

**Avilla Park Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 5, 2023**

- Called to order @ 6:38pm
- Approval of previous meeting minutes: Ann Freeman- approved as read

**Old Business**

- Christmas in Heritage Park
  - Great turn out from the community
  - Collaboration: Chamber, NCPL, Legion, Avilla PD, CSB, Restore Avilla, and Sells Do It Best
  - FB post of collaboration: 1,143 impressions
  - FB post of Tree Lighting: 719 impressions
    - Highlights the value of collaboration
  - Need to schedule day to disassemble, store, and dispose of tree
    - Parks Board to schedule a time (likely a Saturday morning or afternoon) to take down lights, ornaments, and dispose of tree)

**New Business**

- Welcome Lisa Krock!
  - Discussion of recruiting additional Park Board members
    - Must maintain political balance (2 Republicans, 2 Democrats, 1 school board appointee)
  - Discussed the importance of having a school board appointee; if an individual is identified, Parks is to notify Tena (Town Manager)
- 2023 Elections- Important to have a Board Member identified as President as this is the point person for reporting Parks business to the Town and they are responsible for signing Park employee timesheets
  - Nate Hicks declined interest in role; Lisa Krock expressed interest in role
  - Ann Freeman requested that we vote at the next board meeting (2/2/23)
- Plans for Park Development in 2023
  - Land west of Eley Park voted and approved to be developed by Parks Department in collaboration with Freedom Festival by Town Council on December 21, 2022
  - Revisit 5 Year Plan
    - What does our community desire to see in Avilla?
  - Denny Mast (Freedom Festival)- shared that FF would like enough open space for

rides and booths for the Festival

- Nate Hicks discussed the APD 5 Year Plan, specifically the value of adding more baseball diamonds to attract more baseball tournaments. This information was provided by Avilla Ball representatives in the past.
- Ann Freeman discussed plans to reconnect with the urban planning team at Ball State who assisted APD with the 5 Year Plan to have them help with developing plans for the land.
- Ann Freeman reviewed the results of the 2020 Avilla Parks Survey conducted in conjunction with the 5 Year Plan as a reflection of what our community would like to see/values/
- Next step is to request a map of the acquired land from Tena (Town Manager).

Open Discussion:

Our next Avilla Park Board meeting is Thursday February 2, 2023 at 6:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.

Signatures of Approval:



Board Member, Ann Freeman



Board Member, Nate Hicks



Board Member, Lisa Krock