

Freedom Park Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 16, 2013
6:00pm

Start Time: 6:00p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Alice Dahl led members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present:

Alice Dahl, Harold Mussman, Robert Philpot and Randy Hall were present. Tom Sullivan and Candy Johnson were also present.

Press member Lola Jean Brink of the Lowell Tribune was present.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the March 2013 minutes was made by Harold Mussman and seconded by Randy Hall. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4/0.

Approval of Claims:

After review, the motion to approve the claims presented at the March 25, 2013 and April 8, 2013 Council Meetings was made by Robert Philpot and seconded by Harold Mussman. Tom was asked speak with Judy Walters with regard to the claim submitted to Freedom Park for Westland, Kramer & Bennet. The Board would like to know specifically what this \$150.00 attorney fee is for. Tom said that he would be in touch with the Board after he speaks with Judy. There was no other discussion.

Page 2

Freedom Park Board

April 16, 2013

Reports:

Freedom Park Updates

Tom began updates with information about the Eagle Scouts who were present at the March 19, 2013 Freedom Park Meeting.

It was also necessary for the boys to go before the Lowell Town Council and present their projects for final approval.

Tom reported that the birdhouse project was approved. The benches were also approved. The tree project was not approved because the project does not "build" something. After consideration, Eagle Scout Jason Salatas would like to build 12 picnic tables for Freedom Park. He would build the tables as well as plant the 30 trees. Alice asked if the cost of these projects was paid for by the "Scouts" themselves. Tom advised that they raise funds to pay for these projects.

In other updates, the park washrooms are now open. Also, Tom advised that he had started spreading playground mulch, but had to stop because of the weather. He did get mulch spread under the slide, which was a safety concern.

Tom also said that the mulch was paid for with the Town's "recycle funds" which is really appreciated.

Tom reported that he has received only 1 quote for the work that needs to be done on the barn. The cost on the 2 small buildings that connect to the barn came in at \$1800.00. The amount also included replacing shingles on the big barn as well. Discussion followed with regard to if other quotes are necessary since the estimated cost is well under \$10,000.00.

Mr. Philpot suggested that Tom speak with Judy Walters, and then accept the \$1800.00 quote. The motion to accept this quote was made by Robert Philpot and seconded by Harold Mussman. Motion carried 4/0.

In other business, the batwing is ready to go.

Tom also reported that the Marathon was held on Sunday the 14th and everything went great. There was really a great turnout.

With regard to the ball fields, Tom reported that he is still waiting for a call from the President of the Lowell Little League. Also, there has been no call from the attorney about the existing Little League contract.

Page 3

Freedom Park Board

April 16, 2013

Old Business:

Dog Park

Candy reported that there are currently 68 members and revenue totaling \$3512.00. There was no other discussion.

Walk/Bike Path

Tom reported that the path is on hold for now. Alice said that Frank had stopped in and spoken with her about the delays with this project. It has been very busy at the Street Department and Tom added that the ground will need to dry up before they are able to get in and do the work.

Alice had asked Don Huseman if he would come out and level the roads at Freedom Park. Don came right out and rolled and graded the roadway.

We are so appreciative of the work he has done here at Freedom Park.

Discussion about purchasing gravel for the roadway followed. Alice suggested contracting Walsh & Kelly for pricing. Harold asked about doing the "chip & seal" roadway work since that would be much less expensive than blacktopping. Discussion followed with the Board asking Tom to contact Walsh & Kelly about different paving options.

Volleyball Court

Tom reported that is too wet and he will not be able work on the courts until it dries out.

Disc Golf Update

People have been out playing the course but Tom stated that he still needs to get the "rubber mats" in. Discussion followed about having a "grand opening" once the mats are in place and the course is completed. No specific date was chosen but the opening will be scheduled for late in May.

New Business:

None

Page 4

Freedom Park Board

April 16, 2013

Announcements & Correspondence:

The next meeting of the Freedom Park Board is Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at the Lowell Town Hall.

Public Comment:

None

Discussion followed about the extension of the walk/bike path south from Crown Point. Alice Dahl attends NIRPCI meetings regularly, says that Lowell is not mentioned when there is discussion about the extension of the walk/bike south from Crown Point. Plans are in the works currently to extend the path south to Cedar Lake.

Tom advised that he is on a newly formed committee concerning the extension of pathway south from Cedar Lake to Lowell. Craig Earley is on this committee along with Ron Brown, Ron spearheaded this committee. Tom said that Mitch Barloga had discussed plans with the Lowell Park Board several years ago. At that time he presented a plan that would offer recreational canoeing through the Town of Lowell then extend to the south.

Tom said he would like to have Mitch attend one of our Freedom Park meetings and talk about the bike path extension south.

In other business, Bob Philpot asked about flying remote control airplanes out at Freedom Park. Discussion followed.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Harold Mussman at 6:30p.m.