

**COLUMBIA CITY PARK BOARD MINUTES  
MARCH 23, 2009**

The Columbia City Park Board met in regular session with the following **members**

**present:** Secretary Dennis Warnick  
Kelley Sheiss  
Vice President Mark Ellis

**Those absent:** President Michael Malcolm  
Mauri Bordner

Secretary Warnick made a motion to **approve the minutes** of the preceding meeting as distributed. Kelley Sheiss seconds the motion. On call of the vote, all voted aye.

Lori Shipman is present updating the Board on the **greenway extension**. As she explained previously, the trail was only going to cost approximately \$2-300,000 and expand slightly with a cross over bridge and now because of the stimulus funds, the project grew to a \$2.2 million project. There are many federal guidelines which need to be considered and that's one of the reasons the project grew to such a proportion. There is a probability the funds will come through different government entities. Ms. Shipman went on to discuss all of Indiana will be fighting for the stimulus money and there may be a need to secure funding for the trail expansion from different sources, however, that would be in a grant form. The Park Board would need to come up with some additional funding. The city received a \$2.9 million grant from INDOT but that is not slated to begin until 2012. This funding would help oversee the costs of the proposed trail extension.

Barry Yeakel, **Eel River Trail** representative, was present informing the Board competition for funding on trails is very competitive. He wanted to assure the Board the Eel River Trail is not competing with the expansion of the Blue River Greenway. In fact, the two would become one. Mr. Yeakel stated going north is not an option anymore and has considered other options, even using sidewalks. Secretary Warnick questioned if there were restrictions using sidewalks for trailways and Mr. Yeakel stated they have to be 10' sidewalks and handicap accessible. They are anticipating the trail to go south and west. The Board discussed different aspects of the proposed trail.

Park Superintendent Mark Green informed the Board the **pavilion did flood** during the heavy rains, however, both boy and girl scouts came to help clean up the mess. Discussion furthered on having a separate public news article on the building.

Vice President Ellis suggested erecting a "Morsches Park" **sign on US 30**, so individuals traveling know where and how to get to the park. Superintendent Mark Green will mention this to the Mayor.

The Board discussed different issues with no decisions.

Items included: Lob Ball  
T Ball  
All Star Teams  
Park Flooding  
Burnworth Pool  
Farmer's Market signs

As all business was discussed, Secretary Warnick made a motion to adjourn, with a second from Sheiss. Meeting adjourned.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Martha Acres, Secretary to the Mayor.

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Dennis Warnick  
Park Board Secretary