

TOWN OF PORTER
Redevelopment Commission
303 Franklin Street
July 23, 2013

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Elka Nelson, Greg Stinson, Jeannine Virtue, Erik Wagner, and Joe Simanski

Absent: Ron Stone

Also present: Attorney Gregg Sobkowski and Tammie Sufana

Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion to approve the June 25, 2013 meeting minutes was made by Joe Simanski, Jeannine Virtue made the second.

Motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Claim Docket

Elka Nelson made the motion to approve the claim docket in the amount of \$501,851.84, Erik Wagner made the second.

Motion passed 5-0.

Audience Participation

Jeffrey Bailey, 444 Franklin St., recently appointed to Park Board, but here as a private citizen. He would like to applaud the council & RDC for working together. He has a petition (here within attached) with 50 Town resident signatures to find an alternative route proposal.

Julie Cunningham, 503 Franklin St., the only parking she has is in front where trail is going. Also her water shutoff and sewer are in line of the trail.

Greg Stinson has spoken with Mike Barry, Director of Development, and they are working with INDOT. Possibly upgrading alley way. The water shutoff and sewer they will also discuss with engineers. They are looking to rectify the situation; the trail is running on Town right of way.

Greg Stinson said part of the issue we face is the grant process began in 2003. Haas was hired in 2005, public hearing was held in 2009, and designed in 2012. Changes before bid took place or we had to request a change. Current path was approved through the Park Board. The stakes out there are the construction stakes. The contract has already gone to bid and construction has begun. In order to change we would have to stop construction.

Kathleen Strain, 335 Franklin St., spoken before about park, is the trail really necessary. Hope we can take a minute to think about it.

Elka Nelson, became a Town Council person in 2012, the first thing they did was voice concerns because deadlines were at risk. They held a public forum and had five different designs. The Park Board at that time had a well publicized meeting and it did get heated at times. Any change orders, delay fees, engineering, we pay out of town money not grant monies. Elka stated this is the alternative the Park Board chose and many were explored.

Al Raffin, 451 Waverly and RDC Member 2006-2012. This has been going on 4 or 5 years; a lot of possibilities were looked at and we have a lot of engineering money spent on trail. There are drainage issues with coming through park. He appreciates your concerns but feels there was a lot of effort gone into planning and the Park Board was very vocal.

Greg Stinson said the trail stops at Orchard Apartments and is suppose to connect to the Dunes Kankakee Trail but that trail is on hold.

Jeannine Virtue stated when you are talking expense you are talking a huge amount.

Joe Simanski joined the RDC in 2012 and said he believes this commission gave ample opportunity on this decision; he feels comfortable with process.

Karen Anderson, 433 Porter Ave, is there not a way to turn or cross at a different point?

Greg Stinson that is a possible option doing alley behind her house and there is potential to move across street.

Terry Gault, 422 Lincoln St., three of you address that people did not come to meetings; people don't come because they are not heard. You don't have money for roads or sidewalks why can't you use that money from trail for roads or sidewalks.

Jon Granat, 217 Franklin, doesn't think those four women on the Park Board would do anything to jeopardize the park. Would like to reiterate to think of this as a sidewalk not a bike trail; it is an enhancement to the park. We will be on the hook for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Nancy Bailey, 444 Franklin, why can't they incorporate the roads? People in the Town of Porter thought it was ludicrous.

Kathleen Strain why wasn't road closed so people can not cut through the road most of them speed through.

Greg Stinson technically it is a driveway not a road.

Jeff Bailey if we are talking safety we need to contact Current Electric of Michigan City to locate electrical wires that are underground. Park Board would have to do that.

Reports

Director of Development had nothing to report.

Attorney Sobkowski had nothing new to report.

Old Business

Orchard Pedestrian Way Update

Covered under Audience Participation Comments

New Business

Resolution PRC 01-2013 allows the Secretary and President to sign routine payment checks not change orders, if passed by RDC it will not take effect until Council amends the new ordinance.

Motion was made by Joe Simanski to approve Resolution PRC 01-2013, Jeannine Virtue seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-0.

Porter Ave Lift Station Change Order #3

Change order request is to install ADA compliant sidewalk ramps.

Motion was made by Elka Nelson to approve the change order #3, Erik Wagner seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-0.

DK Trail Change Order #1

Change order request is to increase the limestone size at a cost of \$2,576.00.

Motion was made by Elka Nelson to approve the DK Trail Change Order #1, Joe Simanski seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-0.

DK Trail Change Order#2

This change order is to modify the start and completion dates of the project.

Motion was made by Elka Nelson to approve the DK Trail Change Order #2, Jeannine Virtue seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-0.

Commission Comments

None

Adjournment

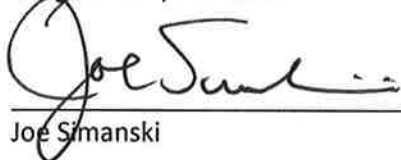
Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Elka Nelson, Erik Wagner seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting Adjourned 7:08 p.m.

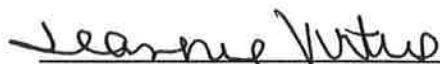


Greg Stinson, President



Joe Simanski

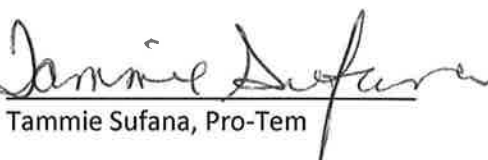
Elka Nelson



Jeannine Virtue, Vice President



Erik Wagner

Attest: 
Tammie Sufana, Pro-Tem