

**Board of Park Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes  
February 13, 2023**

**Call to Order:** Mrs. Galka called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held open to the public and a call-in number for remote public participation.

**Roll Call:** Commissioners in attendance: Mrs. Galka, Mr. Such. Present via remote call Mr. Kara and Ms. Grabczak. Also present: Park Board Secretary Ms. Montes and Park Director Mrs. Goodpaster. Council Representative Mr. Huddlestun. School Board Representative Mrs. Hillan.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Mr. Such, seconded by Mr. Kara to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried. (4-0)

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Mr. Such, seconded by Ms. Grabczak to accept the February 13, 2023 minutes as presented. All aye, motion carried. (4-0)

**Approval of Register of Claims:** Motion by Mr. Such, seconded by Mr. Kara to accept the register of claims. All aye, motion carried. (4-0)

**Correspondence:** Nothing under correspondence

**Director Report:** Mrs. Goodpaster reported that she had a meeting with Lakota about the master plan. They went around the parks and talked about the input that was given by the board. Lakota will be working on the final document and on an online survey.

Mrs. Goodpaster met up with the Hobart Soccer Club and they want to extend the West side of the parking lot. Mrs. Goodpaster is working with IDNR for the permitting so they can extend their parking lot. Most of the work will be done by volunteers through the Hobart Soccer Club and the Park Department will help to get work done. Mrs. Goodpaster also met with all the local park directors in the region at the Dunes Pavilion and they came together and shared all their ideas for the year.

The bathroom project is going to start mobilizing the beginning of March and the plans are to have them open June 1st. The Rugby field has a fence up and the parking lot is for the sewer project. They will eventually move to the opposite side of the parking lot on the gravel side and they will stage there for about five years.

Mrs. Goodpaster had a meeting with the Mayor and he wants to do a memorial for Linda Buzinec. She sat on the council for 1980-1995 and did two terms as council woman and three terms as a Mayor for the years of 1996-2007. Since she was a big part of the first phase of Lakefront, the plans are to do a plaque somewhere along the Lakefront.

**Plan Commission Report:** Nothing to report under plan commission

**Common Council Report:** Mr. Huddlestun reported that they finalized the agreement with Lake County for the Southlake Mall. They will be going to State to get legislative fixes to prevent this from happening again in the future.

**School Board Report:** Mrs. Hillan reported that Project Lead the Way is a stem program of science technology, engineering and math. The program is a way to create an engaging hands-on class environment and empower students to develop in demand knowledge and skills students need to thrive. There are 13 districts in the entire nation that have the same standing Hobart Schools have for the

preparation for stem. Mrs. Hillan also announced that Hobart has an 11<sup>th</sup> place driver from the swimming team and two wrestlers going to state.

**Old Business:** Nothing under old business


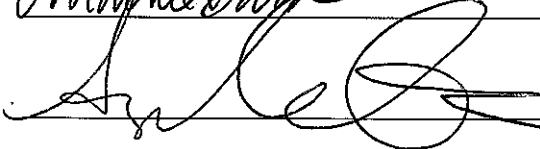
**New Business: Playground Update:** Mrs. Goodpaster showed the final footprint of the playground. The Mayor is funding this project; it doesn't need any approvals but she wanted to share everything with the board. The resolution to be able to purchase the playground is going before the board of works. A small discuss was held describing the playground; Mrs. Goodpaster mentioned that even with scaling back and making some changes, it is going to be a beautiful playground for everyone to enjoy. Installation will start mid-August to September and hoping to have a ribbon cutting in October.

**Announcements:** Erika McCauley 717 Memory Ln. Hobart, In. 46342 came forward to the board and brought to our attention that she was upset because she felt the bird sanctuary was decimated and even more upset to of finding out that the bird sanctuary was not a bird sanctuary and does not belong to the Park Department and the sign has been removed. Mrs. McCauley wants to know what transferred the next steps would be to get it designated as a bird sanctuary by the City of Hobart and get it over to Parks. She also wants to come up with a Friends group that is certify by the Park Department so they can work together to have approval before anything is donated or planted. Mrs. Goodpaster stated that public works were working on the land to remove some of the debris and cleaning up the pathway. She mentioned that the pathway has been there for years and there were no trees cut down. Mrs. Goodpaster also did some research and found out that the land has never been designated to the Park Department. Therefore moving forward, any work has to be brought to the board of works. She advised Mrs. McCauley to go the board of works because they are the ones that are listed on the deed as the primary land owner.

Darlene Wilfong 7887 Memory Lane Hobart, In. 46342 came forward to the board and is will to volunteer her time to plant new plants. She mentioned that the big trees have huge vines and she is willing to clear it out. She was advised not to mess with the trees until someone with expertise takes a look at it before someone gets hurt. The goal is to get everyone on the same page.

Sandy O'Brien also came forward to the board and thanked Mrs. Goodpaster for an award she received from the City. We appreciate all the work she has done for our parks.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Mr. Such, seconded by Mr. Kara. All aye, motion carried. (4-0)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_