

City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation Park Board Minutes



DATE: July 18, 2023

TIME: 5:00 PM

City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation
Council Chambers

LOCATION: 229 S. 2nd Street, Elkhart, IN 46516

Call to Order at 5:11 PM.

1. Roll Call- Quorum Present BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Sarah Santerre President	Nekeisha Alayna Alexis Vice President	Mark Datema Secretary	Christopher Baiker Treasurer

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve Agenda

Motion: NAA

Second: MD

Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

3. Approval of Minutes

June 20, 2023

July 5, 2023

Motion to Approve

Motion: MD

Second: CB

Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

4. Approval of Financials

Claims: \$57,199.16

Donations: \$1,100

Grants: \$0

Motion to discuss, approve and place on file

Motion: CB

Second: MD

Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

Ms. Alexis inquires about the bridge removal payment.

Mr. Czarnecki explains that the bridge was disrupting the flow of the creek into the river at High Dive Park and causing a buildup of trash and algae. A fishing pier was put in its place. There is another bridge 500 feet away that accesses Kroger and the neighborhood.

5. New Business

a. Entertainment Contracts

Ms. Ixmatalahua explains to the Board that the contracts are for Island of Blues entertainers.

Motion to approve

Motion: NAA

City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation

Park Board Minutes



Second: MD
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

6. Old Business

- a. None

7. Use and Event Permit

- a. **Community Unity Back to School Day – August 13, 2023 – McNaughton Park**
Ms. Antjuana Coleman presents the permit. The event will provide free haircuts, activities for kids such as fishing, and a backpack giveaway. There are no vendors; everything is free. Ms. Coleman is working with Lt. Bias of the Elkhart Police Department.
Motion: MD
Second: NAA
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote
- b. **Save Haven Donation Day – August 15, 2023 – High Dive Pavilion**
Mr. Mark Datema presents the permit on behalf of the Greenleaf Neighborhood Association. They will be accepting donations for Save Haven.
Motion to approve
Motion: NAA
Second: CB
Motion passes with a voice vote. MD abstains from voting.
- c. **Riding to Remember – September 10, 2023 – Parks Stage Only**
The event is requesting the use of the Park Department stage.
Motion to approve
Motion: MD
Second: CB
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote
- d. **Waggin' in the Woods – September 24, 2023 – Parks Bleachers Only**
Mr. Jeff Zavatsky of the Elkhart Environmental Center presents the permit. They are requesting the use of the Parks Department bleachers.
Motion to approve
Motion: NAA
Second: MD
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote
- e. **Island of Blues – September 16, 2023 – Island Park**
Ms. Luisa Ixmattlahua presents the permit on behalf of Ms. Sherry Krask. The event will feature blues music and bbq vendors.
Motion to approve
Motion: NAA
Second: MD
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

8. Department Report

Mr. Czarnecki reports that Mayor Roberson has announced a neighborhood initiative, and the Department will be involved. The new software is working well. Aquatic facilities are running well. The Independence Celebration was well attended despite some rain. Kids Day at the Farmers Market was successful. Summer in the Park Concerts have started at McNaughton Park. The Summer Chill concert is this Friday.

Ms. Gordon continues to provide a volunteer newsletter highlighting opportunities for volunteers. She is also working with the Mayor's Office for neighborhood cleanups. The Adopt a Park Program has three adoptees so far.

Ms. Ixmattlahua provides updates on programming.

City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation

Park Board Minutes



Mr. Cron provides the Ranger report.

Ms. Alexis inquires what is done about the homeless in the parks.

Mr. Larry Coleman, Park Ranger, informs the Board that the Rangers try not to intimidate anyone or make them feel less than anyone. They encourage them to follow the rules of the park and try to connect them with resources.

9. Public Input/Privilege of the Floor

Ms. Santerre opens the privilege of the floor.

Mr. Coleman is holding a family reunion at Studebaker Park and would like to have a bounce house. He is asking what he needs to do to have one.

Ms. Rose Rivera, Legal Department, informs him that he will need a permit and additional insurance. The Department will assist Mr. Coleman with the permit, and he will contact his insurance.

Ms. Alexis and Mr. Datema express concern over the new ordinance the City Council is considering regarding camping in public.

Ms. Santerre closes the privilege of the floor.

10. Approval for Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Motion: MD

Second: CB

Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

Adjourn 6:24 pm

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jamison Czarnecki, Superintendent Luisa Ixmattlahua-Garay, Program Coordinator Nick Cron, Operations Manager	Sommer Bowers, Office Manager Jennifer Kobie, Recording Secretary Larry Coleman, Park Ranger
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

ADDITIONAL CITY EMPLOYEES AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Antjuana Coleman	Ms. Rose Rivera, Legal Department, via Webex	Mr. Jeff Zavatsky, Elkhart Environmental Center, via Webex
----------------------	-------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------

Minutes Certification:

Respectfully Submitted,


Recording Secretary Jennifer Kobie


Park Board President Sarah Santerre


Park Board Secretary Mark Datema

8/15/23
Date

8-15-23
Date

8-15-23
Date