

City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation Park Board Minutes



DATE: August 20, 2024

TIME: 5:00 PM

LOCATION: City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation
Annex Conference Room
201 S. 2nd Street, Elkhart, IN 46516

Call to Order at 5:00 PM.

**1. Roll Call- Quorum Present
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Nekeisha Alayna Alexis President	Christopher Baiker Vice President	Sarah Santerre Secretary	Bil Murray Treasurer
Absent	Present	Present	Present

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve Agenda
Motion: SS
Second: BM
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

3. Public Input/Privilege of the Floor
Christopher Baiker opens the privilege of the floor.
Christopher Baiker closes the privilege of the floor.

4. Approval of Minutes

June 18, 2024
Motion to Approve Agenda
Motion: BM
Second: ML
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

5. Approval of Financials

Claims: \$168,058.69
Donations: \$7,500.00
Grants: \$

Motion to discuss, approve, and place on file
Motion: SS
Second: BM
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation

Park Board Minutes



6. New Business

- a. **Forestry Request- Chip Tallman**
Motion to approve
Motion: BM
Second:SS
Motion passes with a unanimous voice vote
- b. **Entertainment Contract for Quite Frank Lee- Liz Stoutenour**
Motion to approve
Motion: BM
Second:SS
Motion passes with a unanimous voice vote

7. Old Business

- a. **None**

8. Use and Event Permits

- a. **Pickleball Glow Party with Pick-a-Ball 9/20/24 @ Studebaker Park- Jennifer Reives-**
Miss Reives explains that she instructs pickleball, tennis, and other sports around the area. She has an interest in hosting an event that invites the entire community out for fun, food, game play and instruction. She wants to work with the Parks Department on holding the event which will be glow themed with lights and glow in the dark items.
Motion to approve
Motion: BM
Second: SS
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote
- b. **Sarah Strong Run 9/28/24 @ Bicentennial Park- Kylee Kendall-** Miss Kendall explains that this is an annual run that is hosted in her sister's memory. Nothing has changed in the event plans from year to year.
Motion to approve
Motion: SS
Second: BM
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote
- c. **Heart & Sole 9/23/24 @ Island Park- Dave Wiegner-** Mr Wiegner explains that the Elkhart County Health Department will host a community health event. They will encourage community members to walk around the island for physical fitness while they have vendors of different specialties to teach people about healthy habits, healthy foods, etc.
Motion to approve
Motion: BM
Second: SS
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote
- d. **Turkey Stampede 11/28/24 @ City Parks- Liz Stoutenour-** Miss Stoutenour explains that this annual event has no major changes. It draws a great amount of community members who participate in the run/walk.
Motion to approve
Motion:SS
Second: BM
Motion passes with unanimous voice vote
- e. **Downtown After Dark Glow Party 9/13/24 @ NIBCO- Liz Stoutenour-** Miss Stoutenour informs the board that there will be a dance party at NIBCO alongside the lighting of

City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation

Park Board Minutes



downtown. The event had a good response last year and no major changes have been made to this year.

Motion to approve

Motion: BM

Second: SS

Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

- f. **Pine Not-So-Haunted Wood Walk 10/26/24 @ Pinewood Park- Liz Stoutenour-** Miss Stoutenour tells the board that this annual event has no major changes except for the times of the event. Community members and children are welcome to put on costumes and walk through the park collecting candy and have fun.

Motion to approve

Motion: BM

Second:SS

Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

- g. **Trunk-or-Treat 10/19/24 @ Island Park- Liz Stoutenour-** Miss Stoutenour tells about an annual event that invites kids in the community to come to Island Park and wear costumes if they choose to trick-or-treat in a safe space.

Motion to approve

Motion: BM

Second:SS

Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

- h. **Farmers Market Pop-Ups 10/19; 11/16; 12/21; 1/18; 2/15; 3/15; 4/19 all in 2024 @ High Dive Pavilion- Liz Stoutenour-** Miss Stoutenour tells the board about a repeat plan to host Farmers Markets inside the pavilion during the colder months.

Motion to approve

Motion: SS

Second: BM

Motion passes with unanimous voice vote

- i. **Fall Fabulous Pop-Up Market 11/9/24 @ McNaughton Pavilion- Liz Stoutenour-** Miss Stoutenour tells the board that this pop-up market is a repeat from last year and there are no changes except for the location which is changing from High Dive to McNaughton.

9. Department Report

Mr. Czarnecki updates the Park Board on the status of the Disc Golf course at Island Park. Community members are already playing on the course. The ribbon cutting ceremony will be on 9/20/21 at 12pm at Lundquist Park. Walker Park playground is still on track for removal and new equipment installation. Woodlawn Nature Center is being upgraded and revitalized by the Parks Department. Maddy Gordon, former Volunteer Coordinator, has moved on to the CVB. The Master Plan continues to be developed and focus groups are scheduled for input. High Dive Tower has seen great response from community with visitor attendance around 50 to 70 people each Sunday that tours operate. Fall Activity guide will be out soon. Liz Stoutenour present information on the Summer Chill series, Movie in the Park, Neighborhood Socials, and the Farmers Market. She also reports that Adopt-A-Park sponsors are picking dates for fall clean ups and volunteers are still needed for Island of Blues. Neighborhood Associations Initiative clean ups with the Mayors office are going well.

Luisa Ixmattahua updates the board on Programming that has taken place over the summer and activities that are coming up, noting the popular kayak programs "glow float" and "full moon kayaking." Head Ranger Nhim reports on the latest ranger reports which include number of people engaging in activities in the park and any problems that were addressed.

City of Elkhart Parks & Recreation Park Board Minutes



10. Approval for Adjournment

Motion to adjourn
 Motion: SS
 Second: BM
 Motion passes with unanimous voice vote
 Adjourn: 5:47pm

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jamison Czarnecki, Superintendent Luisa Ixmattlahua-Garay, Program Coordinator Nick Cron, Operations Manager Nhim Danh, Lead Park Ranger Bethany Ottman, Assistant Lead Park Ranger Mandi Null, Park Board Recording Secretary	Matthew Moyers, Special Projects Manager Brianna Petgen, Office Manager Rodney Wash, Assistant Program Coordinator
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ADDITIONAL CITY EMPLOYEES AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

	Rose Rivera, Legal Department	
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Minutes Certification:

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary

Mandi Null

Date

Park Board President

Nekeisha Alayna Alexis

Date

Park Board Secretary

Sarah Santerre

Date