

Present: Rodney Avery, Craig & Paula Bonesteel, Rebecca Cox, Pete Gitman, Lisa Goodpaster (secretary), J.P. Hall (president), Brad Marshall (treasurer), Isaac Miller (Muncie City Council, District 4), Brad Polk (vice president), and Lauren Walker.

President Hall commenced the meeting at 7:08 pm

Minutes from the January 31, 2023 meeting were presented and reviewed. President Hall requested a correction to the minutes. Regarding Phase 2 funding for the park, it should read “may involve” instead of “will involve”. Pete moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Brad Polk seconded. All voted in favor. Minutes approved.

Marshall presented the **Treasurer’s Report**. Lisa consulted with Marshall after the last meeting and they discovered an error on the last report, making the balance off by \$180. The formula error has been corrected on his spreadsheet. There is an outstanding check to reimburse \$37 to Lisa for social media advertising. An issue with the bank account numbers was discovered. Northwest is printing new checks.

Halteman Park Update

It was brought to our attention that an individual who attended the last meeting misunderstood some of the discussion which occurred, and took some comments out of context from the discussions which have occurred during many months leading up to that meeting. President Hall explained the situation to the individual in an effort to clarify the misunderstanding. He emphasized that everyone in the HVNA organization appreciates the hard work by everyone involved in the park renovations to this point. This includes Carl Malone, George Foley, the parks department staff, the Mayor, City, Brad Marshall, MRC and the entire parks board. All have put forth great effort and their work is truly appreciated.

Hall turned the conversation back to the consultant’s rendering of the two proposed pickleball courts, which was reviewed last month. To our disappointment, the rendering was just of the courts, and did not provide any measurements of the surrounding park features, or indications where and how they would be placed between the border and the basketball courts. This means we will be unable to move forward with landscaping and proposed seating which is to be paid with grant funds until we have more details from the consultant.

Hall mentioned the MRC bond, which earmarks \$300k for city parks. The mayor had indicated to Hall that \$75k of the bond would be designated for Halteman for pickleball courts. Quotes obtained years ago estimated 3-4 courts would cost approximately \$75k. The current proposal from the consultant provides 2 courts for \$75k. Marshall reported he obtained a quote from Outdoor Court Specialists for 3 courts instead of 2, which would cost \$96k. Of course costs have increased due to inflation and supply chain issues. Marshall reported he consulted with parks superintendent Malone, who is fairly certain they can find some additional money in the budget to put toward a 3rd court, if HVNA could subsidize 50% of the additional amount. Miller reported the MRC report indicates the parks department is already \$2,500 over budget for Halteman Park, and there will be no EDIT funds available. Miller continued that the mayor has emphasized to all department heads that it is their responsibility to keep their budgets balanced. Hall called for a motion to allow Marshall to allocate some of HVNA’s ARP funds toward 50% of the cost of the 3rd pickleball court, not to exceed \$10,000. Polk moved, Gitman seconded. Motion approved. Marshall will get a written MOU regarding this agreement.

President Hall will submit the application materials for the ARP neighborhood grant funds. We will consider other foundational grants and opportunities through crowdfunding efforts.

It was suggested we begin thinking about expanding the board and forming some committees to delegate some tasks to others. Specifically, programming/events in the park. We should move forward with this in the coming months.

Traffic Updates

Hall emailed the mayor, the city engineer, and Councilman Robinson to thank them for their assistance in getting the neighborhood speed limits reduced to 25mph, school safety zone signs erected, and additional stop signs at certain intersections. We have been discussing these issues since 2017 and are relieved to finally have this item resolved. We will acknowledge the completion of these efforts by the board and the participating neighborhood association members.

Bus Shelter

The replacement shelter should be done sometime in mid-March.

New Business

As per our bylaws, we need to hold an election for officers, and should consider adding new board members to expand the board. Further discussion tabled until next meeting.

Polk mentioned a possible fundraiser selling t-shirts and hats with our logo. He will take the lead on this effort and bring a mockup to a future meeting for further discussion.

Hall mentioned the annual IDEA conference this Saturday and suggested more board members consider attending if they are able.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 7 p.m.

- *Respectfully submitted by Lisa Goodpaster, secretary*