

**Present:** Rebecca Cox, Pete Gitman, Lisa Goodpaster (secretary), J.P. Hall (president), Brad Marshall (treasurer).

**Absent:** Rodney Avery, Craig Bonesteel, Brad Polk (vice president).

There being a quorum present, President Hall called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the January 30, 2024 meeting were presented for review. Everyone having had a chance to read and review the minutes, President Hall called for a motion to approve. Brad Marshall moved; Pete Gitman seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Marshall submitted the treasurer's report for the period 1/30/24 – 2/26/24 for review. Our current total balance is \$125,900. This includes \$24,189 remaining in ARP funds, \$25,000 from the Zeigler grant, and \$74,026 from our IHEDA/Patronicity crowdfunding campaign. We anticipate spending the ARP and Patronicity funds this year on additional park improvements, which will leave the Zeigler grant yet to spend. There may be another opportunity to apply for additional ARP Neighborhood funds. The application deadline is April 1. President Hall called for a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Rebecca Cox moved; Pete Gitman seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Treasurer's Report approved.

### **Halteman Park: Phase Two**

Hall distributed a revised quote from Commercial Recreation Group (CRG). The quote includes 10 benches, a rope play structure, plastic timber border, mulch, installation, shipping/handling for \$70,725. This represents a \$30,000 reduction from the previous quote, having removed the proposed shade structures.

Marshall distributed a quote from Smoot Landscaping, which provides for two cedar toned lumber shade structures, concrete installed at pickleball courts, removal of gravel and installation of a hardscape path between the pickleball and basketball courts, at a cost of approximately \$29,000, making the total for the entire project right around \$100,000. If we put 50% down Smoot will apply a 7.5% discount. Marshall indicated Smoot would be able to start soon.

Following a brief discussion, Hall called for a motion to approve the two quotes as presented and move ahead with the next phase of the park project. Lisa Goodpaster moved; Rebecca Cox seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried. The quotes from CRG and Smoot were approved. We will need to meet at the park in March to determine bench and shade structure locations.

### **Halteman Park: Community Cabin**

The funds received from the Zeigler grant will be used to renovate the old Halteman Pool concession stand (referred to hereafter as Halteman Community Cabin). A preliminary design proposal was completed by a Ball State student. We will use this to solicit quotes for renovating the cabin. We hope to be able to review quote(s) and vote on this project during our March meeting.

### **ARP Neighborhood Funds: Round 2**

Hall reported that Muncie Action Plan (MAP) has another round of ARP neighborhood funds available. It will be a competitive application process. Applicants will be required to demonstrate how the proposed project directly impacts Quality of Life/Quality of Place. The deadline to submit a preapplication is April 1, 2024. If we choose to apply, we will need to include a project description. Full applications are due June 1, 2024. Funds must be fully committed by December 2024.

**Old Business**

The discussion turned to the subject of the "Halteman Ditch". Marshall reported that apparently no local governing body owns it, and they don't have maintenance access either. The ditch handles discharge for Muncie Sanitary District and inflow for Delaware County. Although property owners pay a "ditch fee" on their property taxes, we are told that the ditch is privately owned by each property owner with land along the ditch. Marshall continued by recounting a conversation with Jason Donati (MSD Stormwater Educator) that stormwater could back up and flood the adjacent homes. At this point we aren't sure who to reach out to for more information. We will make contact with the president of the MSD board to gauge whether he would be willing to come to a future meeting to discuss these issues.

**New Business**

Hall announced there is another rapid grant available through Building Better Neighborhoods Internal Grant program, sponsored by the Ball State Office of Community Engagement. In the past, we have received two similar grants which provided funding for reinventing/redesigning Halteman Park, and one to create a visual identity for HVNA through creation of a logo.

It was suggested perhaps we could use these funds for expenses related to our annual neighborhood park party and/or another pickleball tournament.

Hall mentioned the need to hold board elections, and begin thinking of a transition plan. We should discuss this further during our next meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at Remedy City Church.

- *Respectfully submitted by Lisa Goodpaster, secretary*