

**Carmel/Clay Board of Parks and Recreation  
Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 6:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting**

**Member(s) Present:** Jessica Beer, Jim Engledow (*joined meeting at 6:03 p.m.*), James Garretson, Joshua Kirsh, Jenn Kristunas, Linus Rude (*joined meeting at 6:03 p.m.*), Rich Taylor, Lin Zheng

**Member(s) Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Michael Klitzing, Department Director; Kurtis Baumgartner, Department Assistant Director; Sara Clark, Administration & Planning Director; Brian Bosma, Kroger, Gardis & Regas, LLP

**Roll Call & Call to Order**

Board President Taylor asked Director Klitzing to call the roll. After Director Klitzing stated that there was a quorum, Board President Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Staff Reports**

Assistant Director Baumgartner said that staff reports were included in the Board packet. He also mentioned that the Department received some nice news coverage about the last Park Board meeting.

**Committees**

**Finance Committee**

Ms. Kristunas stated that the Finance Committee met to review the current financials and to review strategies for moving forward.

*Mr. Engledow and Mr. Rude joined the meeting at 6:03 p.m.*

**Nominating Committee**

Board President Taylor stated that this year's Nominating Committee appointments are Mr. Engledow as Chair, Mr. Garretson, and Mr. Kirsh. He thanked the Board Members for serving and asked that they make their recommendation at the January meeting.

**Minutes**

**November 10, 2020 Park Board Meeting**

Mr. Engledow made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kristunas. Mr. Engledow administered the vote, and the motion was unanimously passed 8 – 0.

**Financial Reports**

**Consolidated Financial Report for October 2020; CCPR P&L Statements for November 2020**

Ms. Kristunas made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the **Financial Reports** as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garretson. Mr. Engledow administered the vote, and the motion was unanimously passed 8 – 0.

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**Claims**

**Claim Sheet December 8, 2020; Clay Township Claim Sheet December 8, 2020; and CCPR Payroll for November 6, 2020 and November 20, 2020**

Ms. Kristunas made a motion to approve Claim Sheet December 8, 2020; Clay Township Claim Sheet December 8, 2020; and CCPR Payroll for November 6, 2020 and November 20, 2020 as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Beer. Mr. Garretson asked about the approval process of claims. Discussion followed. Mr. Engledow administered the vote, and the motion was unanimously passed 8 – 0.

**Monetary Gifts, Grants, Partnerships, and Sponsorships for November 2020 – Sara Clark**

There was nothing to report.

**New Business**

There was no New Business.

**Old Business**

**Clay Township Impact Program – Michael Klitzing**

**Consideration of Second Amendment to Project Agreement by and between Clay Township and the Carmel/Clay Board of Parks and Recreation**

Director Klitzing spoke about the new Clay Township Impact Program project, the proposed pedestrian bridge across White River, which requires a Second Amendment to the Project Agreement between Clay Township and Carmel/Clay Board of Parks and Recreation. The Township will fund the construction of the pedestrian bridge. A lengthy discussion followed. Mr. Bosma clarified that based upon the Project Agreement, the Township has agreed to execute the necessary documents so this asset will be owned and maintained by the parks department.

Mr. Garretson stated his concern that the pedestrian bridge and other Clay Township Impact Program projects will not generate any revenue, which will impact the Department's cost recovery. Director Klitzing replied that ESE and MCC should always meet cost recovery, and long-term funding will need to be discussed with the fiscal bodies resulting in proposed changes to the Interlocal. Director Klitzing said that elected officials have been involved with the planning of these projects and are very much aware of the amenities that do not generate revenue and will require additional funding, e.g., the Monon Boulevard.

Director Klitzing added that on behalf of the Park Board, he requested Mr. Bosma to identify funding opportunities within Indiana, and a meeting will be held in January to discuss long-term funding strategies. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, these conversations were delayed until 2021.

Dr. Beer made a motion to approve the Second Amendment to the Project Agreement between Clay Township and the Carmel/Clay Board of Parks and Recreation as presented and authorize the Park Board President to sign the same. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kristunas. Discussion followed regarding logistics on both sides of the bridge and the cost of the project.

Mr. Engledow administered the vote, and the motion was unanimously passed 8 – 0.

**Clay Township Impact Program Updates**

Director Klitzing provided updates, including pictures, of the Clay Township Impact Program projects.

Central Park Roundabout /111<sup>th</sup> Street Roundabout: New drone photos showed significant improvements.

Carey Grove Park: Project close to completion.

Flowing Well Park: Photo showed overview of park.

West Park: The front portion of the park is closed as construction has begun. The public may access other areas of the park by entering the parking lot adjacent to the Jill Perelman Pavilion (JPP). The new playground behind JPP is open to the public. There is a trail that allows people to access the northern trail network within the park, and when it snows, people may park at the JPP and walk a small distance to access Jill's Hill.

Meadowlark Park: Opening bids December 9<sup>th</sup>

River Heritage Park: This property is owned by Citizens Energy Group that provides water service to Indianapolis and other communities. The water plant is an intake facility on White River; the water is treated and placed in underground storage tanks. Citizens is preparing an expansion of their facility and does not want any park improvements in front of the park where another water storage tank will be added in the future. Due to recent conversations with Citizens, the Department will focus on trail development in the wooded section of the park. This park has always been about accessibility, especially those with mobility challenges. Construction will feature surfacing that will truly be wheelchair and stroller accessible in addition to structures for enhanced river overlooks. Some playground features similar to that in the new playground behind the Jill Perelman Pavilion will also be added. After Citizens has completed their expansion, the Department will work with them on renovations in the remaining park area.

Lawrence W. Inlow Park: Finalizing preliminary design for renovations.

**Central Park Drive West Enhancement Project – Michael Klitzing  
Consideration of Schutt-Lookabill Co., Inc. Change Order No. 4**

Director Klitzing stated the proposed change order was required to closeout the project. The Department was very satisfied with the project, and the document finalizes the changed substantial completion date.

Mr. Garretson made a motion to approve Change Order No. 4 for the Central Park Drive West Enhancement Project as presented and authorize the Park Board President to sign the same, seconded by Mr. Kirsh. Mr. Engledow administered the vote, and the motion was unanimously passed 8 – 0.

**Attorney's Report**

Mr. Bosma said he and his law partner, Ted Nolting, had a stellar tour the previous week with Director Klitzing and Assistant Director Baumgartner. He appreciated learning so much during this non-billable tour. There are a few outstanding items that include addressing a management agreement for some of the park constructed projects and the RFP for fleet services.

### **Director's Report**

Director Klitzing referenced his prior Clay Township Impact Program project updates.

Director Klitzing congratulated Mr. Kirsh for being recognized as One Zone's Volunteer of the Year. Part of this special recognition is due to his service on the Park Board, Plan Commission, and the many other contributions to make Carmel a better place to live, work, and play. Mr. Kirsh said he was truly humbled by this experience and is honored to receive this recognition.

Director Klitzing reiterated that there will be future discussions with the fiscal bodies regarding the Interlocal and long-term funding strategies. Prior to meeting with the designated City and Township representatives, a strategy meeting will be held in early January including himself, Assistant Director Baumgartner, Board President Taylor, Mr. Bosma, and Mr. Nolting. The goal is to enter into an agreement to continue the Interlocal in a way that sustains Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation and helps ensure the Department remains the great system it has become.

### **Information Items**

**Plan Commission:** Mr. Kirsh said that the GOAT plans to ask for a rezone at the next Plan Commission meeting.

Mr. Kirsh spoke about a multiuse development (not a PUD) to include a facility for people with occupational development delay that offsets the housing cost for independent living. He predicts this could develop into a 'farm to table' in what looks like a historical home. Mr. Garretson said the house was built in 1865.

Mr. Kirsh emphatically stated that 'Smoky' has no 'e' and it has always been that way. Some street signs were made in error.

**School Board:** Ms. Zheng reported that the preferred plan for redistricting was presented to the School Board last month for discussion. The Board will vote on the preferred plan at its next meeting. There has been no decision on the future use of Orchard Park (*Elementary*). Discussion followed.

**Parks Foundation:** Mr. Rude said he had nothing to report.

### **Park Board Comments / Discussion**

Mr. Engledow stated that many years ago, Judy Hagan asked him to join the Parks Board. Five directors, two Gold Medals and 20 years later, he is still on the Board. Mr. Engledow announced that he asked Doug (*Clay Township Trustee Doug Callahan*) to not reappoint him to the Parks Board. He said it was time for somebody new and younger to make his/her mark on the community.

Mr. Engledow said that it has been fun, educational, and an honor to serve his community for the last 20 years. Mr. Engledow moved to Carmel in 1958 and thought it would be a good, non-political way to serve the community, of which that was only partially true. Serving the community was the good part of it.

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Mr. Engledow announced that now is the right time. The parks system is great and getting better every day, the staff is second to none, and the Park Board is absolutely top notch. He said that the Park Board's promise to the citizens of Carmel is to leave the parks system better than they found it. He hopes that he has been at least a small contributor to the success of Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation over the last 20 years. He thanked everyone for letting him be part of the membership, and he absolutely enjoyed the opportunity for the last 20 years.

Board President Taylor thanked Mr. Engledow. He added that he really appreciated everything Mr. Engledow has done and that his departure will be a loss to him and the Park Board.

Director Klitzing asked Mr. Engledow to attend the January meeting at which time he will offer his remarks. Mr. Taylor said he would like to have Mr. Engledow present the (2021) slate of officers at the meeting. Mr. Engledow said he would try to be at the meeting.

Discussion followed about the next Park Board meeting. It was determined that the January meeting would be an in-person meeting unless conditions dictate otherwise.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Board President Taylor adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

**Approved,**

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Signature

1/13/2021  
Date

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Signature

1/18/2021  
Date