



**Freedom Park Board
Members**

Randy Hall
Chairperson
Freedom Park Board

Harold Mussman
West Creek Township
Executive Secretary
Freedom Park Board

Robert Philpot
Freedom Park Board
Lowell Town Council

Alice Dahl
Cedar Creek Township
Freedom Park Board

Tom Sullivan
Park Superintendent

FREEDOM PARK

Freedom Park Board Meeting
November 18, 2014
6:00pm

Start Time: 5:58 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Board Member, Randy Hall led members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present:

Board Members Randy Hall, Harold Mussman, Alice Dahl and Robert Philpot were present. Also present, Tom Sullivan, Mindi Arnold-Buchler, Dan Blankenship, Paul Crouse and Lola Jean Brink of the Lowell Tribune.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the August 2014 minutes was made by Randy Hall and seconded by Alice Dahl.

Review of Freedom Park Claims:

After review of claims submitted from the September, October, and November 10, 2014 Town Council meetings, motion to approve claims was made by Alice Dahl and seconded by Robert Philpot. Discussion about the accounts payable register and the break down method that past secretary Candy Johnson had done in the past. The board advised that they would like to have the accounts payable register presented in a user friendly format instead of reading the accounts payable report submitted by Clerk Treasurer Judy Walters.

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The batwing sale was brought up at this time by Randy Hall. Discussion followed on the ideal time to advertise the sale and other types of options of advertising such equipment. After a brief discussion about the batwing sale, Randy Hall redirected the board toward the Approval of Claims. Alice Dahl made a motion for approval of the claims and Randy Hall seconded that motion.

Reports:

Freedom Park Updates

Superintendent, Tom Sullivan reported that the 5400 tractor is down and he was able to finish the final cutting of the season. Sullivan reported that this repair has been estimated around \$2,000.00 and that there was not enough money remaining in the 2014 budget to pay for such expensive repairs. He did suggest that the board refer to the park gift fund and think about using some of these funds to make the repairs. The board discussed the age of the tractor and advised Mr. Sullivan to continue to shop around for estimates to repair. Superintendent, Tom Sullivan concluded his reports with the restrooms are closed for the season, and the buildings are in good shape at this time.

Old Business:

The Bark Park Dog Park- reported of 101 members. Superintendent Tom Sullivan reported that he had received a letter from Bark Park committee member, Courtney Cherry that the committee has dissolved. Mr. Sullivan reminded the Freedom Park Board members that maintenance of the Bark Park was handed over to Freedom Park some time ago. He also stated that the committee took care of policy and dealt with issues that may arise at the park concerning member complaints and fundraising. Mr. Sullivan advised the Freedom Park committee since the Bark Park committee has dissolved these complaints and policies will become that of the Freedom Park Committee.

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Revenue, gates, and locks were discussed amongst members and as a new committee some of these issues can be resolved in the upcoming year. The committee spoke about posting a fine for non-members entering the Bark Park. Mr. Philpot suggested that Mr. Sullivan look into calling the town attorney or the town court to find out if an ordinance prevents the posting of such signage in the parks. Fees for the Bark Park will continue to stay the same in 2015. Dan Blankeship asked the committee when the completion of the walking path would be complete. Discussion about the remaining gravel that is left on site and how much more it would take to complete the path continued. It was agreed upon that spring would be an ideal time to revisit this project. Tom Sullivan suggested removing the volleyball courts off of the agenda due to financial restrictions. Members of the committee felt the need to keep the volleyball courts on the agenda as they do hope to bring them to completion in spring of 2015 as an improvement to Freedom Park.

New Business: Alice Dahl had a question concerning the recycling center located at Freedom Park. Discussion was made about where the revenue of this center was going and she asked Mr. Sullivan to review the agreement with Solid Waste.

Public Comment: Paul Crouse approached the committee about the need for a concession stand at Freedom Park. He has recently purchased a food truck and wanted information on how to obtain a vendors permit for use in Freedom Park. Mr. Crouse was advised to watch for the advertisement seeking vendor applications. Discussion with Dan Blankeship about the possibility of a driving range was discussed as another possible amenity to bring to Freedom Park. Robert Philpot announced the Cedar Lake annexation meeting that was taking place later that evening.

Adjournment:

Randy Hall made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Robert Philpot at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Recreation Director Mind Arnold-Buchler