

ROME CITY PARK BOARD

Regular Meeting
July 15, 2024

The Rome City Park Board held their regular meeting on Monday, July 15, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., in the Rome City Town Hall. Called to order by President Wilkinson.

Members Present:

Leigh A. Pranger-Secretary
John Martin

Tina Wilkinson
Bridgett Coe

Members Absent:

Doug Maley

Roll call a quorum was present.

Interested parties in attendance: No one in attendance.

Member Martin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Softball/Baseball-Secretary Pranger informed the board the season is over. They plan to clean the restrooms and the concession stand the weekend of July 27 & 28.

Region IIIA update 5 five park plan. Secretary Pranger passed out the QR Code for the 2nd survey and encouraged the board members to share it with their family and friends. Timeline showing the process: First draft-May meeting, second survey-June or July, first public meeting-September, revise and edit plan-October, Submit first draft to IDNR-November, second public meeting-February 2025, Final Submission to IDNR-April 2025. Mr. Brinkman informed the board that IDNR has expanded the timeline to a minimum of one year so public input can be maximized.

Update on Chautauqua Committee: President Wilkinson stated she has not received minutes nor heard when the next meeting will be scheduled.

Review Event Food Trucks and Fireworks- President Wilkinson stated everything went well. We need two people when opening to help move barricades and put-up banners. She stated we need to have more food trucks in 2025 as all the trucks were sold out by 9:00 p.m. The QR code was set up on the sandwich board along with the playground fundraiser flyer. The board brainstormed food trucks to ask for next year. The Black Sheep Ice Cream, Smoking J's Smokehouse-eggrolls, Coterie Pizza, Twist, King Arthur Trolley, Gringos Tacos, Janie's Donuts, Ed's Fish and More, and Roaming Kitchen. The board then discussed whether to have a pizza truck and the board stated Pepperoni's decided not to open one week before the event this year. They discussed contacting Deb to find out her plans for 2025 so we can get a pizza truck for next year.

Port-a-Johns: Do we need more port-a-johns located near the food trucks next year?

President Wilkinson stated it would be good to have two by the food trucks-maybe move the one from the top of the public access over.

T-Shirt's for Board Members: Member Coe stated she is working on designs and should have something to email to the board in the week or two. Hoping to have them ready for the Chautauqua Day events.

Kelly Park

- a) Update on July 8th Town Council meeting request for new tennis courts/pickleball in Kelly Park. Secretary Pranger and Member Martin informed the board that the council discuss the pros and cons of repair versus total replacement. Member Martin informed the town council there is a transverse crack across both court that runs to the base of the courts. Repair will probably only hold off the crack for a few years since it is so deep into the subbase. The council decide to go with new courts for a cost of \$92,000 (with a 3% increase from 2023's quote) and requested the Clerk-Treasurer to include this in the Park Board budget for 2025. The town council and Park Board requested Secretary Pranger obtain another quote or two-checking with Niblock. ** On hold until we refurbish the tennis courts. Susan Garringer (lives on the lake) is interested in starting a kids tennis program for one-week next summer. The board stated this would be great, but we would need to get the word out early and asked Ms. Garringer to attend the May meeting to start the planning and find out what she will need to make this happen.
- b) **Pickleball and Cornhole Tournaments on August 10th.** President Wilkinson stated she heard back from Doug Eby, Hidden Ego we are set for cornhole, he asked to move the tournament later in the day. Pranger stated we might run into issues with the parade line up starting at 11:30 am and parade start at 1:00 p.m. President Wilkinson said we need to do two cornhole tournaments one for pros and one for amateurs to make it fun for everyone. We will need to raise \$2000 for prizes and payment to Doug Eby for running the tournaments. Daryl DeMuyt will help with the tournament and sponsor -DeMuyt Masonry and Jim Sheffield will distribute posters and encourage participation. The board discussed having cold water available for participants for free. Secretary Pranger will ask Campbell and Fetter to see if they have water to donate. Registration will be at 8:00 a.m. pickleball with the tournament starting at 8:30 a.m. Registration at 8:30 a.m. cornhole tournament starting at 9:00 a.m. Flyers have been distributed for the tournaments-CLC, hidden Ego, Wolcottville School, LaGrange Park and Kelly Park, and Augusta hills. 2023 sponsors: R & S Boats \$100, B & J specialty \$250, Shepherd's \$500, Fruition \$250, Miller's Super Valu-Food, Outbak Photography-Haunted Trail Tickets. **2024 Sponsors: NCD \$300, B and J Specialty \$250, Arrow Fence-\$250,Shepherd's-\$500, Howard Murray-\$100, BZ Autos-will donate-don't know the amount, (Aggregate Systems, Fruition, and Precision Medical-emailed no response). No one requested-(Max Platt, R & S Boats, West Lakes, K-ville Iron and Metal) Procured: Tina Wilkinson-**
- c) Grimaldi Circus: Secretary Pranger informed the board she could not find their contact information. Really weird that their information was removed from the sent and incoming email. She stated she doesn't have a good feeling about this, and the board decided NOT to allow them to use the Park.

Grant Park

Nothing on the agenda.

Dog Park -Change name to Off Leash Area-Location between Kelly Park and Grant Park:

Doug Maley reported the entrance way has been completed. The board discussed announcing the opening at the parade. Decorate a golf cart with paw prints, Bridgett can have her dog on the cart. Will carry banner or put on golf cart, Pranger to order dog outfits for her and Tina to wear.

Pranger will submit the parade form. President Wilkinson suggested a shelter or canopy be purchased and put over the bench. Pranger stated they make benches with covers-we can look into the cost.

Sycamore Park

Secretary Pranger informed the board that the town guys are checking the area for trash every other week.

Lakeside Park

- a) Work to begin on ½ court in the next 2 or 3 weeks. Pulver Asphalt Paving-installation of a 1/2 court basket/pickle ball with lines \$28,500. The installation will be later this summer.
- b) Secretary Pranger had forwarded the updates to the playground design to the board, that were made by Wendy Mink with Midstates. Playground design: after reviewing the design from Midstates and the sale flyer. The board said we just need to come up with a proposed playground and a cost for fundraising. The end product will change as the board stated they will most likely purchase sale items for the playground. The board decided they would like to install a separate area for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds.
- c) Playground Fundraising: The board needs to work on obtaining grants to help fund the playground. Noble County Community Foundation, Dekko, and Cole Foundation regarding their grant cycles. President Wilkinson brought pictures of the new playground in Lagrange and thought we might be able to incorporate some of the items they have in our design.
- d) Discussed getting a landscaper to install native Indiana trees along lake this fall or have Hulen's plant them.

Gaff Park Trail head:

- a) Concert(s) in Gaff Park: Friday, September 6, 2024, President Wilkinson contacted Stacy Stork and she is booked she will play from 6-8 pm. Food Trucks- 5-8 pm. Ed's Fish and More and Tyrod's Dogs and possibly Coterie Pizza. A banner and flyer need to be made for the event.
- b) Town Employees fixed the electrical and plugs in the pavilion.
- c) New Sign in Gaff Park: Member Martin asked if we could install a sign in Gaff Park to match the other town's signage. President Wilkinson stated she will ask her husband Jim Wilkinson to give us a quote to have the sign done in 2024. The board agreed this would be a nice addition to the park and tie all the signage together. President Wilkinson stated the cost for the stonework will be \$2000, the work won't be able to be done until this fall. (Member Martin stated he will help.)
Member Martin made a motion to approve the stonework for the Gaff Park sign. Second by Member Coe. All in favor-aye. Motion carried. The board directed Pranger to contact Miller's signs in Lagrange to get a quote on the sign for the next meeting.
- d) President Wilkinson informed the board the installation of the musical Equipment will be within the next week or so. They will be installing-Tinker Tunes out of Michigan. A circle of bells to the tune of Amazing Grace. You hit the bells as you walk around the circle. They will also be installing a flower display that makes music. **Need to discuss pathway around and possible landscaping in the middle.**
- e) Trail project in progress, asphalt has been laid, topcoat applied, waiting on the installation of signage, ADA ramps and pavement markings. Project will be completed by the end of August.
- f) Need to replace tree by parking lot-add a guard to new tree to keep deer off.

2024 Budget

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|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Park Donation Account | \$27,754.58 | |
| #119-Park Maintenance | \$ 8,285.59 | |
| #135-Contractual | \$ 4,000.00 | |
| #234-Park Supplies | \$ 2,520.88 | |
| #341-Park Insurance-Don't Spend | \$ 3,977.52 | |
| #352-Park Light-Don't spend | \$ 2,982.18 | |
| #362-Park Repairs | \$ 3,339.82 | |
| #430-Park Improvement | \$15,000.00 | |
| #442-Park Equipment | <u>\$12,066.07</u> | |
| Total | \$52,172.06 | +27,754.58=\$79,926.64 |

Town/Park Project \$15,000.00
Encumbered: asphalt basketball court Lakeside Pk:\$28,500

Next Meeting: August 19, 2024

Member Coe a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Second by Member Martin. All in favor-aye. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Leigh A. Pranger, Secretary