

**Meeting of the Rensselaer Park Board
held on Monday, 3 March 2025**

The Rensselaer Park Board monthly Meeting was held on Monday, 3 March 2025 at Six o'clock pm (6 pm) at the Rensselaer City Hall Council Chambers located at 124 South Van Rensselaer Street, Rensselaer, Indiana; the same being duly advertised/notice of meeting previously.

President Michael L. Manis called the meeting to order with the following members being present: Glen Allie (telephonic), Janice Deno, Craig Hooker and Michael L. Manis; were present with Sue Wing being absent. Four RPB members being in attendance, a quorum was achieved for the meeting. Mayor Jeffrey S. Phillips and Heather Hall, Superintendent of Rensselaer Parks were also in attendance.

Greg Whaley spoke and provided an update to the Rensselaer Miniature Train Company memorial effort that he has been pursuing. Mr. Whaley informed the Board that the Jasper County Tourism Commission had not approved funding for the project. Mr. Whaley presented numerous documents, drawings, and historical images to highlight his revised wishes for the project, which would include a replica/flat image of Rensselaer's former train station. Mr. Whaley also expressed that he has experienced great difficulty in obtaining/purchasing a miniature train for use with the project. Mr. Whaley indicated that he believed that he would have sufficient volunteer labor and private funding to accomplish the project such that no cost would come to the Parks. Finally, Mr. Whaley presented letters of support from area service clubs and interested individuals. Mayor Phillips indicated that the project could be included in the upcoming Park Study of desired projects to gauge community support and level of interest. No Board action was taken.

The Rensselaer Park Board unanimously approved Minutes from its 3 February 2025 meeting.

Member Allie suggested that the Parks begin to consider establishing rules to govern the new pickleball courts to help avoid difficulties with usage.

Supt. Hall is issuing youth baseball applications and will be receiving responses during March; plans to engage nearby communities with game scheduling will proceed once the volume of applications are known.

The Board heard Supt. Hall's request for the recently completed Disc golf event to become one of the Park's ongoing Programs as a result of the successful launch effort last month. The Board voted to approve the request.

The Board learned of a request for the leasing of Blacker Fields for a girl's softball tournament weekend during April 24 to 26, 2026; a contract will be provided to Supt. Hall.

Supt. Hall felt that Park Program teams were shaping up nicely for the upcoming season with positive responses from Park Directors/Managers/Assistants from previous years.

Supt. Hall spoke about the progress of the new Park Office at the former light plant and invited the next meeting to occur on site during April. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 7 April 2025 at 6 pm at the new Park Office located at 425 N Van Rensselaer Street. The meeting was subsequently adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael L. Manis
President, Rensselaer Park Board