



January Regular Board Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2024

Members

- **Present:** Jill Newby, Rick Homkes, Cherie Helmberger and Janna Hyman via phone
- **Absent:** Reba Casler, Erica Parvin, Jeremy Burns
- **Guest(s):** None

Meeting started at 5:00 pm

Topics

- **Minutes:** A motion was made by Rick and seconded by Cherie to approve the minutes. The motion passed
- **Treasurer Report:** Rick reported \$142, 000 plus an approximate \$45,000 pledge from TIF Board for a total of \$187,000 in the Inclusive Playground fund. Also added since the report was put together was a donation from NIPSCO for \$1500 and one from American Water for \$1000 which brings our total \$189,500.

Old Business

- **Community Center Playground Park Fundraisers**
 - Project “Kids Helping Build the Playground”

Talk to KASEC – Jill talked to Wendy Campbell from KASEC and received Kristy Hall’s name as someone who would help us champion our Inclusive Playground. Kristy is a special education teacher and mother of two children with disabilities. Jill talked to Kristy on the phone and Kristy agreed to help in any way including taking the cause to her next Ainsley’s Angels meeting and speaking at the Town Council Meeting. Kristy also suggested the slogan “Better Together” which we are using in the Playground flyer. She also thought we should look into an adult size changing table for the Community Park bathroom.
 - Talk to Principals - Jill and Janna met with Melissa DeWeese, Primary Principal and Jamie Eckstein, Intermediate Principal. They were both very positive about the fundraiser and we discussed the logistics of the fundraiser and what to include on the donation form. We will need 1290 flyer/donation forms for the primary and intermediate. We will be counting out the flyers and putting them into bundles to be distributed to the teachers. The building secretaries will collect the money and put it in their building safe. They also said we could put out announcements through the PTO Facebook site as well as emails to parents. We also discussed the Middle School since Mrs. DeWeese was the assistant



principal for a year in that building. She thought some of the MS students would like to participate. It was decided to send the flyer and donation form electronically through Skyward to the parents of the MS and HS students. We will also contact the MS and HS National Honor Society and Student Council to see if they would be willing to participate for possible service points.

- Jill, Janna and Greg Aaron will meet with Clayton Nix at Shearer Printing to discuss the flyer.

➤ **Corporate Donors**

- Martin Marietta – Jill will contact Martin Marietta since we now have the amount of crushed stone we will need for the base of the Playground.
- Merrell Brothers – We will ask Greg Aaron if he has any contact information for them.
- Beck Seeds – Jill will again try to get the application filled out.
- Haynes International – Jill will again try to get them to respond back to her.
- Kings – Rick will try to contact them again.
- Solidarity – Janna text Jessica but hasn't yet heard back from her.
- McClure – Cherie talked to Alisha from McClure's who said they only go with big charities such as United Way or Red Cross. Cherie responded that it was the people in the small communities that were supporting their business but Alisha did not change her position.
- Duke – Jill will email a letter (provided from Rick) to Duke.

➤ **TIF**

- Approved funding the shelter at Community Center Park which is estimated at \$45,000.

➤ **County**

- We will attend the next meeting of the County Commissioners to ask for funding for the Playground Project. The meeting is February 5th at 4:00 pm.

➤ **Play Pro and Greg Aaron**

- New Quotes
 - Equipment - \$237, 202.33
 - Installation - \$279,153.50
 - Poured in Place Surface/Turf

➤ **Russiaville Town Park**

- Ordered bongo drums to replace cracked drum on climbing structure. It may not come in until June.

New Business

➤ **Accomplishments and Goals**



- Rick has a list of both and will be presenting them to the Town Council January Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

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