area next year; ornamental grasses will be added along Jefferson afterwards.
5. The walnut tree, recently removed as it had been pruned improperly 20+ years ago and permanently damaged, leading to its destruction, will be replaced with tulip poplars to shade the outdoor classroom soon to be built. Much of the wood remains from the tree, which will be used around the park.
6. Northside Elementary School is looking forward to using the park as a walking destination for field trips.
7. Dustin is optimistic that the park will be complete for Spring 2023, pending funding for each project going forward.
8. City is "cooperating 100%" in work needed on the grounds for progress. Dan Furniss and Tracy Michael continue to provide maintenance in the park.

MINUTES from both April meetings were approved as presented upon a motion by April, seconded by Dave; carried 4-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

1. First Financial Bank accounts have been cleared and closed.
2. Boren Grant down, having purchased wood for the outdoor classroom park project.
3. All three township combined payments were received for 4Q20 and 1Q21.
4. Funds looking good; no advance needed.

CIRCULATION REPORT:

1. Numbers were rebounding right about the time we went into limited access phase again, this time due to construction. Browsing and check-out, computer access, printing, and all other available services have been moved into the meeting room during this phase.
2. We budgeted more for electronic materials, given our limited selection at this time. Michele will be learning more next week about another option for providing e-materials. She mentioned that Hoopla works well for patrons who know what they want and can search for titles, etc, but it's more challenging for those wanting to browse.
3. Staff is able to pull hold for patrons after 3:30 each day. Hoping to return to departments by July.

PROGRAMS: Amy is continuing virtual story times on the Facebook page. The Amazing Literary Society book club is paused at least until after summer reading.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: See attached.

ACTION/ DISCUSSION ITEMS

The board voted to approve the following resolutions together on a motion by Dave, seconded by Judy, which carried 4-0:

1. Resolution to create BCCF Spring 2021 Park Grant Fund – **RESOLUTION 2021-2**
2. Resolution to create COVID-CARES Grant Funds 1 & 2 – **RESOLUTION 2021-3**
3. Resolution to create City Park Fund – **RESOLUTION 2021-4**

See Director's Report for updates on construction/renovation.

CLAIMS & CHECKS

Claims were presented for April and May in the amounts of \$44,448.50 (April) and \$27,716.51 (May). After review by the board, Judy moved to approve the payment of claims; April seconded, motion carried 4-0.

Being no further business to come before the board, meeting adjourned.

The next REGULAR board meeting will be 16 Jun, 2021, location TBD, at 5 p.m.

Approved this ^{16th} *June* DATE day of MONTH, 2021:

Michael O. Tala
April Bartlett
Kell R. Rude
Judith Sanders

Carille Mealy
Dana A. Bowen
Kay E. Stutus