



ZIONSVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION

**Zionsville Board of Parks & Recreation
Meeting Minutes For
Wednesday, July 9, 2025
At 7:00 P.M. EST
ONSITE MEETING
1100 West Oak Street**

OPENING

Call to Order/Roll Call

Approval of the June 11, 2025 Minutes

In Attendance: Ryan Cambridge, Doug Tischbein, Anna Schappaugh, Kris Barksdale, Kimberly Lane, Matt Milburn, Chad Dilley

Virtual: Jon Oberlander, Attorney

Cambridge We got everybody here so I'd like to go ahead and call this meeting to order of the Zionsville Park and Recreation Board, July 9, 2025. I'd like to go ahead and do roll call. Kris Barksdale?

Barksdale Here.

Cambridge Kimberly Lane?

Lane Here.

Cambridge Matt Milburn?

Milburn Here.

Cambridge Chad Dilley?

Dilley Here.

Cambridge Doug Tischbein?

Tischbein I'm here.

Cambridge	Anna Schappaugh?
Schappaugh	Here.
Cambridge	And Ryan Cambridge, I am here also. Okay, well, let's dive right into it. First of all, has everybody had a chance to look over the meeting minutes from the last meeting and if there are any questions or anything worth discussion now's the time and if not, can I get a motion to approve?
Schappaugh	Motion to approve.
Cambridge	Do I have a second?
Lane	Second.
Cambridge	All in favor say aye.
All	Aye.
Cambridge	All opposed same sign. [No response]
Milburn	I'll abstain.
Cambridge	Matt abstains. So we, the motion passes, motion carries.
	Moving on to Public Presentations and Comments – is there anyone here in the audience that would like to speak tonight at the Park Board? If you'd come on up to the podium and let us know your name and address before you get started that would be appreciated and once you're done sir, then we'll move on to if there's anybody online.
Stacy	Good evening. My name is Ralph Stacy. I live at 60 South Second Street and I just wanted to follow up and to see if I believe the Deputy Mayor sent some information to the Board President just of recent –
Cambridge	Yes, I just received it yesterday.
Stacy	Yeah, and I wondered if you had a chance to look it over?
Cambridge	I did look over what was sent, that, that was sent to me which included several attachments, I believe, and some back correspondence between you and, and Jarod.
Stacy	And the Mayor.
Cambridge	And the Mayor as well.
Stacy	Yes.
Cambridge	But as Jarod is out of town, I haven't had a chance yet to talk with him about it. I've just received the message from Justin.

Stacy Okay. I think I've expressed a number of times to, to both of those individuals my concern about a public safety issue in Lincoln Park.

Cambridge Would you like to tell the Board so that –

Public Presentations

Stacy Well, why don't I tell you, why don't I just read what my most recent communication was and we received two notices on the June 25th Zionsville Plan Commission public meeting which we did attend, my wife and I, and I talk to my family many times before coming to public meetings to kinda get their ideas too. I briefly outlined our remaining thoughts and concerns. Those concerns and thoughts have been expressed before, once formally on April 13th and another time on May 30th. Jarod and John have been, have done a nice job coming to the Village Residents Association and letting them know about Lincoln Park.

Our, when I say our, my family, our three main concerns as stated in the May 30th memo are the two public safety issues. We're actually, you're actually compounding an issue that's already there. The lack of the use of the new Lincoln rail fence to guide visitors to traditional entry points and avoid jaywalkers between parked cars, especially on First, Second and Cedar Street and I even think on Oak Street now. The new attractive fountain and the dire need, there's a dire need to inform people about that sidewalk on Oak Street, how dangerous it is. That particular area within the past three years I have been hit almost twice and I, I've lived in that area, it's been my legal address for 79 years, except for two years when I served in the Army in the '60s. I know the area well and I outlined the concern about public safety in my May 30th memo to Jarod and also to the Mayor.

We still think our, you need to decrease the lighting of the new, of, of the new cost associated but probably need to upgrade underground wiring and always use period appropriate lighting fixtures as you can see with the current older, authentic memorial pole lights. Those pole lights were actually given to the park many, many decades as a memorial to a local doc, prominent local doctor, Dr. Cort, oh gosh, I've forgotten his name, but he also graduated from Eagle Township High School which is now Zionsville – Davidson, Dr. Cort Davidson, I did not know him but I knew his wife. Let's, my point is that those, you're, you're proposing quite a few lights in that park. It's like a half a block. It's a dawn to dusk park.

And on a much newer topic, I just read in the paper maybe a month ago or so the Pathways Committee first of five recommendations on the trail connector to the Big 4 Rail Trail from Oak on, from Oak Street is not a good idea. I served on the first Pathway Committee many, many decades back in the early 1980s and I know if you know Oak Street, it's, it's not getting better, it's getting worse. We have three entries into the Village off of the trail as you well know. I, I think that would suffice. You need to keep, you need to keep pedestrians, bikers off of Oak Street, try to keep them on Poplar, Pine and Hawthorne for safety. I'm not kiddin' ya.

So, I wondered if, I'd be glad to come back again if after you talk to Jarod but I, I really think you're compounding a problem with, with the fencing and there needs to

be designated areas. I think you are, should be well aware that Second Street between Oak and Cedar Street is one way north. People come the other way, they park all different directions. People are walking down the middle of Second Street in front of my home and cars are coming from the west turning off of Oak Street at high rates of speed. Somebody's gonna get hit. I'm out there telling people that I, if I'm on the front porch swing I say get over to the side of the street. You don't know what's coming around that corner. I really think take some time. I would appreciate, President, if you would disburse my previous, I would've hoped that, I'm sure Jarod had discussed these with the Board my concerns, there's one of the things that I, I still don't have an answer is that when I was a kid here in the community we had a teacher, her name was Miss Dorothy Robey, a wonderful gal, she grew up here. She was a native and she taught at the high school for 49 years. She went on and taught another additional 19 years at Pleasant View for gifted children and there's an area, and there has been an area, and I'm trying to do some research for the Parks Department. I have given the SullivanMunce all the information I have that I've collected in my years. I've, I've spent thousands of hours working in Lincoln Park over my lifetime and my family has too but I have given them articles that I have. Jarod was totally unaware of the, the time capsule in the park. He knows where it is now. We even have an article in the, which SullivanMunce is working on it, it shows the location and things like that but I, I, I've known a lot of people that have, have spent a lot of time and effort in our first municipal park and I'm here to represent them even though they've left us. I, I, I can remember talking, them talking very adamantly about the need for a Lincoln split rail fence. It took us a long time. When I was much, much younger I could remember they used telephone poles that were cut off, painted white, had cables running around there. We've come a long way but I'm just trying to tell you some things that I know about that particular park that, that I really care about and I, I, I've not only cared about it, I've worked there very diligently for a long, long time and I think you're making a couple mistakes and if you're, you need to re-look at this. I'm in favor of the, what you're going to do. It's long overdue but the thing, the thing I didn't mention about Ms. Robey that I'm trying to research, but I was told many years ago after she passed folks here in the community set those two benches, the English-style Tudor benches up there with a birdbath and some slate there in the, it'd be the northeast corner, and they haven't been kept for decades, kept, kept up. That's a big problem is upkeep, upkeep but to me that, that's been a disgrace and I've, I have a memorial tree that over 40 years ago that we put there in the park in, in memory of my mom and dad and for 20 years I've been trying to get it taken out because it's dead and we need to move quicker on different things and I've talked to past Presidents of the Park Board, I've talked to the previous Park Director. I'm glad you're doing what you're doing but you need to finetune a few things there, okay?

Cambridge Okay.

Stacy You know. Thank you.

Cambridge Thank you. I, I appreciate that, your feedback but more importantly, I appreciate your passion for that space –

Stacy Yeah –

Cambridge And for Zionsville and, and a lot of that being rooted in history but also in the safety –

Stacy Yeah –

Cambridge Of the people that use it.

Stacy And if I can, if I can ever be of help I, I can remember when the Parks Board was formed in 1972. I applied for that and I didn't, I didn't get it. The good ole boys were –

Cambridge It's not too late. It's not too late.

Stacy No, I, I've served. I've worked in Lions Park for 53 years and many other places so please think about this.

Cambridge Sure.

Stacy I, I don't mean to throw a wrench or anything into this but you, you should be listening better.

Schappaugh Can I ask a question for clarity? Was it Ralph, right?

Stacy Yeah, Ralph.

Schappaugh Ralph, I, I've spoken a couple meetings on the other side of this before, not at a Parks Board meeting but in other capacities and I commend you because I know it takes a lot of passion and time and commitment to follow this stuff and to put it together to be able to summarize and articulate what needs to change to make it better and all that comes from a great place so thank you for doing that. I just want to make sure I understand so that as we have conversations with Jarod and make decisions –

Stacy Sure –

Schappaugh As a Board what you, I want to make sure I understand what you think those mistakes are. So the first was the, the fencing along –

Stacy The Lincoln split rail fence, yeah.

Schappaugh Right, from a safety concern.

Stacy Right now it's on three sides. I, I really think you need to put it on all four like it had been a long time ago for safety reasons. When, I've seen cars up on that, on that sidewalk along Oak Street. That is dangerous. I, I noticed you're going to have bollards along there. I, I mentioned to Jarod I said maybe you want to put a chain, a decorative chain across there. You need to have signage there in the park, not only there but you need to have rules of the park. There have been previous ordinances passed that stipulate what the rules are. I don't know that there are any rules today. Maybe the ones that were enacted back in the '70s and '80s are still active. I, I really haven't explored that. I do have a copy of them which I've given to SullivanMunce and will be in the folder for Parks and Recreation. So, the fence is one thing.

Designated crosswalks would be another thing that needs to be highlighted on the, on the pavement. I think my idea in one of my memos the one-way painted arrows on that one-way street of Second Street you would put the arrows at the north end of Oak Street and at the south end of Cedar Street. It would, there are signages, there are signs there but people don't see those signs and so I think I've outlined it. The President's got what I think.

Cambridge I can just let her know that I –

Stacy Yeah you –

Cambridge I'll just share what –

Stacy If you would convey that to her.

Schappaugh Yeah I think what, there's a lot of public interest in Lincoln Park and I've, some of the comments you're making I've heard from even business owners in the Village, especially about the upkeep and things like that as to what will that look like and so –

Stacy It's been miserable.

Schappaugh Yeah and I think it's worth us all kinda having a meeting as we're going through this and refreshing it, it gives us an opportunity to try to, to the best we can, get started on the right foot right? And so this feedback I want to just make sure is incorporated to help do that.

Stacy Yeah, I don't think I've answered your question yet but –

Schappaugh Well, you did –

Stacy A little bit.

Schappaugh He's gonna send it to me and I've got it. It's the rails, it's the crosswalk –

Stacy Take a look at –

Schappaugh It's the lighting, right?

Stacy All four pages you know? Yeah.

Schappaugh Okay, I got it.

Stacy I think and feel free, my phone number's on there. I'd be more than willing to sit down and talk.

Schappaugh I appreciate that. Thank you Ralph.

Stacy Yeah, thank you.

Dilley Mr., Mr. Spencer right? Mr. Spencer – is that the last name?

Stacy Pardon?

Barksdale Stacy.

Dilley Mr. Stacy – is that your last name?

Stacy Yeah.

Dilley Yeah, I just wanted to say thanks for your service to the country. I know you mentioned that you were a citizen for 79 years other than the ‘60s when you served the country so thank you.

Stacy Yeah, yeah.

Dilley Thank you for serving.

Stacy Yeah, did you make it down to Lions Park for the infantry band?

Schappaugh Last night?

Stacy Yeah.

Schappaugh Yeah, it was beautiful.

Stacy It’s just uh, this is the 50th year since Vietnam, ending of it so, so thanks.

Schappaugh Thank you.

Cambridge I, I did get a, literally just got this yesterday from the Deputy Mayor and haven’t had a chance to talk it over or even let Jarod know that we’ve received it. I did share it and just forwarded it to you all but I think it does warrant a larger discussion with Jarod present since he’s been part of a lot of the discussions over the, what looks like the last several months. I think that there’s some very, very valid concerns in there. I also think that there’s probably some answers in the design process with the design team and there’s no one here from REA tonight but I know that Tricia is here frequently so I’m wondering if maybe at a future meeting after we’ve had a chance to debrief with Jarod that we could have the design team from REA also maybe come and, and facilitate some answers to some of these questions, specifically around things like the amount of lighting and some of the more technical –

Stacy Yeah.

Cambridge Aspects.

Stacy Is REA Rundell Ernstberger?

Cambridge That’s correct.

Stacy Yeah, I worked for, with them back in the 1980s when they first graduated from Ball State –

Cambridge Uh huh –

Stacy And we had the Miracle on Two Main Street program and, and many other things and one of the things they recommended where the park benches, very similar to yours and if you'll read my memos there's a little background on that and the street lighting is the same way and there's a whole story about the period street lighting on Main and Elm Street, I won't go into but I could write a, a chapter on it.

Cambridge Sure.

Stacy Okay.

Cambridge Well we thank you for that. I, I do know as we, being a landscape architect that works on a lot of parks, a lot of times when we work on these sites, especially ones that are historic in nature and have some of these elements, these period elements, when technology is integrated with lighting, I mean, lighting's come a very, very long way even in the last 10 years let alone the last 50 years. I know that sometimes retrofitting those fixtures to meet current standards is difficult but I don't know what decisions were made in that process but I certainly would be willing to ask the question and have Mindy or Jarod kinda weigh in on that. Now I will say, to me, this is sort of, this sort of discussion at this point in the process, which they're essentially ready to bid the project, is indicative of, I think, a challenge that maybe the Park Board or, or the Parks Department and probably the town as a whole has had historically with really kind of embracing a more public process at the beginning of a project. So when we do a 5-year Master Plan and I think this is a common approach with a lot of communities simply because it makes it more efficient but if you think about doing a 5-year Parks Master Plan there is a lot of community engagement that goes into each of those. There was a plan developed for each of the parks, sort of a 5-year action plan for each of the, Lincoln included, that the community had an opportunity to weigh in on and I was not on the Board at that time or I guess I was when we approved it but not when they did the workshops but all that to say if you look at the plan that is drafted today for construction, it is different aesthetically and somewhat programmatically than what was in the Master Plan and I think that was just from an evolution of design and learning more about the site and sort of adding some layers of reality but I think it would be a better practice moving forward if the Park Board and the community were more engaged at the beginning of a design process for any park that way we can get some of this sort of institutional knowledge and feedback that you're never gonna get from a site analysis or a technical perspective at the beginning of a project. So I just think as we think about new capital projects going forward really as a Board and as a department leaning into and embracing the value of public engagement, especially at the beginning of a project so that's, that's my soapbox but, but I think as a next step, Mr. Stacy, I do appreciate your feedback. I have shared that with the Board but I do think the reason I didn't address it tonight was I want to have a chance to, for everybody to review it because it's quite a bit of information and also to get some of the background and context from Jarod as well. So we'll make an effort to do that over the next couple weeks and then see if we can't get someone here also from the design team to maybe answer some of these questions and, from a technical perspective.

Stacy I, I, I highly regard Jarod. Jarod's an Eagle Scout –

Cambridge Uh huh –

Stacy And I, I'm glad he's our Park Director and I mentioned at the Plan Commission meeting it should be at the Town Council that I think Parks and Recreation are under funded –

Cambridge Thank you.

Stacy Understaffed and, but I don't know what the town can do because of other decisions that they, they've made so but I, I, keep up the good work.

Cambridge Thank you.

Stacy Thank you.

Cambridge We, we appreciate that and at least I personally echo that sentiment. I think Jarod's doing a very good job and the department is quite, quite a few steps sort of into the modern era from when they started. I mean Mindy and her team have always been doing really great work but in terms of management and data tracking and advocating on behalf of the department for funding, he's doing a good job of that so but I do agree, we're at this point and as a, as a town where we're kind of in between growing from a Village to being kind of a, a larger city from a departmental standpoint and the funding has to keep up with that. We can't, if we could magically subdivide and copy Mindy we'd, we'd be doing okay but we can't so I think it's a good reminder also that investment in parks is an investment in quality of life, it's an investment in economic development, it's an investment in property values, public safety, public health, all of these things, and, importantly, it's a choice. So I know our resources are limited but at the end of the day it's a political decision of whether or not we will increase investment in parks or keep things the way they are. So I encourage anyone listening and anyone at this table if you think that's important and that's something we need to do, that you would advocate that to your local, local elected bodies and officials to let them know that you think that's important. That's my second soapbox. I'm, I'm running out of things so with – do we have anyone online that has any comments or would like to say anything before we close the public comment section? No one online? Okay. Hearing that, we're gonna go ahead and move on to staff reports and –

Parks Foundation Update

Tischbein Parks Foundation.

Cambridge Oh, I'm sorry – Park Foundation, yes. Park Foundation report. Kris, take it away.

Barksdale Okay, okay. The Parks Foundation was again awarded \$50,000 for an operating grant from the Patricia Schaefer Foundation and they also received a grant of milkweed plugs from the Monarch Watch and those have been planted in the last month. And then there's two, the big thing that's happening is there's two restoration projects that were identified that are going to be paid for in full by the dedicated endowment that was established by the Carpenters in 2023 for the restoration efforts in the Preserve and we'll be looking at those agreements when we get to New Business tonight.

Cambridge Okay. That's a great update. That's exciting to hear they're continuing to be successful in securing funding, especially for operating –

Barksdale Yeah –

Staff Reports

Cambridge Which is a really difficult thing to get funding for so that's great. All right, now staff reports. Mindy, you're the boss tonight so take it, take it away.

Murdock That's a little frightening, no. All right, so I'm just gonna highlight some things off of Jarod's Superintendent Report and then I'll roll into my report for Recreation. So for Maintenance for the month of June, the Maintenance staff created 375 work orders for the month. They actually completed 382, so some of those were past due work orders from May that they caught up on. Of those, 267 were preventative and 108 were reactive. Maintenance also completed the excavation and pouring of all the Big 4 Rail, Big 4 bike repair station pads. So the repair stations and bike parking will be installed in July and that's, again, part of that 2024 CiviGrant award that we did.

For Natural Resources, the teams completed all the spring plantings from all the milkweed plugs and all the leftovers from the native plant sale and they've moved to watering all of those new plantings to keep them alive. And then also combatting thistle and other invasives within our Parks Department and project sites around the parks.

The Programming staff have been at the VRA food truck series that went on throughout the month of June on Monday nights and we were there to kinda share the improvements that we're looking at for Lincoln Park and also to highlight the Love for Lincoln event that we'll be doing. So, answering people's questions, telling them how they can get an engraved brick and so on.

As far as projects that are going on, so Structure Midwest, if you haven't been out to Mulberry Fields, the concession stand is moving along. The block installation is complete and they are framing up the roof so it looks like they've got that ready and they just need to put on the, the actual roofing.

Carpenter Nature Preserve – Mattcon is continuing to do initial grading and site prep for phase 1 construction. Morphe Construction at the Turkeyfoot pedestrian bridge rehabilitation is they've got the helical piers are installed, the runners are poured and the trek decking is being installed. So that should be wrapping up earlier than expected so.

The Holliday bridge pedestrian railing is also moving forward and is being installed by Mofab Fabricators also so. And then as far as with Lincoln Park, I know we had a little bit of discussion so there were seven competitive bids that were collected for the Lincoln Park refresh bidding process and so those will be before you guys, so I'm assuming REA will also be here in the August meeting. So a good time to ask questions.

Cambridge Yep. Good timing.

Murdock And then like I said, the Love for Lincoln campaign is ongoing so feel free to share that information for everybody and that is all I have for Superintendent unless you guys have a question that I might be able to answer.

Cambridge Anybody have questions for our interim Jarod?

Murdock Interim Jarod.

Cambridge Okay. A lot of updates. I know there's a lot going on this summer so appreciate that. It's fun to see a lot of work happening alongside all the different events and programs and camps and all that stuff too.

Murdock Yeah, so I can move into that report if you want me to.

Cambridge All right, please do. Proceed.

Murdock All right, so Recreation for the month of June – so we had 1,791 walk-ins to the Zionsville Nature Center so the Nature Center has been very busy. In addition to just visitors to the center, we had the Zionsville Community Schools Zcamp out for five different dates and so we saw 278 campers and we did a, kind of a creek exploration with them. So all of the different ages came out, not at the same time thankfully but – so 278 campers with Zcamp got to spend some time hanging out with our Naturalist staff. We also had 50 public programs throughout the month of June and that includes public programs, camps as well as some of our Park and Plays. So we had eight Park and Plays throughout the area. In addition, we also had our camps. So we wrapped up Junior Indiana Master Naturalist which I know Rachel will talk a little bit about but we also did Nature Navigators, STEAM camp, Backyard Explorers, American Girl camp, Summer Adventures and Enchanted Explorers camp. So a lot of campers out there.

We were able to have the Trailhopper actually join Lions Park for their Stories in the Park which, so that's a fun one for them to be a part of. And then as part of Stories in the Park, we actually had Zionsville Nature Play Days at the start of June and so June 1st through the 9th and that's one where we partner and provide free programming activities throughout that week and so we have a lot of collaboratives that join us and those include ZPD, ZFD, the Hussey-Mayfield Public Memorial Library, the Zionsville Farmers Market, SullivanMunce, Maplelawn and then this year Lions Park joined us for Stories in the Park to be a part of that one and we had great weather so only two of those events, unfortunately, we had to cancel. One of those we actually rescheduled for this Friday. So our Sirens and Suds will be happening this Friday afternoon so hopefully the weather holds out and we can get out there and wash the Creekstomper and some fire trucks so.

And then the last thing – there's some pictures I included it with my report for you guys but if you want to come and check it out, the Nature Center now has a new enclosure for our gray rat snake, Winnie. She's outgrown her cage so she needed something larger and, thankfully, we had a Girl Scout Troop 3757 as part of their Bronze Award they actually fundraised and built that cage for us so and it's fantastic. But that's all I have for my report unless you guys have any questions.

Cambridge Thank you Mindy. Does anybody have any questions for Mindy? Okay. Have you had a chance to sleep between now and the start of summer or?

Murdock Not really but –

Cambridge Okay. Well, thank you for all that you're doing. I know this is a very, very busy time of year. I know that my kids have really benefited over the years from the programs that you all offer and as recently as this week so thank you for doing that.

Nature Connections Year in Review

Rachel, would you like to come up and talk about the Nature Connections end-of-year report?

Felling So, I'm Rachel Felling. I'm a Naturalist with the Parks. So I'm going to talk to guys just very briefly about our Nature Connections program which is our school year long program that we do with third graders from a few of the Zionsville Community Schools. And I've talked about it a little bit before but this is just a quick end-of-the-year wrap up and a look forward.

So we meet with these kids three or four times throughout the year, a couple times in their classrooms, when we go to each class individually, when we go so we're like building some rapport with the kids and then in the spring they come out for a field trip and then a service project. Some schools do those things in the same day, some of the schools separate them but this is our third year with the program and the focus of the program is that the kids understand that all these living things are, have special adaptations that make them uniquely designed for the ecosystem that they're in and understand that these ecosystems are a delicate system all working together and that as humans then that they understand we have impacts on those things, both positive and negative, on purpose and on accident and trying to have a positive impact at the end with a service learning project. So you can see the kids in these pictures are on their fieldtrips and they are doing water quality assessments in Eagle Creek so the kids spend a morning out in the creek trying to decide if the creek is clean and healthy or not and looking at some of the reasons why it is or isn't and spoiler alert – it is usually very, very clean. So that's what they're doing there.

So this was our third year. We started a couple years ago with just one school and we've added a school every year. So this year we worked with Eagle Elementary, Trailside Elementary and Pleasant View Elementary. Pleasant View was our newest one and if you know much about Pleasant View PVE, they are a very large school so even though it was just one more school it almost doubled the number of kids we were working with because they have seven third grade classes so we had a total of 15 third grade classes that we worked with over the course of the school year. That was split between myself and Siera Stuart, one of our other Naturalists, going into each of those individual classrooms for about an hour and a half each time in the fall and in the spring and then out for a field trip. So, over 350 kids total. Some of the kids were at Overlay-Worman Park. The kids at Eagle were at the Zion Nature Sanctuary and each school did a unique service project at the end of it so the Eagle Elementary kids helped us pull garlic mustard and then plant milkweed and distribute

seedballs of milkweed seeds in the Zion Nature Sanctuary. Trailside Elementary students helped us plant a brand-new native plant education garden at Heritage Trail Park. We took advantage of the connector trail this year between the school and Heritage and they helped us plant a ton of plants along the Rail Trail and toss out some seedballs to get some new milkweed started. And then Pleasant View pulled garlic mustard at Overley-Worman Park. I think we ended up with somewhere over 90 bags of garlic mustard between all of the schools that pulled it, like big industrial size trash bags full. So they all got a chance to have a really positive impact at the end of it.

This program continues to be funded by the Zionsville Parks Foundation which we are very grateful for which we hope to continue that partnership going forward. Additionally, we needed some further support beyond just what we can do with our staff so this spring we launched a volunteer Naturalist program. So we had volunteers sign up to come to an all-day training. Everyone's background checked and, and make sure that everything's good to go and we went through training on how to work with kids and how to help us on field trips, not just the Nature Connections programs but other field trips as well. So we brought in some really awesome volunteers, put a lot of those through our Indiana Master Naturalist class and then finally, another shoutout to our Natural Resources side – Ryan Fry was there for all of these service projects as well and we could not get 300+ 8- and 9-year-olds to do a service project without the help of the Natural Resource side of the department.

And then going forward, future plans – next year we've already started the conversation that we're going to add Boone Meadow Elementary so we'll have four out of the six schools and then the year following that we should have the capacity to add the final two schools and then eventually once Carpenter is open and running and the stream restoration work along Eagle Creek is done, we hope to move the entire program there so that all the kids are getting out to Carpenter, all the service work is happening there. In the meantime, we're gonna piece it together through different parks that makes sense for each school and what they need so.

And then very finally, hopefully this will play – Jonah, actually from IT, came out one day and took this incredible drone shot. We have a bunch of video and photos. These are Trailside Elementary third graders in Eagle Creek and it's just really cool, I think, to see all of them out there exploring, looking for living things, having a hands-on experience in the creek with our staff and our volunteers and their chaperones and the teachers should get a shoutout as well so. That is my summary of Nature Connections if anybody has any questions about that.

Milburn I don't necessarily have a question but I will say that I saw some feedback from the kids and from the teachers. My oldest is in third grade at, at Trailside and she loved every second of it and –

Felling Love that.

Milburn Took me to Heritage Park to see which plant she planted and so –

Felling I love that.

Milburn Yeah –

Cambridge Better be watering that, right?

Lane Yeah, just that one.

Felling Yeah, we had to do a little quality control with the planting afterwards but it was good, they did a great job.

Milburn Yeah, she loved it and loved you in particular so –

Felling Thank you.

Milburn Thank you so much for what you're doing.

Felling Yeah, thank you.

Dilley Thanks for growing the program. My kids are out of the loop at Union so I look forward to you growing the program though so I can have fond memories with my children too.

Milburn Yeah.

Felling Yeah, yeah. Be a chaperone on the field trip. We need chaperones that are willing to get in the creek so. All right, well thank you guys and then very quickly, just a very quick wrap up of our Junior Indiana Master Naturalist program. So we've talked about Indiana Master Naturalists before but Junior IMN is for kids ages 9 to 12. This is the third year we've done it and this is a DNR-administered program that we host, so we run it and they have to do six hours of community service work. So, again, kids – community service. Sometimes it's a little bit of a challenge to get good projects that they can work on and we've done different things the last few years but this year we did a storm drain education painting project with these kids and this was funded by the Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District but there are three different storm drains within a couple blocks of the library where the program was hosted and these kids split into a few groups and we had staff and volunteers working with them. They designed and painted these storm drains with all sorts of watershed education messages as their service project. So the, the locations are listed here – 5th and Beech, 4th and Poplar, 6th and Poplar. I highly encourage you to go take a look at them if you have not. We are, we have QR code stickers coming that'll be like sidewalk designed to stick there that will then take people to a website that talks about the project, those are on the way. That's one of them. Here's two others but these kids did a remarkable job in just a few days' worth of work and work that had to be hurried along because Mother Nature was not cooperating with us when we had some rain coming in so they've all been fully sealed so that they should hopefully look good for years to come but we were really proud of the work they put in in a very short amount of time so. And shoutout to Molly, our other Naturalist, who helped with some artistic touchups at the end that were needed so. Yeah, any questions about that?

Schappaugh This is all so amazing. We live in a world where iPads and social media and AI are taking over kids' childhood and my son just turned 5 and I always am thinking like how can I teach him real skills and maybe go back to some traditional things like

learning how to plant things and grow things and take care of our resources that we have and hearing the passion that it's inspired in other kids and that's happening in our community and there's plans to grow that, that's just something to be really, really proud of because that has generational impacts. You know you can see the paint on the street right but you can't always see the generational impacts that this program will have so thank you for doing that and just watching your smile and like the way that you talk about it, it's one thing to like show up to a job and just do it right? But I can tell by the way that you show up you're creating future Naturalists so that you for what you do.

Felling Well thank you. I appreciate that and I should say that this is where the kids were showing their parents and their family members their work at the end of the week and so they were really, really proud of what they did and they should be so. I hope everybody will take a walk and, and look at them so. Thank you guys.

Tischbein/
Milburn Thank you.

Cambridge Yeah, I think this is a, both of these programs are, I think, really, really meaningful for the reasons that Anna that you mentioned right? We, we have to raise a new generation of, of park supporters, park advocates, natural land advocates and I think for a community that really prides itself on its natural areas and that's one of the defining features of Zionsville for a lot of folks but we have to make that connection at a young age so I think that's super, super important and I commend the Foundation for coming to the table with funding to help make that possible so. Thank you.

Carpenter Nature Preserve Restoration Initiatives

All right, we will move on to item B under New Business which is the Carpenter Nature Preserve Restoration Initiatives Memo. Mindy, you want to walk us through that a little bit or at least give us a little context?

Murdock Yeah, happy to. All right, so as you know and as Kris also mentioned, when the Parks Department did the municipal bonds to purchase Carpenter Nature Preserve, the Carpenters pledged a \$500,000 endowment towards restoration and care of the property. So these two initiatives are looking at utilizing that endowment administered by the Parks Foundation and so they have been approved by the Parks Foundation to release those funds pending the Park Board approval to enter into those service agreements and contracts. So there are two. I'll talk about each one and then we can decide individually for each one.

So the first one is being called the Green Carpet Initiative and so that total amount would be \$30,400 and so then to enhance the visitor experience and create an ecological significant improvement, the Parks Foundation or the Parks and Recreation Department desires to prioritize enhancing the entrance into Carpenter Nature Preserve kind of to roll out the green carpet so to say with the park frontage and kind of serving as an example of what an invasive-free and reclaimed natural space can look like. So we want the front as you first pull into that park to look its best.

So the first phase of the initiative has already begun in-house. It started this spring with a series of volunteer weed wrangles targeting the woody invasives that are near the entrance and that's really kind of the highest area for invasives right there as you enter. Those efforts will also continue this fall with more weed wrangles and more volunteer efforts to kinda push that back and open that space up and remove those invasives and then replant those with native shrubs and trees for that area. But beyond that area immediately south of the existing entrance drive as it winds back to the former clubhouse that we have is a 14-acre grassland prairie. It's an area of relatively low invasive population and this prairie is a desirable project site as it'd benefit from kind of pushing back the invasives that are already moving in there and then completing both kinda to the north and east of those weed wrangles. So it's really kinda opening it up and making it look good.

So if approved this work would be done through Stantec who is the ones that did the, there's a, a native garden there that the Carpenters had started so they would be continuing the work that they had done before but if you approve this Green Carpet Initiative, Stantec would do the work in 2025 as early as the end of this month or into August and that'll allow time for them to go in there, remove the invasives, include any natives and provide adequate time for those populations to kind of emerge and kind of tell that story before Carpenter opens in 2026 so. So that is the first one. You have the full contract in front of you. Do we want to do individual or together?

- Cambridge Do you want to talk about them one at a time or do we want to hear both and then talk about both?
- Milburn One at a time.
- Cambridge Okay.
- Murdock Okay.
- Cambridge Any thoughts on the first, and, and just to be clear, this is a, these projects are reimbursement funded from the Foundation, correct?
- Murdock So these will be fully funded by the Foundation, yes, so but because we own that land, the Parks Board has to sign the contract so.
- Milburn Right.
- Murdock But yeah, it'll be fully funded out of that \$500,000 endowment.
- Cambridge Is the funding for each of these going directly from the Foundation to the contractor or from the Foundation to the department or the town and then to the contractor?
- Murdock I do not know that question. That would be –
- Lane We've not had anything, any projects yet that have come out of that Foundation?
- Murdock As far as I know, we have not used anything from the endowment because the Foundation holds that endowment so these would be the first two projects that are chosen to use that money.

Lane That's, yeah, we probably need to have an attorney, our attorney –

Cambridge I believe Jon's online.

Oberlander Yeah, I can, I can confirm with Jarod, but I believe that money is being given to the town. It's gonna go, well to the Park Board. It's gonna be in that specific donation fund to be paid out for those purposes under the contracts. So the, the check will be cut by the, by the, by the Park Board.

Cambridge Yeah and I guess as the contract signor –

Oberlander Yeah –

Cambridge We'll have to, I would assume we would be able to.

Milburn Yeah that makes sense.

Lane Okay.

Cambridge So, okay. Okay. Thank you Jon.

Oberlander No problem.

Dilley I don't have any questions about this particular project. I'm more so interested, it's probably not something that we can decide tonight or learn tonight but what's the long-term plan there? Like what are the next projects? Have we, do we have like a strategic plan of what we're doing with all of those funds so as they come forward – similarly, like we have our 5-Year Plan right? Lincoln Park was on the 5-Year Plan when it came before the Board that was already well thought out of. Are we that far down the tracks with Carpenter that we know what's gonna be the next project and the next project?

Murdock So I don't think we do, so when the Carpenters set aside the endowment –

Dilley Yeah –

Murdock It was for the purpose of the Parks Department to decide looking at that park itself where do we need that help? So for projects like this if we wanted to do any kind of habitat restoration or doing studies, purchasing materials, that is what that endowment was set aside for. It's the Parks Foundation holds that endowment but we really ultimately get to kinda project and send out like these are the projects we're hoping that we can work on with this money. So I think just as Carpenter opens up and we start looking, I think a lot of it is gonna determine on what DNR does as far as with the, the restoration work along the creek bed and how far that goes before we decide what might be but for the Parks itself, it's as people are driving into the entrance we want it to be like hey, look, we, we value this property, this is our first shot that you see –

Dilley Yep.

Murdock Like we are working hard at turning this property to what it should, could be.

Dilley Sure.

Murdock And so that's kind of like that green carpet. We're welcoming people in. We don't want to welcome people in and all they see is honeysuckle. We want to welcome them in and they actually see those restorations in, in process. So, so that's kind of this thought of this one is it's that first look that people get and we want it to be the best look that they have and with the, with them doing the repair work on the, the driveway and things of that having them kinda come behind and doing some of this restoration it'll kinda help that area recover from the construction that unfortunately has to come with replacing a, a driveway and things of that sort.

Cambridge I was gonna add just, just quickly to, to your, like what is the plan – and I don't think we have a list of – and I'll let Jarod correct me after the fact if I'm wrong here – a, a list of specific initiatives that the Foundation is prioritizing in terms of like a timeline but what we do have for Carpenter that the town has invested a significant amount of resources and effort in is a comprehensive long-range Master Plan for that site. So as, in, in my experience sort of working on projects similar to this, a lot of times because budgets on the municipal side are stretched so thin, this is a great example where we're funding the road infrastructure to kinda get a road in there and get a parking lot in there but there's not a lot in the budget for landscape or ornamental plantings or restoration. It's sort of like get it in there and we'll do those things over time. So I think the Foundation, this is a great example of how they're kinda coming to the table and saying okay, we're gonna build upon the work that you're doing from an infrastructure standpoint and add this sort of component that's not currently really within the budget of what we have to do. So I think the long-range Master Plan that the town developed in concert with public feedback is gonna guide priorities for major investment and I'd, I'd love to have an ongoing dialogue with the Foundation sort of as those projects come up and as we learn more about the site how they can add to that to sort of build upon what we're already doing. So, I didn't mean to, to cut you off Kimberly.

Lane No, I just wanted to be clear – the, the gift from the Carpenter, well, the \$500,000 gift from the Carpenters –

Murdock Right –

Lane Is not an endowment correct? It's actually just a donation that's been earmarked for these types of projects. Because an endowment, unless I'm wrong, is where the money is sitting and we're just pulling off interest and spending down a piece of it.

Murdock I don't know how they set it up.

Cambridge My understanding was that it, it is an endowment but it's managed and held by the Foundation, not the town.

Milburn So it's, I would assume it's earning interest or invested but we can take out more than just the interest earned.

Lane Because this to me sounds like we're hitting principal.

Milburn Yes.

Lane I mean it's not been in there long enough to make \$500,000.

Barksdale Yeah, the commitments were \$250,000 in year one – oh, that's how they're paying it in.

Murdock Yes.

Cambridge Yeah. I, I think the intent of the endowment was that it would serve as a mechanism to continue to receive funds over time but it's not managed by or, by the Park Board right? It's an entity –

Lane It's in the Foundation.

Cambridge Correct.

Lane Yes and that part I'm, I'm clear on. I just wasn't and it's just semantics. I just wanted to know whether –

Milburn It doesn't have to be just interest or just growth.

Murdock And then also to add on that one – I know when you talked about the Master Plan so when they did the full Carpenter Master Plan, they also had EcoLogic out and so EcoLogic has a full rendition of really where are the sensitive areas where those restorations need to happen so this and, and the other one kind of build like take that whole scope that EcoLogic did and kinda pieced out two areas that would have the most impact right when it opens on let's get these done and then potentially look at what else in the EcoLogic plan might be the next thing to focus on so. And that could be in-house or it could be where we look at working with the Parks Foundation and working at that \$500,000.

Milburn So that's I guess my point of clarity would be I know we've looked at like these plan phases at that, like the long-range plan but I think I'm just a little bit confused on some of that. We've got grants for from the state and so that's gonna be covered. Other pieces are not gonna be used for that and so they're coming out of the endowment, so I just want to be, I guess when we're saying do we have a long-range plan I felt like we'd seen that before so what I'm hearing is do but then there's some pieces that are not necessarily included on that plan that we need to use other dollars for.

Murdock Right. I think the long-range plan would be the hardscape so your phases – phase 1, phase 2 –

Milburn Yes.

Murdock Nature Center, like those are kind of structured out because those are where, if you're building a building it's going to cost this whereas as far as with any of the restorations they gave us this is what should happen but that plan has not been set on what that timeline looks like and I think that's gonna be more of –

Milburn I gotcha.

Murdock A year to year –

Milburn So this money is for restoration?

Murdock These are both restoration.

Cambridge Yeah.

Murdock Yes.

Cambridge So a lot of times when there's, because you have that sort of the full recommendation or the full plan from EcoLogic for the whole site when you're taking down like a phase of the Master Plan I think a lot of times it's okay well here's the area we're impacting or that we're already gonna be working within, what within the EcoLogic plan is, is also in that area and can we sort of kill two birds with one stone?

Milburn Gotcha.

Cambridge That's a bad nature analogy.

Barksdale If you look at amendment or Exhibit A, Section 1, number 2 it says like sort of what the money is to be used for. Restoration, establishment and maintenance of forest and shrub ecosystems, prairie and grassland ecosystems, stream, pond and wetland ecosystems to establish healthy and diverse ecosystems for native plants, insects, birds and other wildlife. So this project sounds perfect.

Cambridge And to be clear, it's not sidewalks and –

Barksdale Right.

Cambridge Lights and, it's specifically to focus on restoration initiatives alongside larger construction phases.

Schappagh I think both of these projects sound important, especially the entrance right, like the entrance is everything. First impression right? And it sounds like they align with what the endowment is supposed to be used for. My question is is there a bid process that these are going through to make sure these prices are competitive?

Murdock For, for most of the restorations not really just because the number of entities out there that could provide this is I guess a handful on there –

Schappagh Okay.

Murdock So we have ones that usually it's ones that we've worked with repeatedly in the past. We know that they do good work. We've used them for various things. Just like I said a lot of times we'll put out we're like EcoLogic will be doing invasive work or Stantec will be doing, because these are companies that we've worked with over the years that we have a good rapport, we know that they're going to do the quality work

that we want but then, yeah, it's, it'd be different if we were say putting in a road where there might be like 50 companies that could do that.

Schappagh Uh huh.

Murdock So here it's a little more specialized –

Schappagh Yeah.

Murdock In what is being offered.

Schappagh That makes sense. I just wondered as we're thinking about \$500,000 in future projects even if there's three or five, right, if, if there was a process to say hey, here are some upcoming projects. Would the three of you mind submitting a bid for this and seeing if there's some ability to be competitive within that –

Murdock That could be a thought as we move forward for other projects.

Schappagh I mean, you know –

Lane Is there a statute that you have to over a certain threshold of spending you have to go out for certain amount, number of bids –

Oberlander No.

Lane Or you have to go out to bid.

Oberlander Sorry, I, I can speak to that. So –

Lane 1:02:22 hit those thresholds, I believe. I think it's \$150,000 and that may have just gotten raised.

Oberlander Well and that's actually just for goods and public works contracts. So if it's a services contract, they don't have to be bid or quoted at all.

Lane Which is still not best practice. I still think we should go with and look for the best deal. I'm just saying –

Cambridge It's a very –

Lane Yeah, like there's, there's some kind of backend stuff too that we have to adhere to sometimes.

Tischbein Is Stantec already onsite? Are they doing work on the, at the Preserve?

Murdock As of right now I don't think they're doing anything with the phase construction but like I said, they were the ones that did the education garden that is there currently as well as they were the ones that did some of the research gardens on seeing how natives could take over like the sand traps and things of that sort. So, so yeah, they, they've got some, some, some understanding of the site and what is expected so.

Tischbein My understanding is they're kind of an engineering and design firm? Not necessarily a construction firm.

Murdock They have an entire like native plant and restoration aspect yeah.

Cambridge They acquired, I can't remember who they acquired on the environmental side but they grew into that.

Tischbein When I, when I look at \$15,400 for site prep, are, are they doing the site prep or are they subbing that to a subcontractor to perform that work?

Murdock I do not know on that one.

Tischbein And then the same for the native seed installation. Are they self-performing, do we know, or is that a sub?

Murdock They would be doing the seed. I do know that that is one thing that they do in-house. I don't know about the prep aspect of it so but we're also talking 14 acres so taking that amount and dividing it by per acre, that's –

Cambridge Given the, the work that they completed at Overley-Worman, they self-performed. This, this division within Stantec, so I'm familiar too on the A&E side, Stantec is a huge A&E firm.

Tischbein Right.

Cambridge I cannot recall the environmental group that they, I believe, acquired to grow into this but I, I –

Tischbein I was just curious about self-performance so.

Cambridge Yeah, it's my understanding that they get the contract and go out and do the work. I don't think they're GC'ing this.

Tischbein I can follow up with Jarod and get an answer to that one.

Cambridge Yeah, it'd be good to get clarity.

Tischbein You know it's 50, if, if there's, if they're not self-performing it's 50% of the contract that they're subbing out and taking overhead and profit on top of and that makes me a little bit concerned sometimes. That's all I wanted, that's all I had.

Cambridge Okay. Since we're doing these one at a time, do, does anyone want to make a motion to approve the Green Carpet Initiative which was funded by the Zionsville Park Foundation?

Tischbein I'll make a motion to approve.

Cambridge Do I have a second?

Lane Second.

Cambridge	Second, okay. I'd like to go ahead and do a roll call vote. Kris Barksdale?
Barksdale	Aye.
Cambridge	Kimberly Lane?
Lane	Aye.
Cambridge	Matt Milburn?
Milburn	Aye.
Cambridge	Chad Dilley?
Dilley	Aye.
Cambridge	Doug Tischbein?
Tischbein	Aye.
Cambridge	Anna Schappaugh?
Schappaugh	Aye.
Cambridge	And Ryan Cambridge, I say aye as well. So that motion carries. Do you want to, Mindy, take us through the second initiative?
Murdock	Yeah, happy to. All right, so the second initiative, that one is in, with regards to the large pond that is onsite and it's in a 1:05:49 conceptual plan. The total amount for that would be \$37,929.60. So in addition to the terrestrial habitats, Carpenter Nature Preserve features two-thirds of a mile of Eagle Creek and three scenic ponds. So in partnership with Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the IN SWMP program, KCI Technologies will be leading the ecological restoration of the entire stretch of Eagle Creek and its tributaries. So this effort will include bank regrading, stabilization, erosion control, invasive species removal and installation of native plantings. To expand this work, the, the Parks Department is, is seeking to begin restorative efforts of the remaining bodies of water, so the three ponds. The ponds are intended to become focal points of ecological riches and visitor interactions within the Preserve. To support this vision, members of the Foundation and Jarod have met with KCI to discuss developing a restoration plan for the large pond, so that's the largest one that's on there. It's kind of in the northwest corner of the park – I'm trying to map it out in my head there – to expand this effort and will involve field data collection, vegetative surveys, water quality testing, bathymetric sampling and then the findings will inform a conceptual planning report outlining potential restoration projects and cost estimates to inform a comprehensive, actionable and phase restoration plan to be implemented in future project cycles. So this is not a full restoration, this is actually using KCI who will be onsite doing the restoration work for DNR on Eagle Creek to come out and do a full assessment of the largest pond and put together a conceptual plan of what would be needed to restore that pond for best use for us.

Cambridge	This is kind of an example, a more micro-example of the full plan that EcoLogic did for the whole site focusing specifically on a single pond.
Murdock	Yes.
Cambridge	If you, the only comment I would have if you look at the cost and dive into their fee budget, it's, it's not an insignificant amount of money. It's also not an insignificant amount of work but a little over half of the total fee is for the topographic and bathymetric survey which is a necessary part but they also list that as a subconsultant that'll be performing that work so I would be interested if, depending discussion here, if we were to approve this that a condition of that approval would be that they would get several bids for that work so we'd approve a not to exceed amount for the project and then have them get multiple bids on the subconsultant to do that topographic and bathymetric survey since that's the largest, one of the largest cost contributors so that's just a thought for those that are sort of thinking about this from a fiscal perspective. That is a service that multiple different firms can provide and I don't have a sense of where for a pond of that size what to really expect for that cost.
Tischbein	A lot of unknowns.
Cambridge	I mean surveys aren't cheap, especially ones that are bathymetric surveys but I just don't know so.
Lane	I would be, I mean I'm okay with moving forward in that direction as opposed to tabling it.
Milburn	I agree. I'll make a motion to approve it with the conditions you stated with a maximum and request for bids.
Cambridge	Okay, do I have a second?
Lane	Second.
Cambridge	So close. I think Kimberly gotcha. Don't know. All right, same deal, let's do a roll call vote. So this is to approve the, the proposal with the condition that the KCI will obtain, well we'll say three, if possible, three competitive bids for the topographic and bathymetric survey, share the findings of that with the Park Board and we'll approve it as a not to exceed amount that way if there's cost savings for the project that they'll go back to the Foundation or to the, to the department. So, roll call vote – Kris Barksdale?
Barksdale	Aye.
Cambridge	Kimberly Lane?
Lane	Aye.
Cambridge	Matt Milburn?
Milburn	Aye.

Cambridge	Chad Dilley?
Dilley	Aye.
Cambridge	Doug Tischbein?
Tischbein	So one, one of my concerns if I could just have a comment is if we go back to KCI and we say we want to bid now, now bid this area out are they going to increase their fees because now they're going to have to do further design engineering, specs and put it on the street?
Cambridge	I, I guess I was saying that they would just get multiple bids for the survey only.
Tischbein	Yeah, for what's already been done. So they can take their work product and give it to two other companies and say we'd like to have a number on this.
Murdock	I don't think anything's been done yet.
Cambridge	Yeah, nothing's been done.
Murdock	So they would be getting –
Cambridge	It would just be a scope of work –
Murdock	Yeah –
Schappaugh	I think that's what it will be –
Murdock	They would be getting the –
Tischbein	After they established a 20, \$21,000.
Cambridge	I'm sure they got a bid from someone so it would –
Murdock	Probably someone they've used –
Cambridge	Yeah –
Murdock	Or maybe they're using for Eagle Creek and they just figured well, since you're gonna be out there –
Cambridge	Right –
Murdock	What would you bid this for?
Cambridge	So they, whoever they have a bid from they provided a scope of work to, I assume, that would be to bid that same scope of work –

Tischbein Yeah, I got it. It's just one of my concerns that if for now we say you gotta take that scope of work and give it – is it adding costs to what their fees are or our expectation is that they're just gonna keep, keep it the same.

Cambridge I, I think it would be the exact same scope of work that –

Tischbein Okay.

Cambridge Whatever informed this \$20,000 number, whatever the deliverables are associated with that and the scope of work that we'd get bids on that exact same scope of work.

Tischbein Aye.

Cambridge Okay. Anna Schappaugh?

Schappaugh Aye, but I just want to make a comment because I, I think one thing we're doing here is by saying a maximum of right, not that these vendors are probably sitting at home watching this meeting but then they kinda know what the budget is, right? So just moving forward and/or what we're willing to spend right, I think just a general comment from my perspective, when we can get a competitive bid and even if it's only two right, at least then we can say to the public hey, based on who was available, this is the best option because of not only price but also our work history with them.

Cambridge Sure.

Schappaugh So, aye.

Cambridge And Ryan Cambridge, myself, I vote aye as well. So the motion passes with the conditions stated. I, I do agree though. I think generally it's tough, especially with some of these really or more specialized projects, it, it's tough to know what is appropriate for the scope of work and so if there are more than one vendor out there even for the specialized work that would be willing to bid on the projects, I think as a general best practice it would be advisable to get multiple bids if that's possible. So I know in this case there's some time sensitivity and these are not radically huge projects but I think as we continue to grow and evolve as a department and as a system that is a, a good general best practice so.

Lane Well and that, that would, that's good feedback to make sure that Jarod so that he can anticipate our questions –

Cambridge Sure.

Lane That he can head us off at the pass –

Cambridge Right.

Lane And start, I mean, and, and talk to the vendors before, when he sees these numbers initially.

Cambridge Right. Well and also a good expectation that we can help convey to the Foundation as well, right?

Schappaugh Uh huh.

Cambridge Because it's ultimately if it's in our best interest, it's probably in their best interest. Did, there was a question from the audience, I guess Mr. Stacy. I don't know what the procedural, I suppose –

Stacy I think the Preserve is really going to be great. What's your outreach on volunteerism with the youth groups and also the service organizations here in, in greater Zionsville?

Cambridge As it relates to like volunteer opportunities onsite or with the project?

Stacy Yeah.

Barksdale They, they post volunteer opportunities. Anyone can sign up. You can, I'm sure you can contact as an organization and ask to have a, a day that you come out.

Stacy Okay. Have the Scouts been contacted? The –

Murdock For, well, so I can add on this one. So we post for our weed wrangles and things of that sort. They are posted on our website and so if people are asking, we direct them to here's the days, like we have a cleanup on there, we have, which I have a mountain bike trail cleanup on there currently, the brick pulling at Lincoln but then we also work with several groups.

Stacy Okay.

Murdock So we work with Arc of Greater Boone County that come out repeatedly and help our Maintenance team with things throughout the year and we've worked with Scouts for different things. We do the Day of Giving with the schools. A lot of times they'll have groups that come out so they just need to reach out to us –

Stacy Okay.

Murdock If it doesn't, if what they see posted isn't what they're hoping for to reach out to us and it's just if we have a project that is around at that time. We can't always accommodate everyone but –

Stacy Yeah –

Murdock We, we try.

Stacy Did, did you have help from the FFA last year?

Murdock Not last year but this year the FFA will actually be out helping at Carpenter.

Stacy National worksite, yeah.

Murdock Yeah, they're helping at Carpenter this year.

Stacy They're, they're, they're good help. We've had them at Maplelawn for 16 years. Thank you.

Murdock Yep.

Cambridge Great. No, thank you. Yeah I think with Carpenter we're kind of in this ramp up phase right –

Murdock Right.

Cambridge Of getting the site even ready to accept help.

Murdock And the one way we've actually had really good turnout with the weed wrangles we've been able to do there, some we've had to cancel because of weather, as kind of a sneak peek so if you want a sneak peek –

Cambridge Sure.

Murdock Come on out and help so we'll have some more this fall and yes, FFA will be out there this, I believe, in August or September they'll be out there helping for one day so.

Cambridge Keep an eye out for those opportunities and I think there'll just be more and more to come as Carpenter gets more accessible and open.

Memorial Bench Donation Request

 Okay, moving on to item E, the last on New Business. The Memorial Bench Application – Steve Meyers and Amy Lacy Memorial Bench.

Murdock And this one will be at Elm Street Green by the community gardens so.

Cambridge Okay.

Murdock You should have that paperwork in front of you.

Cambridge Yep, it all follows our standard process.

Dilley I'll make a motion to approve the bench.

Schappaugh Second.

Cambridge All right, all in favor say aye.

All Aye.

Cambridge All opposed same sign.
[No response]

Okay, motion carries.

OLD BUISNESS

All right, moving on to Old Business. Are there any Old Business items? There's none on the agenda. I'm assuming none that anyone wants to add at this point or any Other Board Related Items?

- Dilley I want to bring up a concern that we don't need to hash out tonight but probably pass Jarod with or somebody within the town that has better line of sight of this. Right, wrong or indifferent, Senate Bill 1 was passed this past legislative session and there are consequences to that and I don't feel like we have a good line of sight of what that means to our financial future for the Parks Board and I think we need to engage some help of what that means and so not necessarily something we need to debate tonight but given how the formulas and finances are changing with how the state government is managing, how municipalities are managing, I just want to, we need some expert help to advise us of what that means to our budget next year because I think that the town is staring down some big numbers that are challenging as every municipality is within the State of Indiana and I think we need to have a real conversation about that and also all the growth that we're trying to do with Carpenter and how do you reconcile what I would consider to be those two competing priorities.
- Cambridge Yeah I don't, I don't agree or disagree. It's kinda the wild west right now because so many paradigms are changing at the state level and also with federal funding with the RTP program or the Next Level Trails programs unfunded, you know, quite a few other things so. I think as we think about how we weather that I, I think it's wise to come up with a plan and I, I think your recommendation or at least as I'm interpreting that we get someone that actually knows –
- Dilley Yeah.
- Cambridge What they're doing –
- Dilley Yes.
- Cambridge And, and has a –
- Dilley Yeah.
- Cambridge Finger on the pulse and –
- Dilley Yep.
- Cambridge Best practices and solutions to address those to help us that that would be a worthwhile investment so I don't disagree there because I, at least in my experience working with other communities asking similar questions, there isn't a one size fits all solution that if we just do this we're fine.

Dilley Yeah.

Cambridge I think it's gonna be a combination of different things that we can do to kind of be more resilient from a funding or fiscal standpoint but we need someone to help us navigate that versus sort of bowing to the loudest voice or the easiest cut or the, whoever that may be so I think we can ask Jarod to give us some thoughts on what that could look like and/or what the cost might be associated with that but I think it would be a very worthwhile investment in the reality that we're in right now. So, in Jarod's absence, we'll assign him homework of maybe pulling together some thoughts on a, maybe like call it sort of a fiscal resilience plan as we sort of look at –

Murdock Well and budget cycle is starting so I know they are starting to have discussions on what the budget will look like for next year so that has started already within the town heads so.

Cambridge Okay. Any other items before we move on to claims?

Tischbein I have, I just have a couple of –

Cambridge Sure.

Tischbein Just one thing – Jarod put together the financial dashboards based on Chad's recommendation which was a really good tool. Under the, I won't get into the numbers but I'm, I'm just trying to understand under the project purchasing completion section of that dashboard we show purchased to date and then outstanding and so what I'm, what I'm trying to determine is is the outstanding amounts, are those encumbered under a contract going towards the purchase of something or are those amounts that are just kinda like sitting out there in a budget still to be spent?

Dilley That's a good question.

Cambridge I don't have –

Dilley Yeah, let's ask Jarod when he gets back.

Cambridge The answer to that. I think Jarod would need to weigh in on that.

Dilley Yeah.

Cambridge My suspicion would be that that's part of the project. That I would like, I would hope that whatever we're looking at here is an approved contracted value and we're measuring against –

Dilley What we've purchased out.

Cambridge How much we've spent.

Dilley Yeah because the, the intent behind that was like if there's six bid packages are we through bid package four, bid package six and these are really small projects right

comparatively but do we have line of sight to that and is there any risk to any, anything that we're going through? I would have to go back a couple months in my memory to remember what that conversation was and how Jarod interpreted that so I think maybe next month he can walk us through that or meet offline with him too because there's some pretty interesting data within that.

Tischbein Yeah, I just see a little budget risk if this isn't already encumbered and contracted for.

Dilley Yep.

Tischbein So that's, that's a concern –

Dilley Yeah.

Tischbein Based on –

Dilley That's a good callout.

Tischbein Some conversations we've had tonight.

Dilley Yep and that's the whole intent behind these is let's, let's call the risks out now just so we know how to manage and – because when I looked at all of our overall financial situation through June, halfway through the fiscal year, I think we've spent like 30 or 39% of our budget or something like that, less than 50%. We're halfway through the fiscal year and it's not gonna be an even for even there but it seems like we're tracking on budget and if we have any overages here just be prepared for that. Yeah, that's a good callout Doug.

Cambridge Yeah, I'd like to think, again, pending Jarod's feedback right that sort of looking at how this is structured, purchasing to me I interpret as sort of materials and goods as part of the overall project so that would have to be encumbered as part of the – but getting clarity on that would certainly be good to make sure for sure so.

Tischbein Thanks. That's all I had.

Cambridge Hmm?

Tischbein That's all I had.

Cambridge The dashboard – okay, thank you Doug. I appreciate that and we'll add that to Jarod's homework list of –

Schappaugh Yeah, he's not gonna miss another meeting. He's not going to like all this homework.

Dilley We're gonna assign assignments to Matt when he misses meetings. I mean we gotta do that going forward.

Milburn Is there a homework list somewhere that I need to get caught up on?

Cambridge We'll task him with solving all the funding deficit challenges.

Dilley He is a finance guy.

Claims

Cambridge Yeah, see – there ya go. Okay, well, any other new items before we move on to claims? Okay. Has everyone had a chance to look over the claims for the 7/9, in the 7/9 packet? Have any questions or concerns? And if not, is there a motion to approve the claims as listed?

Lane So moved.

Barksdale Second.

Cambridge Okay, first and second. All in favor say aye.

All Aye.

Cambridge Opposed same sign.
[No response]

I vote aye as well so that carries. Do I have a motion to adjourn?

Dilley So moved.

Cambridge Okay, second?

Milburn Second.

Cambridge All in favor aye.

All Aye.

Cambridge Opposed same sign.
[No response]

Adjournment

All right, motion carries. Meeting adjourned. Thank you everybody. Enjoy another month of summer.

Murdock Don't leave until you sign.

Cambridge Yes, don't leave until you sign whatever we have to sign.

Ryan Cambridge, President

Kimberly Lane, Secretary

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Black –
Welcome Center Coordinator
Zionsville Parks & Recreation–8-13-2025