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# TOWN OF ALBION PARKS & RECREATION FIVE-YEAR MASTER PLAN



Albion Parks & Recreation Board  
Casey Myers, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation  
Region 3-A Development & Regional Planning Commission  
2018-2023

# 2018-2023 MASTER PLAN

## ALBION PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

211 E. Park Drive  
Albion, IN 46701  
(260) 636-2246

## ALBION TOWN COUNCIL

Max Weber – President  
Vicki Jellison – Vice President  
Chris Magnuson  
Don Shultz  
John Morr

## ALBION TOWN MANAGER

Stefen Wynn

## ALBION PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Dan Gagen, President  
Zane Gray, Vice President  
Joe Smith, Secretary  
Bev Fitzpatrick  
Tim Kiebel

## ALBION PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT ATTORNEY

Bill Eberhard

## PREPARED BY:

Region 3-A Development & Regional Planning Commission  
217 Fairview Blvd.  
Kendallville, IN 46755  
(260) 347-4714

**ASSURANCE OF ACCESSIBILITY COMPLIANCE WITH:  
ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS ACT OF 1968 (As Amended);  
SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (As Amended);  
AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 (As Amended)**

The *Albion Parks + Rec. Board* (Applicant) has read the guidelines for compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (As Amended); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (As Amended); and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (As Amended) and will comply with the applicable requirements of these Acts.

SIGNATURE: *Dan Gagen*  
APPLICANT PRESIDENT

DAN GAGEN  
(President's printed name)

SIGNATURE: *J. Smith*  
APPLICANT SECRETARY

Joseph Smith  
(Secretary's printed name)

DATE: 2-12-18

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ALBION PARKS & RECREATION FIVE-YEAR  
MASTER PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Town of Albion Parks & Recreation Board is aware of the parks and recreation needs of the residents of Albion, Indiana, and;

WHEREAS, the Board realizes the importance of sound planning in order to meet the needs of its citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF ALBION PARKS & RECREATION BOARD, by unanimous declaration, does adopt the Parks & Recreation Master Plan as its official plan for the next five years, for the growth and development of parks and recreational opportunities in Albion, Indiana.

Passed and signed this 12th day of February 2018.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parks & Recreation Board President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent of Parks & Recreation



REQUEST FOR ELIGIBILITY

Land Water Conservation Fund

We hereby request eligibility to participate in the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

TOWN OF ALBION PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

211 E. Park Drive

Albion, IN 46701

(260) 636-2246

Park Board President: Joe Smith


The Albion Parks and Recreation Board was established under the provisions of Indiana Code 36-10 in 1949. This Act empowers the board to plan, construct, operate, and maintain recreation and parks facilities.

By virtue of the powers vested in our Board by the Indiana General Assembly we agree, if approved, to abide by all applicable State and Federal laws and the provisions outlined in the Guidelines for Local Agencies participating in the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program.

Adopted and sign the 10 day of January, Two Thousand and Seventeen.


Town of Albion Parks and Recreation Board:


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

Attested:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

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## SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION



## ORGANIZATION OF THE PLAN

In the spring of 2016, the Town of Albion, Indiana, commissioned Region 3-A Development & Regional Planning Commission to provide a five-year parks and recreation master plan for the Town of Albion Parks and Recreation system. Successful completion of the master plan will ensure that Albion Parks and Recreation is eligible for various funding opportunities that require a parks master plan to be in place.

This master plan is an outline of the proposed actions and goals of Albion Parks & Recreation for the next five years. It is a collaboration of independent research, public input, and the interests of the Albion Parks & Recreation Board. The Town of Albion Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan should be reviewed annually to ensure that ongoing goals and activities are in line with the framework of the plan. After five years, this plan will expire and a new plan should be drafted to maintain congruence between departmental development and town priorities.

This plan is not a legal document. It is meant to provide consistency across the terms of the Albion Parks & Recreation Board members, acting as a point of reference for these individuals, as well as members of the general public. It is separated into six sections to make it easier for the reader to access the information used to develop the action plan:

- **Section One: Introduction.** In this section, the framework of the plan and the planning process is outlined. The planning area is defined to establish the scope of the plan. The goals and purposes of the plan from the perspective of the Parks Board are also articulated.
- **Section Two: Existing Conditions.** In this section, the context of the town and county are laid out. This includes a review of the physical, historical, and cultural aspects of the planning area. An analysis of the social and economic conditions is also presented.
- **Section Three: Public Participation.** This section summarizes the public participation process employed through the planning process. This includes a community survey, as well as the data collection methods utilized and an analysis of the resulting data.
- **Section Four: Park Inventory & Recommendations.** This section presents an inventory of the current parks system. This includes facilities and site amenities contained within the system, as well as the programming and events offered at the parks. Maps of recommendations will be provided for the parks.
- **Section Five: Action Plan.** This section outlines the final recommendations, in addition to identifying the priority level, tentative schedule, and costs and funding sources. Members of the Parks & Recreation Board agreed upon the final recommendations based on survey results and board goals.
- **Section Six: Appendices.** In this section, additional documentation, which has been cited throughout the plan, is provided for verification.



## PLANNING AREA

The planning area is identified as the Town of Albion. Residents, businesses, and government entities that reside within Albion's town limits were considered during the planning process. Because Albion attracts visitors from outside town limits, some analysis includes Noble County. The Albion parks system is comprised of three parks – Hidden Diamonds Park, Valleyview Park, and Owen Park – each of which will be taken into consideration as part of this plan.

## PARKS DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

Based on discussion with the Town of Albion Parks & Recreation Board, and members of the Parks Department, the mission statement for the Albion Parks & Recreation Department is as follows:

*It is our mission to enrich the lives of our residents by providing the best possible recreational areas and facilities for our community.*

## 2018-2023 MASTER PLAN GOALS

- To plan, develop, and preserve a system of parks that serves town residents.
- To provide a variety of recreation and educational programs.
- To maintain a safe, clean, and enjoyable parks system for all patrons.

## PARKS BOARD INFORMATION

<b>President</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Member</b>
Dan Gagen P.O. Box 11 Albion, IN 46701 (260) 564-4283 January 2019	Zane Gray 701 Taylor Ln. Albion, IN 46701 (260) 636-3540 January 2022	Joe Smith 400 N. York St. Albion, IN 46701 (260) 385-3226 January 2021	Bev Fitzpatrick 3351 N. Arthur Dr. Albion, IN 46701 (260) 564-0070 January 2019	Tim Kiebel 616 Walnut Dr. Albion, IN 46701 (260) 239-1151 January 2020

## PARKS DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

211 E. Park Drive  
P.O. Box 27  
Albion, IN 46701  
(260) 636-2246

## PARKS DEPARTMENT STAFF

Casey Myers, Superintendent  
Monty Morr  
Vern Wilson  
Stan Tipton

## SECTION TWO: EXISTING CONDITIONS

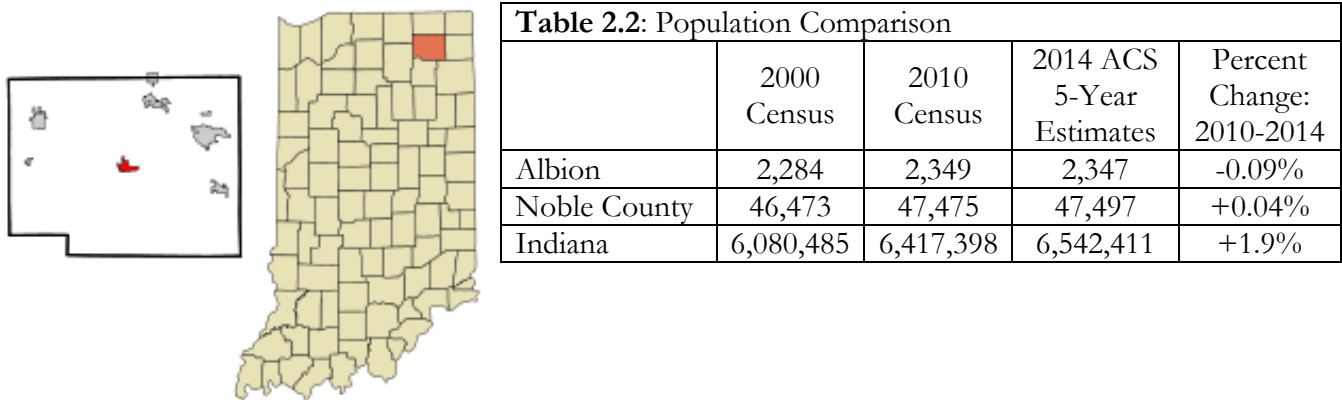




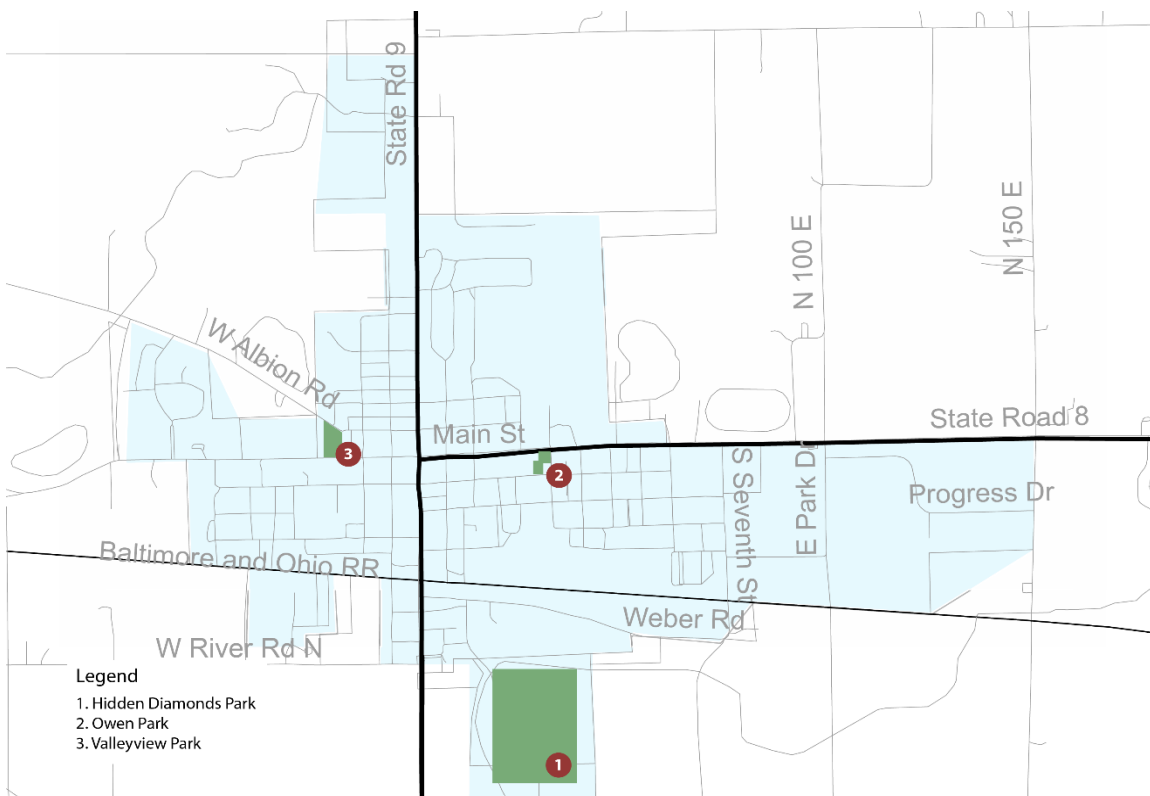
## CONTEXT

The Town of Albion resides in both Albion and Jefferson townships in Noble County. As Figure 2.1 depicts, Albion is located in northeast Indiana. It is the county seat with the courthouse positioned in the center of town. Covering 1.91 square miles, and with a population density of 1,110 people per square mile, the town is well known for being the gateway to Chain-O-Lakes State Park.

The Town of Albion experienced population growth between 2000 and 2010 (+2.8%), according to the American Census. Since 2010, the population has decreased 0.09% from 2,349 to 2,347, according to the 2014 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates. Table 2.2 displays a comparison of populations between Albion, Noble County, and Indiana.



**Figure 2.1 (above):** Albion's location in Noble County; the county's location within the State of Indiana  
**Figure 2.3 (below):** Albion's three parks and their locations within the town



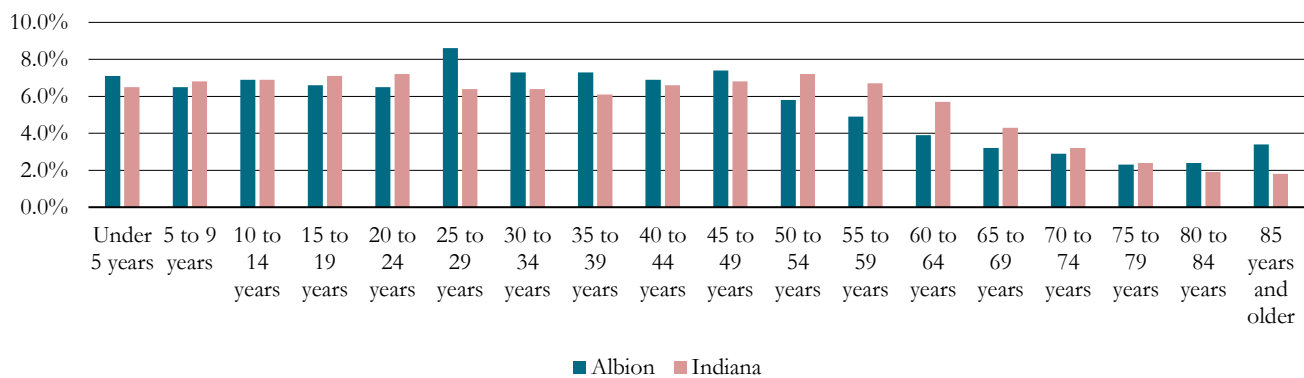
## SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

In 2014, Albion had an estimated population of 2,347 people. Since 2010, the town's population has decreased by two people, or 0.09%. STATS Indiana projects the population of Noble County to increase by 1.8% by 2050, bringing the total population to 48,343. Assuming the entire county sees growth, as opposed to just one city/region, Albion should expect a slight increase in population by 2050.

### Population

Albion had a population total of 2,347 in 2014, according to the American Community Survey. Approximately 49.4% of the population (1,159) is made up of males, and 50.6% of the population (1,188) is made up of females. Figure 2.4 breaks down the 2014 American Community Survey data by age, and compares it to Indiana's population. This data shows that the largest age group in Albion is the 25-to-29-year-old range. Compared to Indiana, Albion has a higher population of residents between the ages of 25 and 49. Approximately 37.5% of Albion's residents are classified in the middle-aged group, compared to 32.3% for Indiana. The State of Indiana has a larger percentage of its population in the 50-to-79-year-old age group. So, Albion has a younger population overall, when compared to the State of Indiana.

**Figure 2.4: Population by Age**



### Race

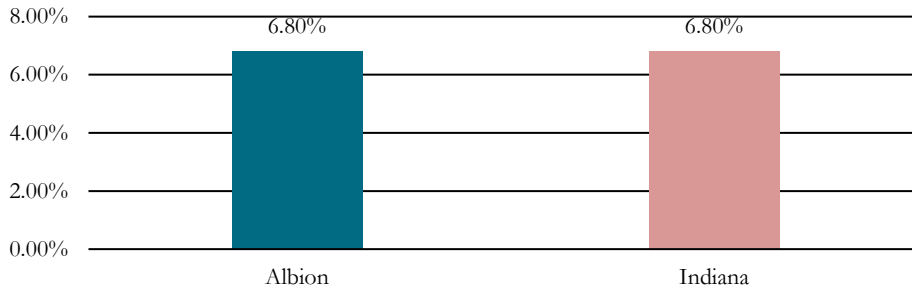
Table 2.5 breaks down the population by race and compares it to Indiana's percentages. Nearly 97% of Albion residents are "White", while the second highest classification is "Hispanic or Latino" with just under 2%. Compared to the State of Indiana, Albion has a higher concentration of "White" residents. Although Indiana's highest percentage of the population is "White", the state clearly has a higher percentage of racial diversity in comparison to the Town of Albion.

Population	Albion	%	Indiana	%
White	2,271	96.8%	5,286,730	80.8%
Black or African American	19	1%	589,861	9%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0%	12,194	0.2%
Hispanic or Latino	40	1.7%	411,536	6.3%
Asian	0	0%	113,904	1.7%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0	0%	1,599	0.03%
Other Race/Two or More Races	17	0.7%	126,587	2.0%

## Disability

Only 6.8% of Albion's population (approximately 160 residents) are classified as disabled, which is the same percentage as that of Indiana, as displayed in Figure 2.6. It is important for Albion Parks Department to have that information in order to provide quality accessibility for all potential park users.

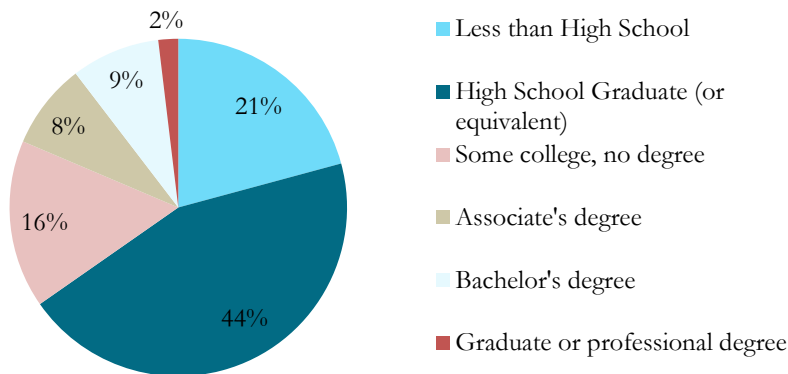
**Figure 2.6: Population by Disability**



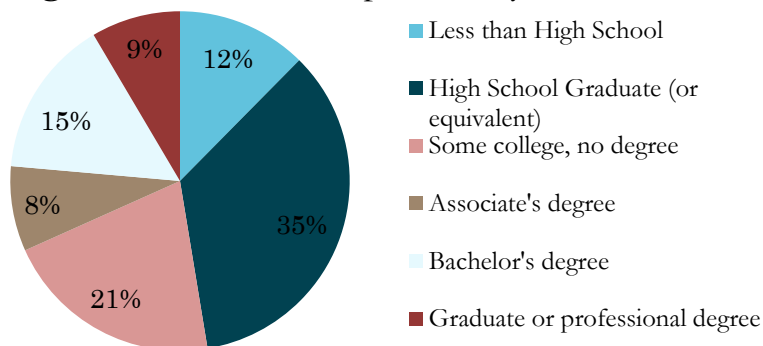
## Educational Attainment

Figure 2.7 breaks down Albion's population by education, while Figure 2.8 shows Indiana's population by education. Approximately 79% of Albion residents have earned their high school diploma, compared to 88% of Indiana residents who have earned theirs. Nearly 35% of Albion residents continued their education, with 19% obtaining at least one degree.

**Figure 2.7: Albion's Population by Education**



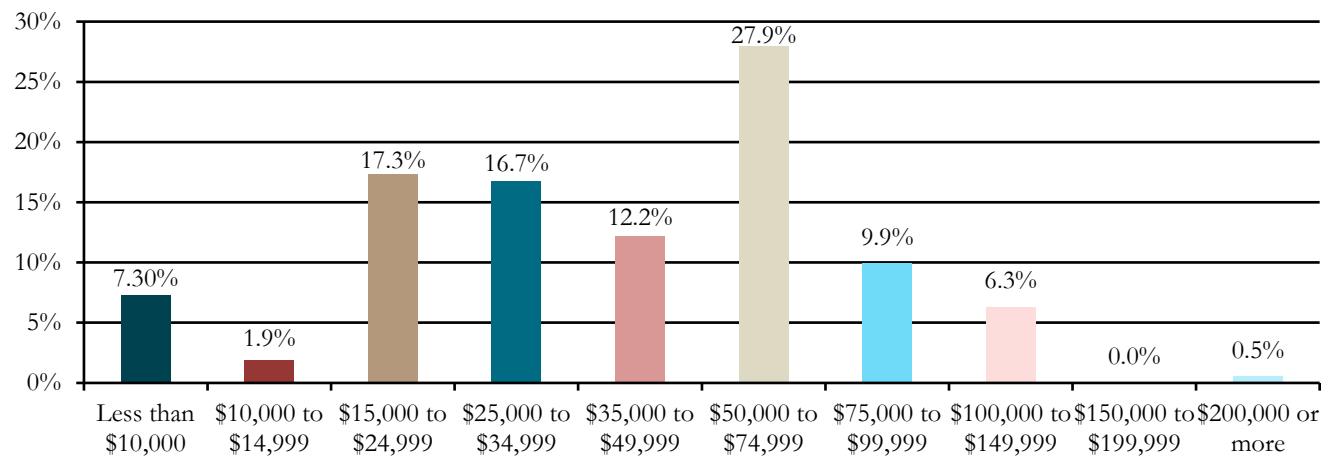
**Figure 2.8: Indiana's Population by Education**



Income

Nearly 30% of Albion’s population report household income between \$50,000 and \$74,999, while 34% have a household income between \$15,000 and \$34,999, as shown in Figure 2.9. The median household income in Albion is \$42,829, while Indiana’s median household income is \$48,737. Approximately 19.7% of Albion’s population (2,121 residents) are living at or below poverty levels. In terms of the State of Indiana, 15.5% of the population are living at or below poverty levels.

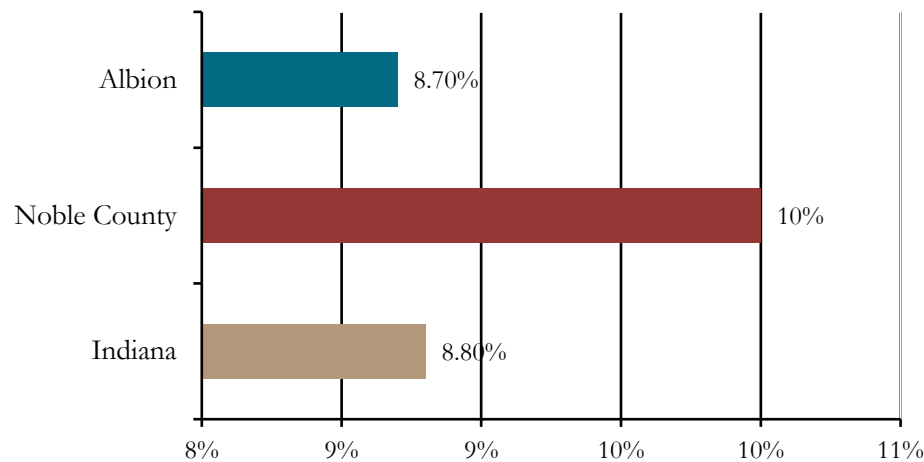
Figure 2.9: Population by Household Income



Unemployment

In Albion, 8.7% of the workforce population (members who are age 16 and older) are unemployed, while the unemployment rate in Noble County is up to 10%, as depicted in Figure 2.10. Albion’s unemployment rate is comparable to that of the State of Indiana, whose unemployment rate is 8.8%; however, Noble County’s rate is clearly the highest of the three.

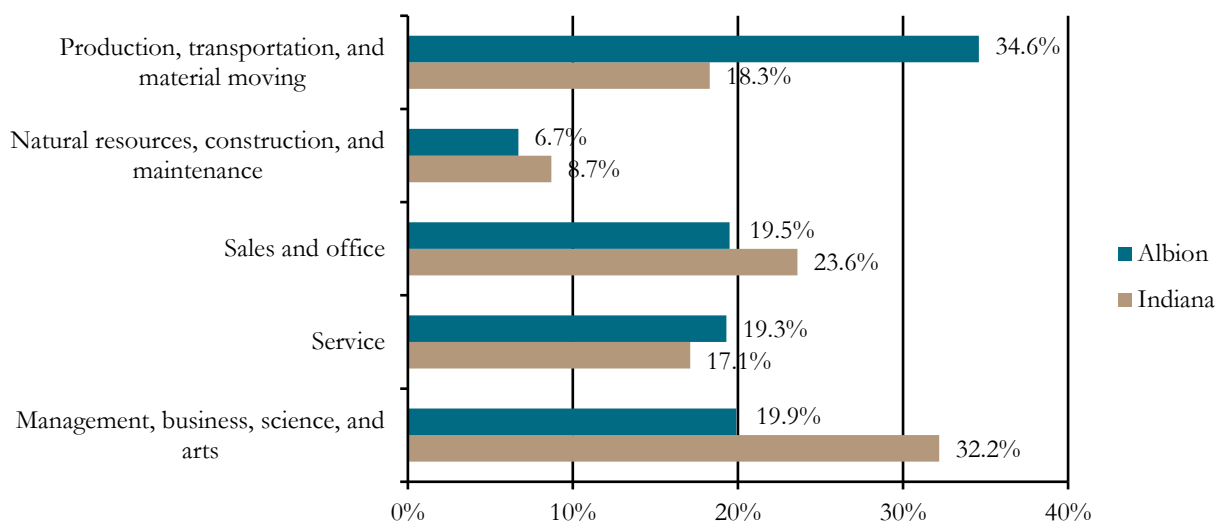
Figure 2.10: Unemployment Rates



## Occupations

The main occupation type for Albion workers ages 16 years and older, is production, transportation, and material moving, which includes nearly 35%. Compared to Indiana, Albion has a high percentage of workers in the industry, as displayed in Figure 2.11. While Indiana has been moving towards sales and office occupations, as well as management, business, science, and arts, Albion is still a manufacturing community.

**Figure 2.11: Employees by Occupational Field**



## Major Employers

1. RR Donnelley
2. Kraft Foods
3. Busche Enterprise Division Inc.
4. Millennium Industries
5. Parkview Noble Hospital Rehab
6. Bosch Automotive Motor Systems
7. Kautex
8. Colwell Industries
9. Walmart Supercenter
10. Tenneco Inc.
11. Dexter Axle
12. Dana Corp.
13. Parker Hannifin Corp.
14. Creative Coatings
15. Carlex Glass of Indiana
16. Superior Essex
17. Whiteshire Hamroc
18. Pioneer Associates Inc.
19. Noble REMC
20. Dial-X Automated Equipment

### Sources:

2000 and 2010 Census

2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

"Population Projections Data Output: STATS Indiana." Population projections Data Output: STATS Indiana. Information for Indiana. Web. 30 November 2016.

Noble County Economic Development Corporation

Hoosier Data

## NATURAL FEATURES AND LANDSCAPE

Noble County lies in the four quadrants formed by the intersection of a line of latitude 41°24' north of the equator, and a line of longitude 85°26' west of Greenwich; the said intersection being a monument placed in Rose Hill Cemetery at Albion, and near the geographical center of the county.

Albion is a part of the Northern Lakes Natural Region formed thousands of years ago by several periods of glaciation. Prior to settlement, this region was characterized by a diversity of ecosystems, which would have included forests, prairies, oak savannas, wetlands, lakes, streams, marshes, swamps, and bogs.

As a result of development, and the installation of drainage tile to create suitable ground for farming, many water bodies have been drained or dramatically decreased in size. Additionally, forests have been cleared and prairies plowed, resulting in a significantly altered landscape from pre-settlement times.

### Topography and Soils

The soil in this region consists of glacial material more than 450 feet deep in some locations, and it is not uncommon to find surface topography with 100-150 feet of elevation change.

Professor W. B. VanGorder, a former superintendent of Albion public schools, is credited for the oft-referenced description of the underlying strata in the area. As cited in *The Eighteenth Report of the State Geologist* (1893): “During the boring for gas at Albion, a very accurate and complete record was kept by Prof. W. B. VanGorder...He furnished the following section, which including the overlying drift, shows the lineaments of our geology to a depth of 1,914 feet.”

According to Professor VanGorder’s report, underlying the drift (total depth of 375 feet) are the following formations, in the order named: Devonian black slate, 65 feet; Hamilton and corniferous limestone, 65 feet; Oriskany sandstone, 5 feet; Lower helderberg, 168 feet; water lime (containing crystals of gypsum) 152 feet; Niagara limestone, 400 feet; Niagara shale, 20 feet; Clinton (red from presence of hematite) 30 feet; Clinton shale, 16 feet; Medina, 59 feet; Hudson River limestone and shale, 85 feet; Hudson River shale, 200 feet; Utica shale, 156 feet; Utica slate, 94 feet; Trenton limestone, 24 feet; total of 1,914 feet.

Given the variety of ecosystem types, it’s not surprising to find a variety of soil types, ranging from fertile, well-drained soils to extremely poorly-drained soils. These soils and slopes are important for consideration by the Albion Department of Parks and Recreation, as they may indicate appropriate locations for buildings and can direct where trails and other features and amenities should be sited.

Prominent soils in Albion include, but are not limited to: Glynwood silt loam, Rawson loam, Morely silt loam, Morley silt clay loam, Pewamo silty clay loam, and Rawson, Morley, and Miami loams.

### Water

Noble County has an abundance of natural and man-made water elements. Elkhart River, including both the north branch and the south branch, is the lone primary river, and is fed by numerous creeks, streams, drainage ways, and other tributaries.

There are also many natural and man-made lakes near Albion, including (but not limited to): Skinner Lake, Sand Lake, Bowen Lake, Long Lake, Mud Lake, Rivir Lake, Millers Lake, Bartley Lake, and Norman Lake.



## Vegetation

Oak/Hickory forests are typical of the drier uplands, whereas Beech/Maple forests are more typical of the lower, mesic sites. In floodplain forests, Sycamore, Elm, Maple, Cottonwood, Hackberry, and Honeylocusts are found as typical. In wetland areas, mosses, sedges, and various shrubs and vines are commonplace. In areas that once supported prairies, remnants of typical prairie plants can still be found.

Albion has recovered from the Emerald Ash Borer problem that plagued the area in recent years. The incorporation of a tree nursery for the town was instrumental to the recovery - there are now zero Ash trees, but they have been replaced with other types of trees.

## MAN-MADE, HISTORY, AND CULTURE

Albion and the surrounding communities in Noble County have seen settlement since 1832 at Wolf Lake, which sparked due to the trail linking Fort Wayne and Goshen. The communities within Noble County serve primarily as farming and manufacturing communities. Chain-O-Lakes State Park provides a well-known landmark that draws visitors from all over the region. Albion considers themselves the “Gateway to Chain-O-Lakes,” which provides them with many tourist opportunities.

### County and Town History

Before European settlement in Noble County, Miami and Pottawatomie Indians were the only residents. In 1838, the majority of those tribes were removed from the area and relocated to reservations west of the Mississippi River. The first European settlement was at Wolf Lake, which was found on the trail that connected Fort Wayne and Goshen. Many of the county’s European settlers arrived between 1830 and 1840 at Perry’s Prairie near Ligonier. The area was free of thick forest and the soil was rich, which is ideal for farming.

Noble County was officially formed in 1836. Albion, which is the county seat of Noble County, was laid out in 1846 and it was incorporated on July 6, 1847. At its peak, Albion’s Courthouse Square and surrounding blocks boasted an Opera House, law offices, a large variety of retail stores, and livery stables (succeeded by service stations). At one time or another, the town also boasted a movie theater, a sweet shop, a jewelry store, a pharmacy, doctors and dentists, a shoe store, barbershops, and more. Albion retained the courthouse, which has been wonderfully maintained, and a sizeable jail facility east of town, as well as a busy industrial park and a weekly newspaper; but, Courthouse Square and its adjoining blocks could still benefit from some “downtown renewal.” One goal of the Super Town of Albion Revitalization (S.T.A.R.) Team is encouraging the community to look back at what the downtown used to be like, and then envisioning what it could be like again.

The S.T.A.R. Team, a volunteer-led affiliate organization of the Courthouse Square Preservation Society, Inc., envisions using a proven program (Main Street) to revitalize Albion’s downtown. Established in 1977 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and operated by the National Main Street Center, the Main Street program emphasizes a four-point strategy – Organization, Promotion, Design/Projects, and Economic Development – which the S.T.A.R. Team implements. Specifically, Main Street program techniques are used for the following: organizing a team of businesses, property owners, bankers, citizens,

public officials, and chambers of commerce; working together on projects and activities to promote historic preservation and downtown beautification; and influencing the downtown economic climate.

In addition to the S.T.A.R. Team, the Albion Parks & Recreation Department is also pleased to serve and enhance the town's history. More specifically, they assist with the organization, setup, and clean-up of several large events, including the Chain-O-Lakes Festival, the Fourth of July Celebration, and the Harvest Festival. In addition, the Albion Parks Department also facilitates decorating for the winter holidays.

## Historical Features

### National Register of Historic Places:

Noble County Courthouse

101 N. Orange St.

Albion, IN

Noble County Sheriff's House/Old Jail Museum

104 W. Main St.

Albion, IN

Albion Courthouse Square Historic District

Roughly bounded by Highland, Oak, and Hazel streets, and the alley east of Orange St.

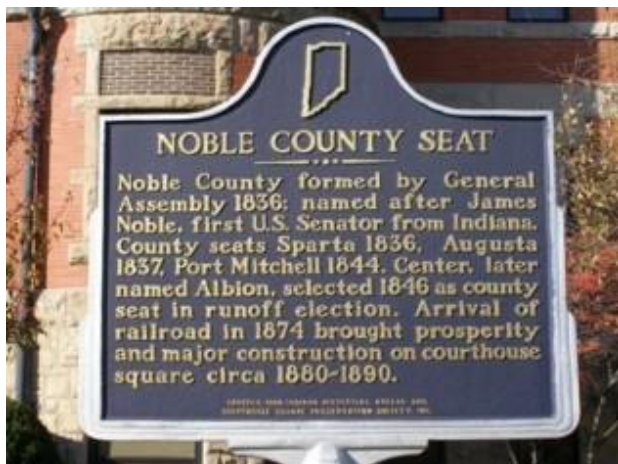
Albion, IN

### Indiana Historical Bureau Historical Marker Sites:

Noble County Seat/Noble County Courthouse

101 N. Orange St.

Albion, IN



## Roads and Highways

The major roads and highways running through Albion include:

- State Road 9 running north-south through the central part of town
- State Road 8 running east-west through the central part of town

## Education

Central Noble School Corporation serves the Town of Albion. The school district includes the following public schools: Central Noble High School, Central Noble Middle School, Albion Elementary School, and Wolf Lake Elementary School.

## Local Amenities and Culture

### Hospitals and Health/Family Services

Albion does not have its own hospital – the closest surrounding hospital is Parkview Noble Hospital, located in Kendallville – however, the town is home to several other facilities specializing in various healthcare-related fields, including:

- Bowen Center, mental health facility
- Northeastern Center of Albion, mental health clinic
- North Ridge Village Nursing and Rehabilitation, nursing home
- Michael Engle, DO, family practice physician

### Libraries

- Noble County Public Library (Central Branch, Albion)

## Arts & Entertainment

Attractions:

- Noble County Courthouse
- Old Jail Museum
- Chain-O-Lakes State Park
- Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

Festivals & Events:

- Chain-O-Lakes Festival – Held the first week of June
- Fourth of July Celebration – Fireworks held at Hidden Diamonds Park
- Harvest Festival – Held in mid-September at Noble County Saddle Club

## Other Recreational Opportunities:

In addition to the Albion parks, the following recreational opportunities are offered near Albion:

- Chain-O-Lakes State Park
- Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

## ACCESSIBILITY

The Town of Albion's Transition Plan, which serves as a planning and implementation reference, with regards to INDOT's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) design guidelines, can be found in "Appendix A", from pages 44-53. While the plan does include an ADA Coordinator and a grievance methodology, the town still needs to include more public information regarding accessibility, as well as needing to increase the scope of their self-evaluations to encompass the non-street public facilities, such as parks, public buildings, public restrooms, programs and services access, site furnishings, etc.

The Town of Albion does offer a sidewalk network that connects its parks, schools, businesses, and other public facilities within town limits. In fact, a new section of sidewalk was recently completed that provides pedestrians/bikes a safer means of reaching Hidden Diamonds Park.

The new sidewalk begins on the southeast side of State Road 9 at the CSX Railroad crossing and runs south to Weber Road, then continues along the south side of Weber Road to the entrance to Hidden Diamonds. The sections of sidewalk along State Road 9 and Weber Road are ADA-compliant; however, some sections of sidewalk along the entrance drive to Hidden Diamonds fall short of the width required for ADA compliance due to the addition of support railing on one or both sides.



ADA-compliant sections of the new sidewalk: [left] along the east side of St. Rd. 9, from the CSX Railroad Crossing to Weber Rd.; [right] along the south side of Weber Rd., from St. Rd. 9 to the entrance drive to Hidden Diamonds

In addition to providing individual descriptions of the town's three parks, not only does "Section Four: Park Inventory & Recommendations" identify recent accessibility improvements at each respective park, but it outlines those areas that still fall short of the guidelines for accessibility as well. Maps, pictures, and descriptions offering details pertaining to accessibility of/to various aspects of the parks, can be found at the following: pages 30-34 for Hidden Diamonds, pages 35-36 for Owen, and pages 37-39 for Valleyview.



## SECTION THREE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



## SURVEY RESULTS

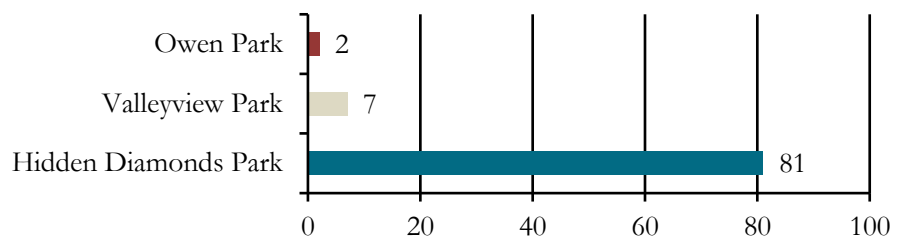
A survey, consisting of eight questions and an open response category, was available for users of Albion parks beginning July 14, 2016. The survey was available as both a hard copy and an online version. The online version was presented through SurveyMonkey and the link was shared through the Albion Parks & Recreation Facebook page. The online survey received a total of 88 responses. The hard copy was distributed through the local newspaper, *Albion New Era*, and was also available at local government facilities. A copy of the newspaper posting has been posted in Appendix B. Only one hard copy response was delivered to the Albion Parks and Recreation Department. The survey was closed October 7, 2016, and the final count was 89 responses. The results of the survey helped shape the action plan provided in Section Five. The parks board considered this information, as well as information provided during public meetings, while forming the action plan for the next five years. Below, are the results of the survey:

### Survey Results

#### Question 1: Please check the Albion park you visit most often:

Everyone that participated in the survey answered this question, and it was abundantly clear that the park visited most frequently is Hidden Diamonds Park. Hidden Diamonds offers space for many different activities, such as trail usage, a splash pad, various recreational fields, playgrounds, and pavilions. Given those amenities, it is easy to see why Hidden Diamonds is popular among parkgoers. Valleyview and Owen parks on the other hand, did not receive high response rates – the limited visitation in these parks may be due to their lack of activity.

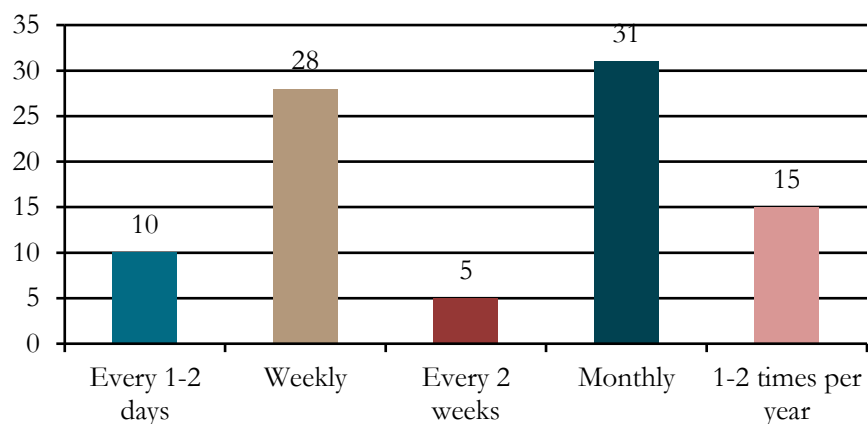
Figure 3.1: Park Visitation



#### Question 2: How often do you visit Albion parks?

Each of the survey-takers responded to this question as well, as depicted in Figure 3.2. Nearly 40 respondents visit the parks on a weekly basis, with 10 visiting every 1-2 days. In addition, just over 30 respondents said they visited the parks monthly. Based on the responses, it is fair to say that Albion parks are frequently used, which is important for Albion Parks Department to know so that they can properly provide for the frequent uses by Albion residents.

Figure 3.2: Visitation Frequency





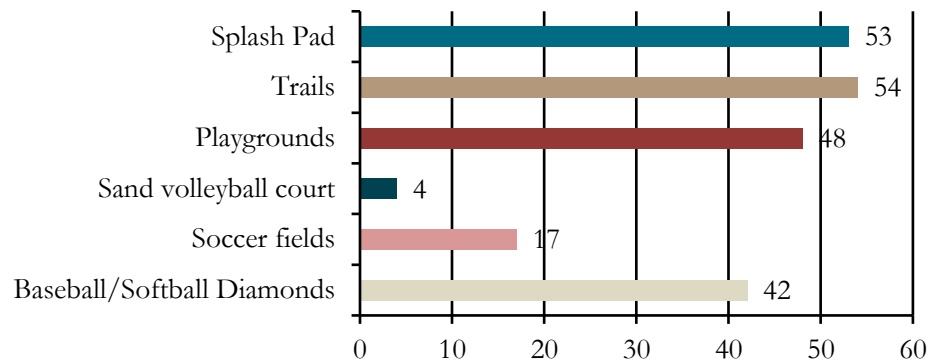
### Question 3: What facilities in these parks are most popular with you, your family? (select all that apply)

When prompted, 87

respondents answered this survey question, with their responses making it apparent that the trails, splash pad, and playgrounds are the most sought after activities in the Albion parks system. The splash pad and trail system are only offered at Hidden Diamonds, which further

explains the responses given for Question 1. Park patrons also enjoy using the baseball/softball diamonds. When asked if there were other activities, besides the ones listed, respondents answered with the following: the 9/11 Memorial; disc golf; the pavilions and other quiet places to meditate and/or relax; and enjoying the surroundings while walking or sitting.

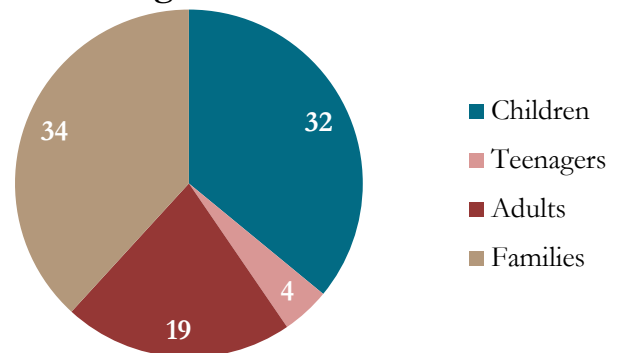
**Figure 3.3: Park Facility Usage**



### Question 4: In your household, who is the most frequent user of the Albion parks?

Figure 3.4 depicts that children and families are the largest groups using the Albion parks system. With only 4.5% of the users being teenagers and 21% of the users being adults, the parks system should continue to target children and families with activities and facilities. Should teenagers and adults become more interested in utilizing park facilities and programs, then the Albion Parks Department should consider providing for them more.

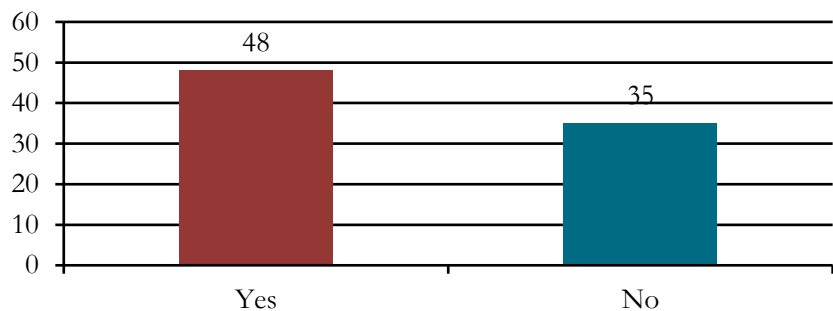
**Figure 3.4: Park Users**



### Question 5: Are parks and programs provided by the Town of Albion adequately advertised?

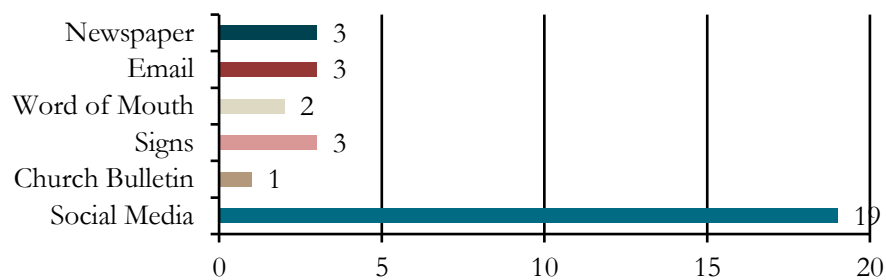
Nearly 50% of the park users, who responded to the survey, agree that the parks are adequately advertised, as shown in Figure 3.5. The results identify the advertisement for park programs and events as one area with room for improvement. Via an open response section, the survey asked park users to specify how they currently receive information

**Figure 3.5: Park Advertisement**



regarding Albion Parks & Recreation events and programs. The answers can be seen in Figure 3.6. This data encourages the use of social media to relay information to park patrons.

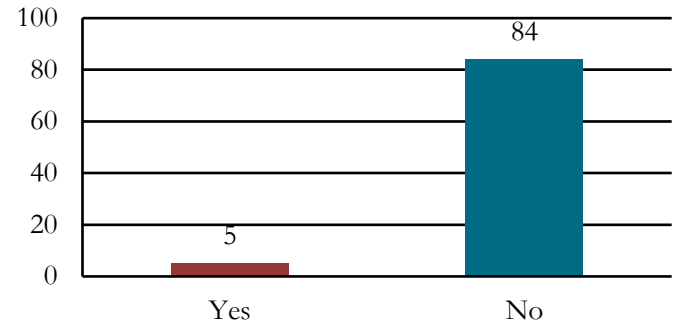
Figure 3.6: Information Sources



**Question 6: Have you ever encountered any physical barriers in the parks that prevented you or your family members from participating?**

This question was meant to investigate possible problems and solutions relating to accessibility within the parks system. Figure 3.7 shows that most respondents do not have problems navigating Albion parks. Those who answered ‘yes’ were asked to specify any accessibility problems they encountered in the parks. Most of the responses involved the distance to the ball diamonds from the parking lots at Hidden Diamonds. Comments provided were as follows:

Figure 3.7: Park Accessibility



- “Parking”
- “The baseball field at hidden diamonds flood way to easy”
- “It is very difficult for someone who has a problem with walking to get to the ball diamonds. When I was on a walker then a cane it was a looong way to walk so I did not go. Even as I became able to walk on my own, it is still kinda hard but I do it.”
- “Hidden Diamonds – unable to walk to bleachers at baseball diamonds and can’t park close enough to see the game.”
- “Almost left the splash pad because people were smoking inside the gated area.”

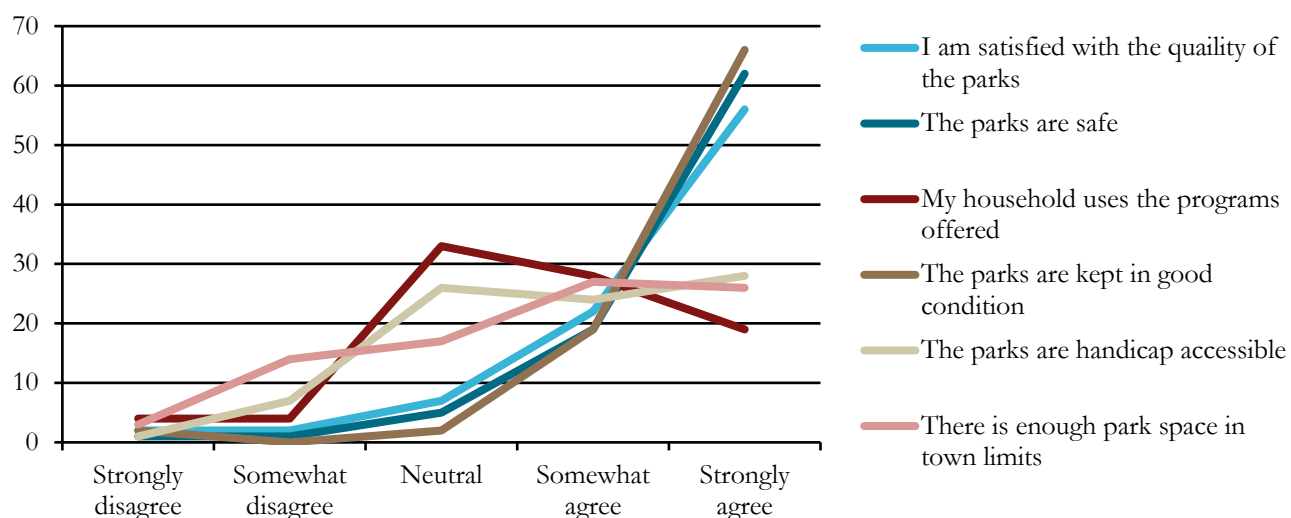
These comments provide Albion Parks & Recreation Department with accessibility feedback that can guide them when planning further maintenance and improvements to the Albion parks system.

**Question 7: Please rate the following statements in terms of Albion parks:**

When prompted, survey respondents marked the following statements, as seen in Table 3.8, with any of the following: strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, neutral, somewhat agree, and strongly agree. This question helps decipher attitudes of park patrons regarding parks in Albion. Figure 3.9 depicts the data shown in Table 3.8, thus providing a side-by-side comparison of answers provided by park users. It is clear that park users strongly agree that they are satisfied with the quality of parks and agree the parks are kept in good condition. They are also satisfied with the safety in the parks. This data begins to show that not many park patrons either participate in the programs offered or simply are unaware of these programs. This is a large opportunity that the Albion Parks Department can build upon. The data in Question 5 suggests that there is room for improvement in terms of advertising for the parks. Data from Question 7 suggests that advertising the many programs may be a good starting point.

**Table 3.8:** Opinions about Existing Conditions

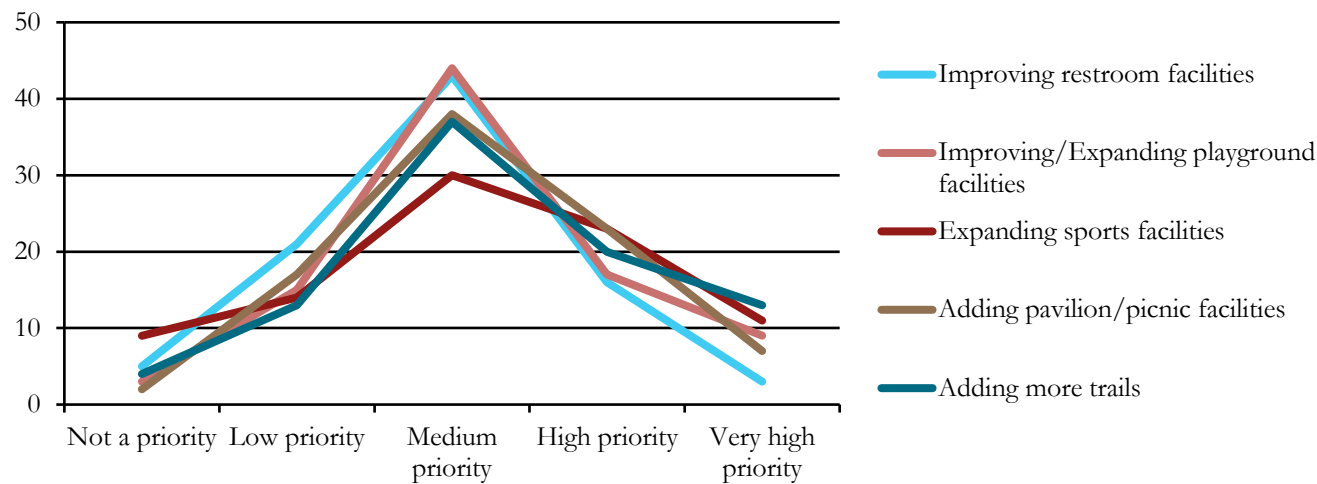
	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	Total
I am satisfied with the quality of parks	2	2	7	22	56	89
The parks are safe	1	1	5	19	62	88
My household uses the programs offered	4	4	33	28	19	88
The parks are kept in good condition	2	0	2	19	66	89
The parks are handicap accessible	1	7	26	24	28	86
There is enough park space in town limits	3	14	17	27	26	87

**Figure 3.9:** Opinions about Existing Conditions**Question 8: What priority are the following potential improvements?****Table 3.10:** Potential Improvements

	Not a priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority	Total
Improving restroom facilities	5	21	43	16	3	88
Improving/expanding playground facilities	3	15	44	17	9	88
Expanding sports facilities	9	14	30	23	11	87
Adding pavilion/picnic facilities	2	17	38	23	7	87
Adding more trails	4	13	37	20	13	87

Data from this question, shown in Table 3.10, suggests that most are fairly satisfied with the existing facilities provided in the Albion parks system. Most of these suggested improvements were rated as a medium priority. None of the suggested improvements were ranked significantly higher than the others, however, expanding sports facilities ranks slightly higher than the rest. Figure 3.11 provides a graphic visualization of this data, making it easier to compare the answers. It appears that park patrons will appreciate any improvements to Albion parks, as long as the parks are well-maintained.

Figure 3.11: Potential Improvements

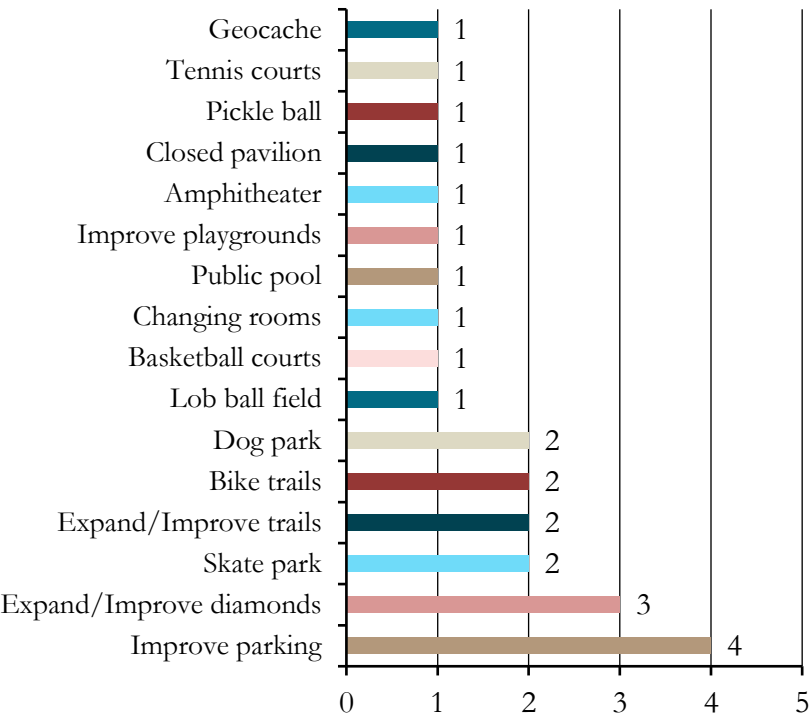


Question 8 continued by providing an open response section for those who would like to see improvement in a specific park. Complete responses to this question can be found in Appendix B and the generalized responses can be found under Additional Comments combined with that data.

**Additional Comments:**

This section allowed for survey respondents to openly give their feedback in regards to the Albion parks system. Most of the feedback could be divided into three categories: suggestions, negative comments, and compliments. All of the feedback can be found in Appendix B. Figure 3.12 displays the suggestions provided by respondents. Improved parking was the suggestion that received the most comments, so park users would clearly appreciate parking enhancements, especially at Hidden Diamonds. After parking improvements, survey responses showed that expansion and improvement of ball diamonds was of significant interest. After that, comments varied from brand new recreational activities to expansions on existing facilities.

Figure 3.12: Respondents' Suggestions



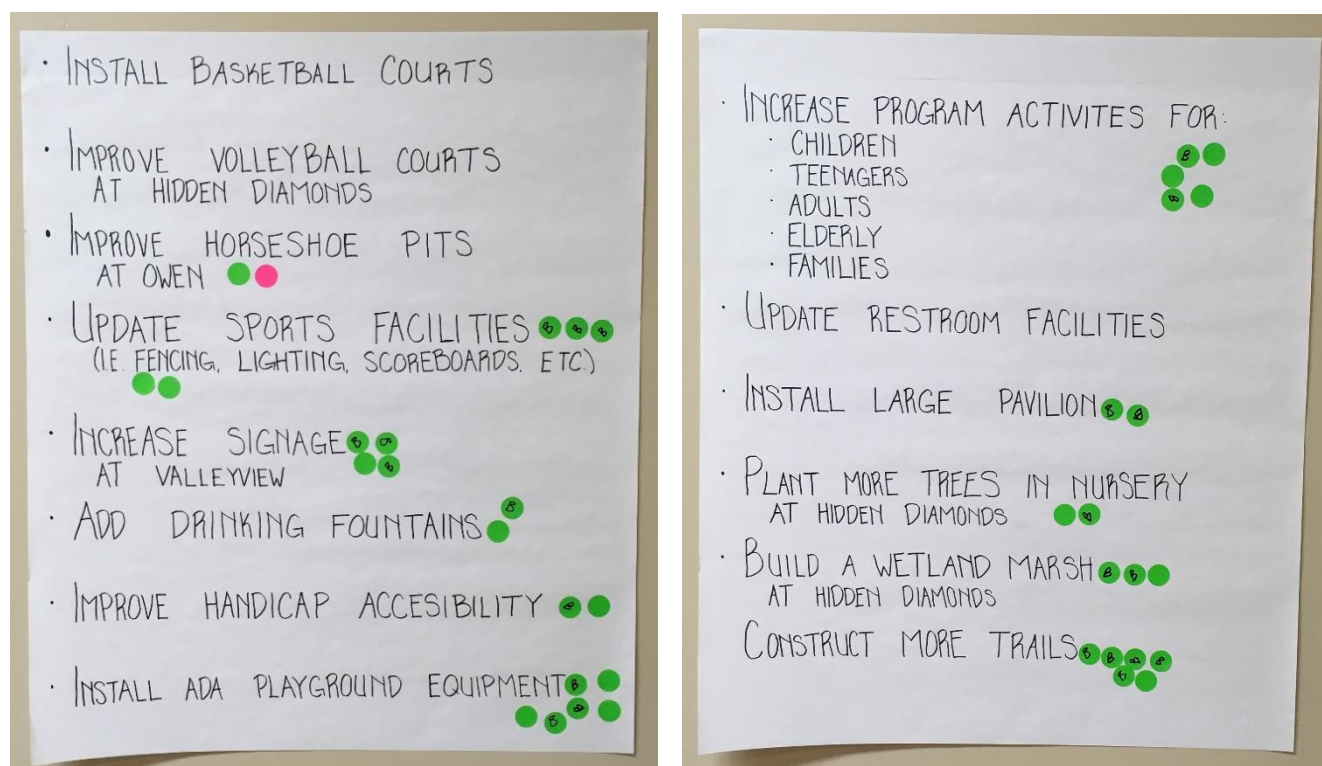
## PUBLIC MEETINGS

Two public meetings were held in 2016 to listen to park users' goals and wishes for the next five years. There were two or three park users in attendance – Attendee Lists and Meeting Minutes can be found in Appendix C. Ultimately, a public hearing will be held in order to present the final plan for approval.

### First Meeting – July/August 2016

A public meeting was scheduled for July 11, 2016, at 6 p.m., in the Albion Municipal Building. Due to the lack of attendance, the meeting was rescheduled for August 8, 2016. It was attended by Albion Parks Board members, Region 3-A Development & Regional Planning Commission, and park users. The meeting was advertised in the *Albion New Era* on June 29, 2016, and July 20, 2016. Publisher affidavits can be found in Appendix C.

Region 3-A prepared an activity to get users involved and to have their opinions heard. Region 3-A provided a list of possible actions the parks department could take and had park users and board members place colored dots to gather their opinions about certain actions. Green dots were in support of that action item and pink dots were in opposition. Figures 3.13 and 3.14 show the outcome of the activity.



**Figures 3.13 and 3.14: Outcome of August Meeting Activity**

Table 3.15 breaks down and ranks the outcome of this activity. Constructing more trails and installing ADA playground equipment were the top priorities from this group, followed closely by updating sports facilities. Building a wetland marsh at Hidden Diamonds, as well as increasing signage, were two other topics that interested this group. It is important to note that installing basketball courts received a pink dot, due to the fact that a basketball court was already planned for Hidden Diamonds, and was recently completed.

**Table 3.15: Public Meeting Activity**

Action Item	In Favor	Opposed
Construct More Trails	6	
Install ADA Playground Equipment	6	
Update Sports Facilities	5	
Increase Program Activities For:		
Children	2	
Teenagers	1	
Adults	2	
Elderly	0	
Families	0	
Build a Wetland Marsh	3	
Increase Signage	3	
Improve Handicap Accessibility	2	
Install Large Pavilion	2	
Add Drinking Fountains	2	
Plant Trees in Nursery	2	
Improve Horseshoe Pits	1	1
Improve Volleyball Courts	-	-
Update Restroom Facilities	-	-
Install Basketball Courts	-	-

Additional comments included one patron stating that he was not interested in seeing more signage. He also stated that he would like to see more natural development and less man-made development. For example, he was in favor of creating a wetland marsh at Hidden Diamonds, but did not like the idea of providing additional sports facilities.

## Second Meeting – October 2016

Between the two public meetings, the board met and created a tentative action plan based on the survey results that were coming in, as well as the results from the first public meeting.

On October 10, 2016, a second public meeting was held to present the final survey results to interested parties, in addition to finalizing the action plan the parks board had been working on. Members from the Albion Parks Board, Region 3-A, and other interested parties were in attendance. The meeting was advertised in the *Albion New Era* newspaper on September 28, 2016. Publisher affidavits can be found in Appendix C.

Meeting participants were pleased with the outcome of the survey and the action plan that the board members created. With no surprise results from the survey, the board finalized the action plan as it had been presented. There were no other suggestions or recommendations made by meeting participants.

## NEEDS ANALYSIS

The Albion Parks Board and Region 3-A discussed the future of the Albion parks system based on the survey results and public hearing comments. Overall, park users seem to be very satisfied with the quality and safety of the parks. However, there were several points that were highlighted through the survey, in addition to those presented during the public meetings, that the parks board should take into consideration over the next five years.



Based on the survey results, and comments made during public hearings, it is apparent that park users would like to see better accessibility and more opportunities for handicap patrons. One great way to provide for disabled park users is to provide ADA accessible playground equipment. This provides recreational activities for all users, regardless of their capabilities. Question 6 from the survey highlighted an accessibility issue several users face at Hidden Diamonds Park. The walk from the parking lot to the bleachers is quite long, especially for those with a disability. The Albion Parks Board is encouraged to look for a solution for this problem, whether it be providing personal assistance for those who struggle, or simply make sure that the path is as accessible as it can be.

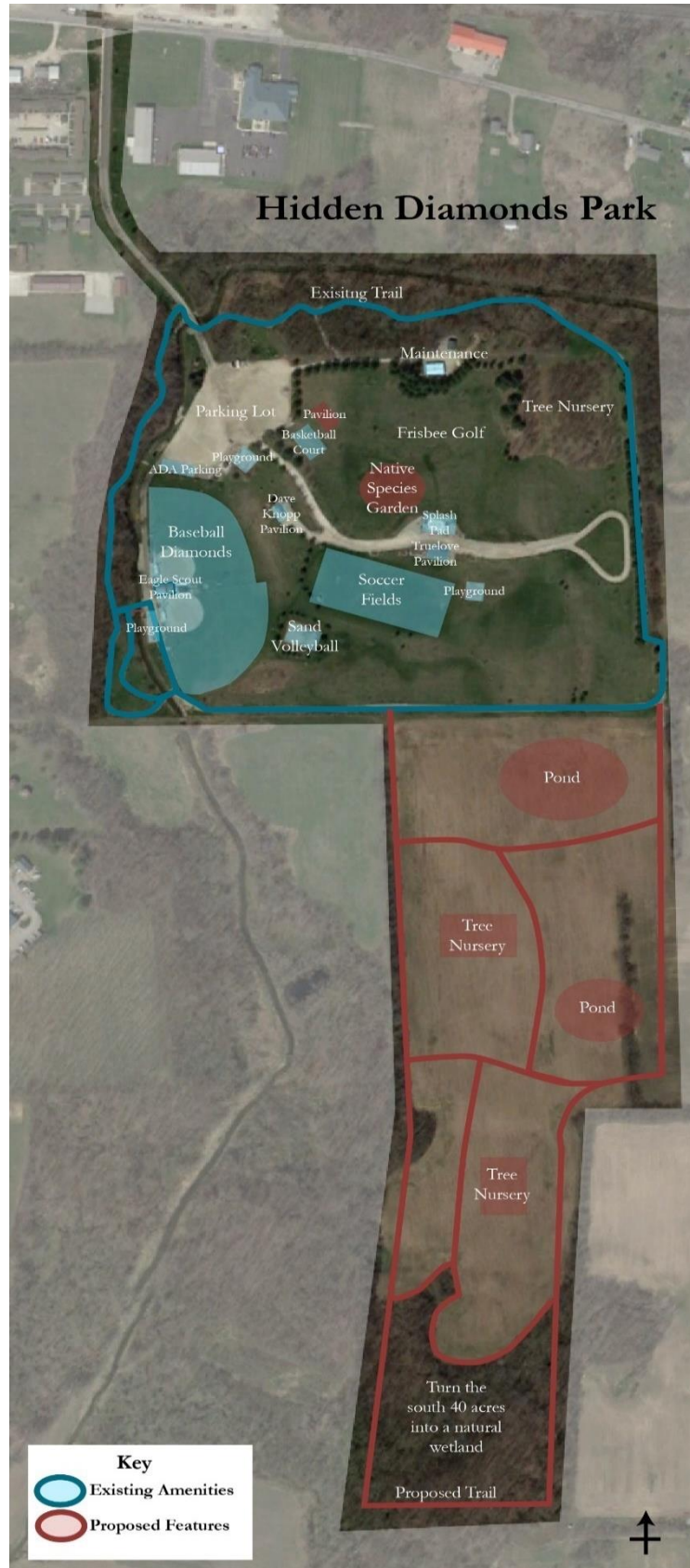
Park users expressed their concerns in the existing advertising efforts for the parks in Question 5 of the survey. More than 30% of survey responses said they did not think the parks and programs were advertised adequately. It is encouraged that the parks board and the parks department consider advertising events and programs more. Utilizing the Albion Parks & Recreation Department's social media pages is one of the best ways to reach park users, in addition to posting in local newspapers, emailing interested parties, and increasing signage.

Trail usage was one of the most popular activities, based on survey results and comments made by the public. It is apparent that park users would like to see more trails throughout the park system. One great way to incorporate more trail mileage would be to create a wetland marsh on the new property at Hidden Diamonds Park, thus creating a more extensive trail system through this part.

## SECTION FOUR: PARK INVENTORY AND RECOMMENDATIONS



# HIDDEN DIAMONDS PARK





## HIDDEN DIAMONDS PARK

**Location:** 200 Weber Road

**Size:** 89 Acres

### Description

Hidden Diamonds Park is located on the south side of Albion. The park can be accessed from Weber Road via the long drive south of the Hidden Diamonds sign. The road passes over Croft Ditch and enters a large, gravel parking lot. Hidden Diamonds, the largest of the town's three parks, provides many amenities and recreational opportunities.

Park users traveling in a vehicle can either stop in the gravel parking lot, or continue driving through the park via a gravel road that leads to the soccer fields, splash pad, basketball court, and an open-air pavilion. The parking lot does offer handicap-accessible, paved parking spots near the walkway that leads to the baseball diamonds.

Ten camp sites are available for park users on the north side of the parking lot. Five of the sites are primitive, meaning that they only provide room for overnight equipment, while the other five sites are full-hookup, which means they provide on-site hookups for water and electric.

East of the parking lot is the paved walk that leads to the two baseball diamonds. The diamonds feature wooden bleachers, covered dugouts, lights, and electronic scoreboards. Located between the two baseball fields is the Eagle Scout Pavilion, which hosts handicap-accessible bathrooms, a concession stand, and a covered picnic area with six picnic tables available. While the baseball diamonds attract more users, there are four other sports facility options within Hidden Diamonds.



The drive and sidewalk access to Hidden Diamonds Park



Overlooking the baseball diamonds from Dave Knopp Pavilion

Also popular are the two soccer fields, which are centrally located in the park, featuring wooden bleachers and electronic scoreboards as well. Nearby, the Truelove Pavilion provides a sheltered picnic area and concession stand, as well as handicap-accessible restrooms; however, it is acknowledged that the sidewalk leading to and in front of the restrooms should be widened at some point to provide an access route that meets the guidelines for accessibility.

Between the soccer fields and the parking lot is a large, open field designated as a disc golf course. Eighteen numbered tees are spread throughout the field for park patrons to use as the course. Two sand volleyball courts lie south of the disc golf course and east of the soccer fields. However, the courts are seldom used and have fallen into poor condition.

The basketball court, which is the newest sports facility within Hidden Diamonds, was completed in the fall of 2016. It features two goal posts with netted-baskets and glass backboards. Park users can access the court from both the parking lot and access drive via a paved walk, although the walk does slope rather steeply.



A section of the disc golf course east of the parking lot



Children enjoying the splash pad on a warm July day

Parkgoers will find a splash pad located between the parking lot and the Truelove Pavilion. The Albion Lions Club financed the splash pad, which was constructed in 2013. It is open to visitors from the end of May through the beginning of September. On warm days, it sees a lot of use and is very crowded; in fact, during the summer months, it is the most sought-after amenity in the parks system. The splash pad is fenced in, and has a gate encouraging children to stay in that area. For users' convenience, several tables and benches are also available within the fenced area.

Aside from the Truelove Pavilion and the Eagle Scout Pavilion, Hidden Diamonds also features the Dave Knopp Pavilion, which can be reserved by park users for the minimum daily cost of \$35. This pavilion is located on a hill between the baseball diamonds and the disc golf course. It can be accessed by vehicle via the access road that connects the parking lot and the splash pad.



In addition, Hidden Diamonds offers three different playgrounds that are spread throughout the park. The first playground is located near the parking lot, just past the handicap parking spots. The second playground is located near the baseball diamonds, giving younger children an opportunity to play in a designated area while games are ongoing. The third playground can be found near the soccer fields. This playground also gives younger children an opportunity to play in a designated area while games are taking place. Each of the playgrounds provide activities for children of all ages, and each offer handicap-accessible equipment; unfortunately, none of the current paths/routes to the playgrounds meet the criteria necessary for accessibility, but the parks board is aware of this issue.



This sign for the walking trail is located near the park entrance

Hidden Diamonds is the only park in the system featuring a trail. The existing trail encompasses the park and allows users to travel through lightly-wooded areas and open fields. This trail is used by many park patrons especially through the spring, summer, and fall months. On the north and west sides of the park, the trail runs adjacent to Croft Ditch. Albion Parks Department is currently extending the trail to land on the south side of the property, which consists of nearly 40 acres.

The property on the south side of the park was purchased in 2005 with hopes that the parks department would manage it and restore its natural environment. The goal

for the property remains to restore the natural amenities and encourage native species growth. Ultimately, the property will be a wetland marsh featuring trails, tree nurseries, and three ponds.

### Park Recommendations

The parks board should focus their energy developing the 40 acres of land on the south side of the property. The survey and public hearing responses made it clear that park users enjoy the existing trail system and would prefer to see more of a natural habitat, as opposed to the traditional park. Developing this area into a natural landscape would not only benefit the surrounding land, but would serve as a “get-away” for park users to enjoy as well.

Given the overwhelming number of users Hidden Diamonds already experiences, one option for encouraging further use of the park would be to construct a pavilion that can seat



The basketball court was added in November 2016



300 people or more. Not only would such an endeavor benefit the park overall, but more specifically, it would be a great addition to go along with the new basketball court.

When the splash pad is busy, there is limited seating room available for those not partaking in the splash pad itself. Adding a concrete pad next to the existing area would allow for additional seating, as well as provide additional opportunities to offer some shade for users to take breaks from the sun.

Currently, there are two bridges over Croft Ditch allowing park users to enjoy the outside edge of the park. An additional bridge would create more accessibility and encourage park users to explore more of the park.



This bridge allows trail users to cross Croft Ditch near the baseball diamonds



Park patrons in vehicles may access Hidden Diamonds via this bridge spanning Croft Ditch near the parking lot



This section of new sidewalk, leading from the Hidden Diamonds entrance sign, along the south side of Weber Rd. to St. Rd. 9, does meet the ADA requirements for sidewalk width



View of the new sidewalk along the entrance drive, looking back toward Weber Rd.



OWEN PARK





## OWEN PARK

**Location:** 510 East Main Street

**Size:** 1 Acre

### Description

Owen Park is located on the east side of Albion, across the street from Albion Elementary School. Survey results show that this park is rarely used. There isn't an actual parking lot for parkgoers, so they must park on the side of the road if they wish to use Owen Park. Once they have arrived at the park, park patrons have the choice of walking down a staircase or a grass-covered hill, as Owen Park is not handicap-accessible.

At the center of the park stands a moderate-sized, open-air pavilion. Interested park users can rent this pavilion for a minimum of \$35 per day. Located near the pavilion are two memorials: a 9/11 Memorial, featuring replica tridents of the two remaining tridents from the September 11<sup>th</sup> attack, and the Charles Owen Memorial, which is in honor of a local scoutmaster.

While Owen Park does not offer any recreational sports fields, it does provide a horseshoe pit and shuffleboard. Those are the only recreational opportunities that Owen Park provides; however, they are in poor condition.

There is one restroom with a flush toilet available in Owen Park, but it is not handicap-accessible. There is also one water fountain available to park patrons.

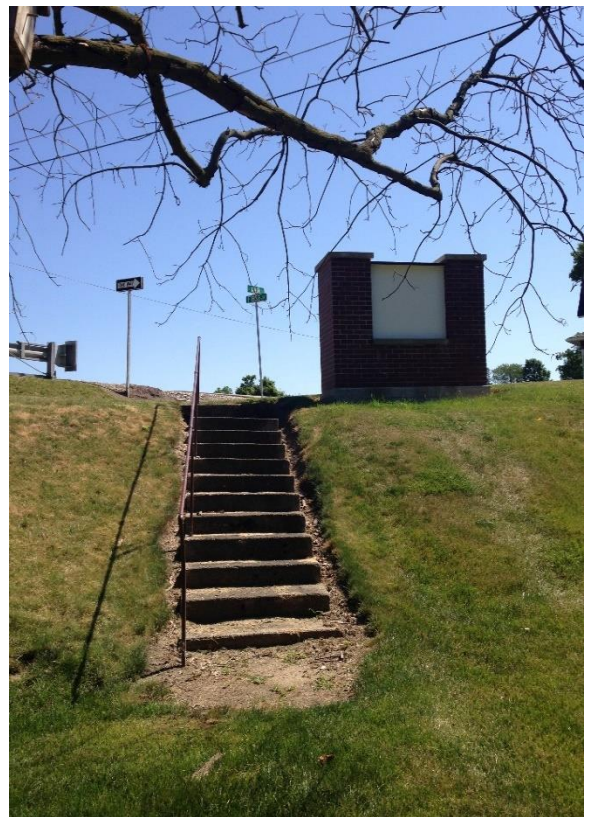
### Park Recommendations

To make the park handicap-accessible, the parks board should consider pouring a concrete walk that meets ADA requirements.

The board should also consider offering other recreational activities to draw more attention to this park. For example, a high-end playground or a dog park would fit with Owen Park, and would potentially bring more users as well.



View of Owen Park from the grass-covered hill



Stairs leading down to Owen Park from the sidewalk

VALLEYVIEW PARK





## VALLEYVIEW PARK

**Location:** 411 West Main Street

**Size:** 2 Acres

### Description

Valleyview Park is located on the west side of Albion near the Rose Hill Cemetery. This park is mostly used for baseball games. Valleyview Park can be accessed from Main Street (or W 300 N). The entrance immediately opens into a gravel parking lot, which does provide one paved, handicap-accessible parking space near the concession stand.

The concession stand offers a variety of food and drinks during games. Attached to the concession stand are two handicap-accessible bathrooms with flush toilets. The second floor of the concession stand is intended to be used as an announcer's booth for games; however, due to its condition, it is currently only used for storage.



The baseball diamond at Valleyview

Valleyview is primarily used for baseball games, and is at its busiest when there is a game in play. The diamond is completely fenced in and it has a backstop to protect spectators from foul balls and wild pitches. Valleyview also features covered dugouts and an electronic scoreboard. Wooden bleachers surround the dugouts providing seating for spectators.



A view of Valleyview's playground and pavilion

Valleyview also provides entertainment for young children in the form of a playground located on the north side of the park. The playground is heavily used when games are being played, but any other time it rarely gets used. Situated near the playground is a small open-air pavilion, with one picnic table providing seating in the shade.

There is a maintenance barn east of the parking lot at Valleyview, but it is only for use by the Albion Parks & Recreation Department.



## Park Recommendations

Currently, the parking situation at Valleyview is difficult for park users to navigate, especially during baseball games. Should property to the east of the park (beyond the baseball diamond's outfield fence) ever become available, the parks board should consider creating additional parking to alleviate the current parking concerns.

Creating a concrete or asphalt pad at the baseball diamonds would provide for additional ADA seating, while installing a paved path to the playground, as well as adding ADA playground equipment, would also make Valleyview more handicap-accessible.

Based on the lack of use and condition of the second story announcer's booth, the parks board should consider removing it while updating the roof of the concession stand.



The concession stand at Valleyview

## SECTION FIVE: ACTION PLAN



## ACTION PLAN FOR ALBION PARKS & RECREATION

Below is the final action plan approved by the Albion Parks Board upon reviewing the survey results and hearing public comments in August and October. Each action item was given a cost estimate, potential funding sources, and the board's anticipated year of completion. The more time there is until the anticipated completion year, the less priority there currently is for that action plan item. Therefore, the parks board and the parks department will focus their energy on completing action items with closer completion dates.

Year	Goal	Funding
<b>System-wide</b>		
Ongoing	Improve possible ADA issues throughout the parks	\$50,000 State Funding/Budget
2022	Install ADA playground equipment	\$10,000 Donations/Eagle Scout
2018-23	Add new mulch in the playground areas	\$2,000 Donation Fund
2018-23	Introduce educational programs	\$3,000-5,000 Dekko Grant/Budget
2018-23	Install new signage	\$3,000 Budget
2019	Place security cameras at key locations to increase safety	\$10,000 State Grant
2018	Discuss land donation with adjacent property owners	\$50,000 Donation/LWCF Grant
<b>Hidden Diamonds Park</b>		
2017-18	Hire engineer to plan future development on south 40 acres	\$50,000 Budget/Grant
2019	Develop new property with walking trails, wetlands, tree nursery, board walks, etc.	\$250,000 LWCF Grant
2018	Install a two-acre garden with flowers and plants native to Indiana	\$1,000 Donations
2018	Place educational plant signage to educate users walking in the park	\$1,000 Eagle Scout Project
2020	Add concrete or asphalt pad for ADA seating at ball diamonds	\$10,000 Budget/Grants
Ongoing	Update fencing around the ball diamonds as needed	\$5,000-10,000 Budget-Little League
2019	Install new farm fence	\$3,000 Eagle Scout Project
2019	Construct a bridge over the ditch connecting walkers to the new sidewalk	\$10,000 State Grant
2018	Add concrete pad next to the splash pad for additional seating and shade	\$10,000 Donations
2020	Build a pavilion to seat 300 people near the new basketball court	\$80,000 Donations/Grants

Valleyview Park		
2018	Add concrete or asphalt pad for ADA seating at ball diamonds	\$6,000 Grants/Budget
Ongoing	Update fencing around the ball diamonds as needed	\$6,000 Budget
2018	Remove the second story announcing booth above the concession stands	\$3,000 Budget
Owen Park		
2018	Consider the possibility of creating a dog park within the boundaries	\$10,000 Eagle Scout Project



## SECTION SIX: APPENDICES





## APPENDIX A: TOWN OF ALBION ADA TRANSITION PLAN



### Transition Plan

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#### Americans with Disabilities Act

Stefen Wynn  
7/25/16

This document will provide a planning and implementation guide for the Town of Albion, Indiana. It establishes the Town's ongoing commitment to the development, maintenance, and inclusion of policies, programs, and facilities for all of its citizens.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

### ADA Overview

Enacted on July 26, 1990 and amended effective January 1, 2009, as written and implemented, The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability.

The ADA is divided into five sections covering the following topics:

- Title I: Employment
- Title II: State and Local Government
- Title III: Public Accommodations
- Title IV: Telecommunications
- Title V: Transportation and Miscellaneous Provisions

### “Disability” Under the ADA

The ADA only applies to persons who meet the definition of, “disabled” under the Act. A person is considered disabled, and so protected under the ADA, if he, or she either actually has, or is thought to have, a physical, or mental impairment that substantially limits what the ADA calls a, “major life activity.” Major life activities are the basic components of any person’s life – including walking, talking, seeing, and learning. If a person has an impairment that substantially limits his, or her ability to perform one, or more of these activities, that person is considered disabled under the ADA.

The ADA does not specifically name all of the impairments that are covered, but common examples of disabilities include confinement to a wheelchair, reliance on assistive devices such as canes and walkers, blindness, deafness, a learning disability, and certain kinds of mental illness.

### ADA Title I: Employment

Title I of the ADA requires employers with 15, or more employees to provide qualified individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to benefit from the full range of employment-related opportunities available to others. For example, it prohibits discrimination in recruitment, hiring, promotions, training, pay, social activities, and other privileges of employment. It restricts questions that can be asked about an applicant’s disability before a job offer is made, and it requires that employers make reasonable accommodation to the known physical, or mental limitations of otherwise qualified individuals with disabilities, unless it results in undue hardship.

### ADA Title II: State and Local Government Activities

Title II of the ADA covers all activities of state, and local governments regardless of the government entity’s size, or receipt of federal funding. Title II requires that state, and local governments give people with disabilities an equal opportunity to benefit from all of their programs, services, and activities (e.g. public education, employment, transportation, recreation, healthcare, social services, courts, voting, and town meetings).

State, and local governments are required to follow specific architectural standards in the new construction, and alteration of their buildings. They also must relocate programs, or otherwise provide access in inaccessible older buildings, and communicate effectively with people who have hearing, vision, or speech disabilities. Public entities are not required to take actions that would result in undue financial, and administrative burdens. They are required to make reasonable modification to policies, practices, and procedures where necessary to avoid discrimination, unless they can demonstrate that doing so would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity being provided.

### **Transition Plan**

The Town of Albion is covered under the ADA, Title I Employment, and Title II, Programs, services, and activities. The ADA requires the Town to make all of its programs, services, and activities readily accessible to, and useable by qualified persons with disabilities when the programs, services, and activities are viewed in their entirety. This Transition Plan is the cornerstone to ensuring, and documenting the Town's effort to create, and maintain inclusion as mandated by the ADA.

This document will guide the planning, and implementation of necessary street, and sidewalk modifications, programs, and facility modifications over the next several years. The ADA self-evaluation, and Transition Plan is significant in that it establishes the Town's ongoing commitment to the development, and maintenance of policies, programs, and facilities that include all of its citizens. The final product is a working document to be modified as standards change, and when barriers are removed, or alterations are made.

The Transition Plan was submitted to public hearing, and upon its passage on 12/11/2012 by the Town Council of the Town of Albion, Indiana was made a public document, available at the Albion Municipal Building. Any comments, additions, or suggestions about the plan may be directed to the Town Manager/ADA Coordinator.

**Stefen Wynn**  
**ADA Coordinator/Town Manager**  
**Town of Albion, Indiana**  
**211 E. Park Dr.**  
**PO Box 27**  
**Albion, IN. 46701**  
**(260) 636-2246**  
[albionmanager@frontier.com](mailto:albionmanager@frontier.com)

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2012-17**  
**ADA/504 TRANSITION PLAN OF ALBION, INDIANA**

A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Albion, Noble County, State of Indiana, acknowledging past practices that identify and address barriers and converting these practices into a written "ADA/504 Transition Plan of Albion, Indiana" for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, (hereinafter referred to as ADA), and with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act, (hereinafter referred to as Section 504).

WHEREAS, the Albion Town Council confirms the following timeline:

Pre-2003	Town works with property owners to replace sidewalks.
2004	Town implements Sidewalk Program and forms a Sidewalk Committee who actively identifies and removes barriers for persons with disabilities. Concentration is on school routes and routes to public places and/or public buildings.
2008	Council appoints Town Manager as ADA/504 Coordinator.
2011	Town Manager completes newly required training to become the INDOT Certified Local Public Agency (LPA) contact for Albion.
2011	Complaint system activated on <a href="http://www.albion-in.org">www.albion-in.org</a> website. ADA/504 Complaints shall contain the name and address of the person filing it and a brief description of the alleged violation. The ADA Coordinator will investigate the complaint and make a written report within 30 days from the receipt.
2012	Council adopts Resolution 2012-17 as written policy formally incorporating all current and past practices to be known as "ADA/504 Transition Plan of Albion, Indiana"
Jan. 2013	Website updated to include Accommodations language and related information for persons who request special accommodations to attend public meetings or to receive public services offered by the Town.
Aug. 2013	Sidewalk Committee completes Self-Evaluation and Inventory of all facilities, programs, policies and activities to determine if there are any remaining access barriers for persons with disabilities.
Dec. 2013	ADA/504 Transition Plan of Albion, Indiana is revised to include plan for removing the access barriers identified by Sidewalk Committee. Plan will include a schedule for improvements needed and an estimated budget to complete.

Annually ADA Coordinator and Sidewalk Committee will reevaluate the ADA/504 Transition Plan of Albion, Indiana and update as needed.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Albion, Noble County, State of Indiana that this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after 11th day of December, 2012.

## **II. Plan Development**

To ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities in the community, the Town of Albion has developed a Transition Plan, which should be considered good practice.

### **A. ADA Coordinator**

To ensure that the Town of Albion complies with the requirements of the ADA, and to provide the Town with essential, and efficient means of communication with all individuals, the Town Council has appointed Stefen Wynn as the ADA Coordinator.

The ADA Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Town of Albion to comply with Title I, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and investigating any complaints that the entity has violated Title I, and Title II; adopting, and distributing public notice about the relevant provisions of the ADA to all persons who may be interested in its programs, activities, and services; and developing, and publishing grievance procedures to provide fair, and prompt resolution of complaints under Title I, and Title II of the ADA in the Town of Albion.

These administrative requirements help ensure that the needs of people with disabilities are addressed in the programs, activities, and services operated by the Town of Albion.

### **B. Grievance Procedure**

The Grievance Procedure established below is intended to adhere to the standards outlined in the ADA. This procedure is to be used by anyone wishing to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits provided by the Town of Albion.



## ***Town of Albion's Grievance Procedure Under the Americans with Disabilities Act***

*A new section, Section 34.70 added to the Albion Town Code as follows:*

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the Town of Albion, Indiana. The Town of Albion, Indiana's personnel Policy governs employment-related complaints of disability discrimination.

1. The complaint should be in writing, and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant, and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews, or a tape recording of the complainant will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.
2. The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible, but no later than (60) calendar days after the alleged violation to:

**Stefen Wynn**  
**ADA Coordinator/Town Manager**  
**Town of Albion, Indiana**  
**211 E. Park Dr.**  
**PO Box 27**  
**Albion, IN. 46701**  
**(260) 636-2246**  
[albionmanager@frontier.com](mailto:albionmanager@frontier.com)

3. Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the Albion Town Manager (*Stefen Wynn*), or designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint, and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, the Albion Town Manager (*Stefen Wynn*), or designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate in a format accessible to the complainant. The response will explain the position of *The Town of Albion*, and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.
4. If the response does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant, and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the Albion Town Council.
5. Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the Albion Town Council will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint, and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the Albion Town Council, or their designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.
6. All written complaints received by the Albion Town Manager (*Stefen Wynn*), or designee, appeals to the Albion Town Council, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the Town of Albion for at least three years.

## ADA & TITLE VI COMPLAINT/GRIEVANCE FORM

### TOWN OF ALBION



Complainant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Person Preparing Complaint (if different from Complainant): \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Complainant (if not the Complainant): \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address (include apt or lot number): \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_, State: \_\_\_\_\_, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_, Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a complete description of the specific complaint or grievance: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please specify any location(s) related to the complaint or grievance (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please state what you believe should occur to resolve the complaint or grievance: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Attached additional pages as needed.

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you prefer not to be contacted by the ADA/Title VI Coordinator.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:     Stefen Wynn  
                  Albion Town Manager/ADA Coordinator/Title VI  
                  PO Box 27  
                  Albion, Indiana 46701

Upon request, reasonable accommodations will be provided to assist with completion of this form or the form will be provided in an alternative format. Contact the Albion Town Manager at (260) 636-2246 during normal business hours if assistance is required.

**C. Town Manager's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory Committee**

Effective as of passage of Ordinance 2016-18, the Town of Albion established the Town Manager's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee is composed of (5) voting members, serving without compensation, and consisting of: The Town Manager, Street Superintendent, Parks and Recreation Superintendent, (1) Council Member, and (1) lay-person/citizen from the Town of Albion. *This committee is charged with providing the citizens of the Town of Albion, and surrounding community with advancing independence, productivity, and inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of the Albion community.*

**D. Self-Evaluation**

The Town of Albion has conducted an inventory of curbs, ramps, and sidewalks, identified the location of accessibility barriers, and have actively remediated since 2004. Further the Town of Albion has adopted Construction Standards attached to this Document as Addendum 1.

A Traffic, and Pedestrian Map has been created with the identification, and location of accessibility barriers, and is located in the Town Manager/ADA Coordinators Office.

**i. Streets and Sidewalks**

In accordance with INDOT, Safe Routes to School, TAP, and TE, the Town of Albion has incorporated in its long range planning significant, and impactful sidewalk, curb, and street additions, and enhancement to promote safe, and healthy routes to schools, parks, and neighborhoods. Funding options, and opportunities are incorporated in the planning.

**ii. Programs and Services**

Efforts to compile, and maintain contacts, devices, and services for accommodation requests are ongoing. These lists are fluid in nature, and require frequent updates. This information is available through the Town Manager/ADA Coordinator.

**iii. Construction & Design Standards**

The Town of Albion has adopted Construction/Design standards as determined by the September 2005 Indiana Department of Transportation Standard Location Plan for Sidewalk Curb Ramps, and any subsequent standards established by the Indiana Department of Transportation, and the United States Department of Justice including, but not exclusive to, PROWAC, The Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way.

**iv. Current Construction Activities**

The Town of Albion received significant funding in Federal aid through the Transpiration Enhancement Act. This funding allowed the Town to work collaboratively with the Noble County Commissioners to allow much needed improvements to occur around all four sides of the Downtown Courthouse Square, and on both sides of the street (the Town's Central Business District). The entire project brought the Downtown area into Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.

**v. Commitment**

The Town of Albion is committed to making the community accessible to all its citizens, including those with disabilities. This will be accomplished through the following:

- New Construction, reconstruction, roadwork, construction, or alterations, including federal projects under the control and/or inspection of the Board of Public Works, and Safety will be reviewed for compliance under current ADA standards;
- The Town will maintain, and review its sidewalk repair program annually;
- The Town currently budgets annually to sidewalk repair, and maintenance, and will investigate alternative funding opportunities, and resources

vi. **Standards and Guidelines**

The Town of Albion will apply the Indiana Department of Transportation design guidelines to applicable construction undertaken within the Town's Rights-of-Way. It will also utilize when possible under project development any subsequent standards established by the Indiana Department of Transportation, and the United States Department of Justice, including, but not limited to, PROWAC, The Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way. The Town has adopted Construction and Design Standards attached hereto as Addendum 1.

## **IV. IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Town of Albion intends to implement this Transition Plan effective following public hearings.*

*The Town also commits to actively revising, and amending this document as new information is provided by the Indiana Department of Transportation, further, as a matter of policy, this document will be reviewed every (5) years.*



## APPENDIX B: ADDITIONAL SURVEY INFORMATION

### Blank Hard Copy of the Survey

# Albion Parks and Recreation Plan Survey



1. Please check the Albion park that you visit most often:

- ☐ Owen Park  
☐ Valleyview Park  
☐ Hidden Diamonds Park

2. How often do you use Albion parks?

- ☐ Every 1-2 days      ☐ Monthly  
☐ Weekly              ☐ 1-2 times per year  
☐ Every 2 weeks

3. What facilities in these parks are most popular with you, your family? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Baseball diamonds    ☐ Playgrounds  
☐ Soccer fields          ☐ Trails  
☐ Sand volleyball       ☐ Splash pad  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

4. In your household, who is the most frequent user of Albion parks?

- ☐ Children  
☐ Teenagers  
☐ Adults  
☐ Families

5. Are parks and programs provided by the Town of Albion adequately advertised?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

6. Have you ever encountered any physical barriers in the parks that prevented you or your family members from participating?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

What is your best source to get park information?

If so, please provide the location and a brief description.

7. Please rate the following statements in terms of Albion parks:	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
I am satisfied with the quality of the parks					
The parks are safe					
My household uses the programs offered					
The parks are kept in good condition					
The parks are handicap accessible					
There is enough park space in town limits					

8. What priority are the following potential improvements? (To identify priority in specific parks, please use additional comments)	Not a priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority
Improving restroom facilities					
Improving/expanding playground facilities					
Expanding sports facilities					
Adding pavilion/picnic facilities					
Adding more trails					

9. Please write additional comments on the back:

To become more involved with this plan, please attend public hearings on August 8th and October 10th at 6 pm in the Municipal Building, 211 E. Park Dr., Albion, IN 46701.

Please contact Amber Bassett at Region 3-a for additional comments and questions, [abassett@region3a.org](mailto:abassett@region3a.org) or 260-347-4714.

### Hard copy availability:

- *Albion New Era*
- Town Hall
- Campbell & Fetter Bank – Albion Branch
- Noble County Public Library – Albion Branch

It is important to note that the only returned hard copy of the survey was distributed through the *Albion New Era* newspaper, as seen below.

### Newspaper posting:

This newspaper clipping was the only hard copy returned to the Albion Parks Department.

**Albion Parks and Recreation Plan Survey**

1. Please check the Albion park that you visit most often:

☐ Owen Park  
☒ Valleyview Park  
☐ Hidden Diamonds Park

2. How often do you use Albion parks?

☐ Every 1-2 days  
☒ Weekly *Simpler*  
☐ Every 2 weeks  
☐ Monthly  
☒ 1-2 times per year *otherwise*

3. What facilities in these parks are most popular with you, your family? (select all that apply)

☒ Baseball diamonds  
☒ Playgrounds  
☒ Soccer fields  
☒ Trails  
☐ Sand volleyball  
☐ Splash pad  
☐ Other

4. In your household, who is the most frequent user of Albion parks?

☒ Children  
☐ Teenagers  
☐ Adults  
☐ Families

5. Are parks and programs provided by the Town of Albion adequately advertised?

☒ Yes  
☐ No

What is your best source to get park information?  
*Newspaper*

6. Have you ever encountered any physical barriers in the parks that prevented you or your family members from participating?

☐ Yes  
☒ No

If so, please provide the location and a brief description.

7. Please rate the following statements in terms of Albion parks:

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
I am satisfied with the quality of the parks					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The parks are safe					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
My household uses the programs offered		<i>not sure of what programs</i>			
The parks are kept in good condition					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The parks are handicap accessible	<i>NA</i>				
There is enough park space in town limits					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

8. What priority are the following potential improvements? (To identify priority in specific parks, please use additional comments)


	Not a priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority
Improving restroom facilities			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Improving/expanding playground facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Expanding sports facilities			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Adding pavilion/picnic facilities			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Adding more trails		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

9. Please write additional comments on the back:


To become more involved with this plan, please attend public hearings on August 8th and October 10th at 6 pm in the Municipal Building, 211 E. Park Dr., Albion, IN 46701.  
 Please contact Amber Bassett at Region 3-a for additional comments and questions, abassett@region3a.org or 260-347-4714.

## Link to the online survey:

The Albion Parks & Recreation Department shared the survey link via their Facebook page.

**Albion Parks & Recreation**  
July 20, 2016 · 🌐 · 🌐




Please take the time to do a quick survey for our new 5 year master plan.




### Albion Parks and Recreation Plan Survey


Web Survey for the Albion Parks Department - Let us know what you'd like to see in the Parks!

[SURVEYMONKEY.COM](http://SURVEYMONKEY.COM)

 Like  Comment  Share

 1 Chronological ▾

14 shares

**Albion Parks & Recreation** Surverys are coming in daily! Have have fill yours out?  
Like · Reply · July 23, 2016 at 7:40pm



## Survey Responses

Below are responses from Question 8 and the Additional Comments sections provided in the survey. Words highlighted in blue were considered for Figure 3.12.

### Question 8: Priority in specific parks:

- “Hidden Diamonds: without usage of the diamonds for adult softball any more it would be incredible to **shorten the current fields** and **add 2 more similar diamonds** that could be used for younger leagues (8u 10u baseball/D and C softball) and an additional diamond in place of the sand volleyball court for **[lob] ball** practices”
- “**Basketball courts**, the ones at the schools are used year around but there often aren’t enough for all the kids wanting to play so it would be nice to have one of the parks offer them. Maybe add a **skate park** to Owen park, it doesn’t seem to get much use as it sits, and a **less tough trail** somewhere. I enjoy the one at hidden diamond but don’t like to go alone because so much of it is in the woods were you are not easily seen by anyone or someone can hide causing a dangerous situation for a women enjoying them alone I can also see where it could be difficult for someone just trying to start getting healthy”
- “Hidden diamonds should **expand the trail system**”
- “A **skatepark** would be great”
- “**Parking** at Owen”
- “It’d be nice to have better **biking trails** around town.”
- “My responses are for Hidden Diamonds Park. I know the other parks in town are just kinda there, but HD has the most potential/room/already has variety would be nice to make that the dream park!”
- “**Changing rooms** around splash pad area”
- “**Bike trails** would be great. More benches.”
- “**Pave the parking lots.**”

### Additional Comments:

- “Parks are awesome, with some more additions they could bring a lot of business to Albion with tournaments etc.”
- “Would love to see a fenced in **dog park** in Albion!!!”
- “Love the addition of the splash pad!!! Consider expanding it, adding **additional ball diamonds** to relieve the pressure of the baseball/softball coaches during the summer when trying to locate an open diamond is impossible.”
- “It would be nice if hidden diamonds would put in a **public pool**”
- “The parks in town are great, however, there needs to be a bit of variety and the **playground areas need to be bigger**. My children of 6 & 3 get bored quickly with the play equipment offered. Bigger slides, more climbing equipment, etc.”
- “Hidden diamonds is one of the best kept parks around”
- “**Amphitheater** would [be] awesome”
- “It would be nice if you had a **closed pavilion** for inclement weather!”
- “More **parking** for the soccer fields”

- “Consider putting in a **pickle ball court** and have pickle ball leagues”
- “Better **parking** at Valleyview”
- “Albion could [use] public **tennis courts**!! [That] a lifelong sport! Also tournaments. We like to **geocache** as a family and we would love to have some events related to that in hidden diamonds. Invite some local people to create caches and help them find appropriate places to be hidden for posterity. :)”
- “Would like to see **an area for dogs** to be able to run around without being in trouble of being off leash”
- “The gate door for the splash pad needs fixed.”
- “Very proud of Albion’s park system. Beautifully managed and maintained.”

## APPENDIX C: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS

First Public Meeting – July/August 2016

### Attendee List

July

ATTENDEE LIST	
TOWN OF ALBION	
PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN	
PUBLIC HEARING	
July 11, 2016	
6:00 P.M.	
Print Name	Telephone or Email
1 CASEY Myers	260-564-1976 albionparkdept@freemove.com
2 Joe Smith	260-385-3226
3 Cody Kirkpatrick	260-564-1724
4 Bev Fitzpatrick	260-564-0070
5 Zane Gray	260-343-1344
6 Dan Grogan	260-564-4283
7	
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August

ATTENDEE LIST		
TOWN OF ALBION		
PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN		
PUBLIC HEARING		
August 8, 2016		
6:00 P.M.		
Print Name	Telephone or Email	
1 Dakota Wolf	Wolf 52753@gmail.com	
2 Jenneta Calvelage	jlc3legscdr@gmail.com	
3 Zane H. Gray	berfitzpatrick@chee.com	
4 Ben Fitzpatrick	C. Kirk 1724@live.com	
5 Carly Kirkpatrick		
6 Joe Smith		
7 Casey Myers	KC.KMyers@frontier.com	
8 Shaun Tilghman (RSA)		
9 Helen Wynn	albionmanager@frontier.com	
10 R.C. Smith	russell.smith@u-c-s-inc.com	
11 Amber Bassett (RSA)	abassett@region3a.org	
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## Meeting Minutes

July

Albion Park Board Meeting Minutes July 11, 2016

**Albion Park Board  
July 11, 2016  
211 East Park Drive  
Albion, IN 46701**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Joe called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE:** Joe Smith  
Dan Gagen  
Cody Kirkpatrick  
Bev Fitzpatrick  
Joe Smith

**OTHERS:** Casey Myers, Tate Allen, Susan Brandt

1. Amber Bassett from Region 3A was introduced to discuss the master plan. She discussed the survey and how it will be used and shared with the public. Amber will be taking pictures of the parks and asking that we get the goals that we have completed to her in the coming weeks.
2. Casey reported that his crew has been working on the welcome to Albion signs. They have planted new flowers and installed new mulch.
3. Casey reported that the fireworks went very well this year. He added that we will be purchasing an extra porta john to keep the line flowing.
4. Tate Allen was in attendance to discuss his potential Eagle Scout project with the park board. We have a list to choose from. He will discuss the potential projects with his family and get back with the park board or Casey.
5. The board discussed the banners that will be hung on the poles along st rd 9 and weber road. The board agreed that it will help with advertising the park. Casey will get the other 3 ordered soon.
6. Susan Brandt was in attendance to discuss disc golf with the board. She will be working with the board on the new signs and message board.
7. The Hoosier Basketball Court funding has topped \$50,000. The board will be ordering the basketball goals soon.
8. Casey reported that there has been a lot of people picking raspberries at the park this year.
9. The park board agreed to leave a 20-foot strip around the parameter of the leased land not to farm. The board discussed leaving it to grass so individuals can start using it next year. This will bring the farm land lease down to around 26 acres.
10. The board discussed the Rec Center in great detail and length. Joe made a motion to forgo Hidden Diamonds as a future build site for the rec center, Dan seconded the motion 5-0.

Albion Park Board Meeting Minutes July 11, 2016

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Bev read the minutes from the June meeting. Dan made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Cody, and passed 5-0.

**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS:** Cody made a motion to approve the accounts payable vouchers from April 2016, submitted and reviewed, seconded by Dan passed 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Joe moved for adjournment, motion made by Dan, seconded by Cody, passed 5-0. There being no further business to be brought before the board in regular session, Joe adjourned the meeting at 7:35 P.M. The next regular scheduled meeting is on Monday August 8, 2016 at Albion Municipal Building.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Smith, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gagen, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bev Fitzpatrick, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zane Gray – Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cody Kirkpatrick – Secretary



August

Albion Park Board Meeting Minutes August 8, 2016

**Albion Park Board  
August 8, 2016  
211 East Park Drive  
Albion In 46701**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Joe called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE:** Joe Smith

Cody Kirkpatrick  
Bev Fitzpatrick  
Zane Gray

**OTHERS:** Casey Myers, Russell Smith, Dakota Wolf Amber Bassett

1. Amber from Region 3A updated the board on the board on the master plan. She said there has been over 70 surveys turned in so far. Amber opened up a public hearing and went over a list of projects for everyone. Amber will be back next month go over the boards goal list.
2. Dakota Wolf: was recognized. He would like to do his Eagle Scout Project at Hidden Diamonds Park. Dakota and Casey will meet to go over the list of projects.
3. Casey is recommending that the Splash pad to close on September 11 @ 8 PM. The board will close the pad on such date and time. Casey will get that advertised on the Facebook page and paper.
4. Casey reported that a piece of playground has broken and will get the broken piece fixed or ordered soon.
5. A new flag pole will be installed at Valleyview Park in the coming weeks. The new pole will be place in center field instead of by the dugout. The staff will install solar LED light on it.
6. Casey would like for his staff to get the new grass walking trail in this fall if possible.
7. New LED security lights were installed a few weeks ago at Valleyview.
8. Farm Lease – Stefen will be working on this with the new Town Attorney.
9. Casey reported that a theft occurred at Hidden Diamonds Park. They took a leaf blower.
10. The banners will be installed in the coming weeks. 2 of them on st rd 9, 1 on Weber Rd and 1 on Hidden Diamonds Drive.
11. Casey will be insulating the maintenance barn at Valleyview and cleaning it out. An office will be installed after the insulation, new work bench, tool box, some new lighting.
12. Tracy Cooper will be donating the boring and trenching of the water line to the drinking fountain at the new basketball court. The drinking fountain quotes will be on the sept. agenda.
13. Disc golf has seen a lot of usage. Casey will be installing the message center sign soon.


Albion Park Board Meeting Minutes August 8, 2016

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Joe read the minutes from the June meeting. Zane made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Cody, and passed 4-0.

**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS:** Cody made a motion to approve the accounts payable vouchers from April 2016, submitted and reviewed, seconded by Bev passed 4-0.

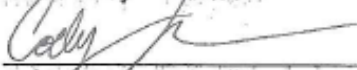
**ADJOURNMENT:** Joe moved for adjournment, motion made by Bev, seconded by Cody, passed 4-0. There being no further business to be brought before the board in regular session, Joe adjourned the meeting at 8:42 P.M. The next regular scheduled meeting is on Monday September 12, 2016 at Albion Municipal Building.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Smith, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gagen, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bev Fitzpatrick, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zane Gray – Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cody Kirkpatrick – Secretary

**Publisher's Affidavits**

July

Tax ID 35-0436930  
General Form No. 99P (Rev.2)

Prescribed by State Board of Accounts

**To: KPC Media Group Inc**

P.O. Box 39, KENDALLVILLE, IN 46755

REGION 3 A DEVELOPMENT (LEGAL) ATo: ALBION NEW ERAOrder #: 2035890**PUBLISHER'S CLAIM****PUBLIC NOTICE  
MEETING TO DISCUSS  
THE ALBION PARK FIVE-YEAR  
MASTER PLAN**

The Albion Park Department is hosting a public meeting to discuss a Five Year Park and Recreation Master Plan. The public meeting will be held on Monday, July 11, 2016 at 6:00 PM at the Albion Municipal Building, located at 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN 46701. Representatives from Region III A Economic Development District and Regional Planning Commission will attend to discuss the project.

A Five Year Park and Recreation Master Plan is required by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to apply for federal grant funding for both Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Recreational Trails Program. DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation Grant programs could possibly assist the Park Department with meeting goals designed within the approved Albion Park and Recreation Five Year Master Plan.

The public is invited to join in the discussion. For additional information, please contact Amber Bassett, Community Development Planner at 260-347-4714 between the hours of 7:30 - 4:00.

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I-10-I, I hereby certify that the foregoing account is  
after allowing all just credits, and that no part of the same

I also certify that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, of the same column width and type size, which was duly published in said paper ALBION NEW ERA 1. The dates of publication being as follows:  
06/29/2016

Additionally, the statement checked below is true and correct:

☐ Newspaper does not have a Web site.☒ Newspaper has a Web site and this public notice was posted on the same day as it was published in the newspaper☐ Newspaper does a Web site, but due to technical problem or error, public notice as posted on \_\_\_\_\_☐ Newspaper has a Web site, but refuses to post the public notice.LANETTE MCGUIREDate: 06/29/2016

Title: Legal Clerk

August

Tax ID 35-0436930  
General Form No. 99P (Rev.2)

Prescribed by State Board of Accounts

**To: KPC Media Group Inc**  
P.O. Box 39, KENDALLVILLE, IN 46755

REGION 3 A DEVELOPMENT (LEGAL) A

To: ALBION NEW ERA

NOBLE, Indiana

Order #: 2036453

**PUBLISHER'S CLAIM**

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MEETING TO DISCUSS THE  
ALBION PARK FIVE-YEAR  
MASTER PLAN**

The Albion Park Department is hosting a public meeting to discuss a Five-Year Park and Recreation Master Plan. The public meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2016 at 8:00 PM at the Albion Municipal Building, located at 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN 46703. Representatives from Region 3-A Economic Development District and Regional Planning Commission will attend to discuss the project.

A Five-Year Park and Recreation Master Plan is required by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to apply for federal grant funding for both Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Recreational Trails Program.

The public is encouraged to join in the discussion to express their wants and needs for Albion parks. For additional information, please contact Amber Bassett, Community Development Planner at 260-347-4714 between the hours of 8:00 - 4:00.

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Size of type - 7 point

i-11-10-1, I hereby certify that the foregoing account is  
legally due, after allowing all just credits, and that no part of the same  
has been paid.

I also certify that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, of the same column width and type size,  
which was duly published in said paper ALBION NEW ERA 1. The dates of publication being as follows:  
07/20/2016

Additionally, the statement checked below is true and correct:

- ☐ Newspaper does not have a Web site.  
☒ Newspaper has a Web site and this public notice was posted on the same day as it was published in  
the newspaper  
☐ Newspaper does a Web site, but due to technical problem or error, public notice as posted on \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Newspaper has a Web site, but refuses to post the public notice.

LANETTE MCQUIRE

Date: 07/20/2016

Title: Legal Clerk



Second Public Meeting – October 2016

Attendee List

Albion Parks & Rec Sign-in

Name

10/10/16

Amber Bassett (R3A)

Shaun Tilghman (R3A)

Zane Gray

Cody Kirkpatrick

Dem Gagen

Joe Smith

Carly Myers Park

TRENTON SIMON

## Meeting Minutes

Albion Park Board Meeting Minutes October 10, 2016

**Albion Park Board  
October 10, 2016  
211 East Park Drive  
Albion In 46701**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Joe called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE:** Joe Smith  
Dan Gagen  
Cody Kirkpatrick  
Zane Gray

**OTHERS:** Casey Myers, Amber Bassett, Trent Simon

1. Amber with Region 3A closed out the surveys. She handed out an updated packet with the goals on it. She will be coming to the December meeting to see if we have any changes.
2. Casey reported that Pulver's have started the sidewalk to HD. It is expected that the BB court will be started late October.
3. Trent Simon was introduced. He is the director of the Youth Football League in Albion/CN. He was looking to see if the Park would take any of the responsibilities over for them. The board did not act on his request.
4. Casey reported that Eagle Scout Tate Allen is working on signage for trees along the trail at HD.
5. Casey reported that the office will be done soon at VV.
6. Casey reported that his crew will be working on the Christmas decorations in the coming weeks.


**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Joe read the minutes from the September meeting. Dan made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Cody, and passed 4-0.

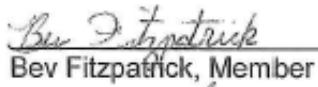
**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS:** Cody made a motion to approve the accounts payable vouchers from August 2016, submitted and reviewed, seconded by Zane passed 4-0. *Sgt*

**ADJOURNMENT:** Dan moved for adjournment, motion made by Zane, seconded by Cody, passed 4-0. There being no further business to be brought before the board in regular session, *Joe* adjourned the meeting at 6:59 P.M. The next regular scheduled meeting is on Monday November 14, 2016 at Albion Municipal Building.

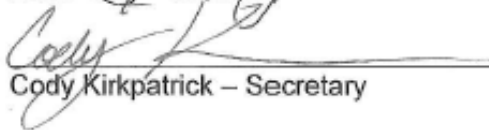
Albion Park Board Meeting Minutes October 10, 2016

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Smith, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gagen, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bev Fitzpatrick, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Zane Gray - Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cody Kirkpatrick - Secretary

# Publisher's Affidavit

Tax ID 35-0436930  
General Form No. 99P (Rev.2)

Prescribed by State Board of Accounts

## To: KPC Media Group Inc

P.O. Box 39, KENDALLVILLE, IN 46755

REGION 3 A DEVELOPMENT (LEGAL) A

To: ALBION NEW ERA

NOBLE, Indiana

Order #: 2038586

### PUBLISHER'S CLAIM

#### LINE COUNT

Display Master must not exceed two actual lines, neither of which shall total more than four solid lines of the type in which the body of the advertisement is set) -- number of equivalent lines

#### PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE ALBION PARK FIVE-YEAR MASTER PLAN

The Albion Park Department is hosting a public meeting to discuss a Five-Year Park and Recreation Master Plan. The public meeting will be held on Monday, October 10, 2016 at 6:00 PM at the Albion Municipal Building, located at 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN 46703. Representatives from Region 3-A Economic Development District and Regional Planning Commission will attend to discuss the project.

The public is encouraged to join in the discussion to express their wants and needs for Albion parks. This will be the last opportunity for residents to express their concerns. For additional information, please contact Amber Bassett, Community Development Planner, at 260-347-4714 between the hours of 8:00 - 4:00.

ANE 2038586, 9/28, hspaxlp

has been paid.

I also certify that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, of the same column width and type size, which was duly published in said paper ALBION NEW ERA 1. The dates of publication being as follows:  
09/28/2016

Additionally, the statement checked below is true and correct:

- ☐ Newspaper does not have a Web site.  
☒ Newspaper has a Web site and this public notice was posted on the same day as it was published in the newspaper  
☐ Newspaper does a Web site, but due to technical problem or error, public notice as posted on \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Newspaper has a Web site, but refuses to post the public notice.

LANETTE MCGUIRE

Date: 09/28/2016

Title: Legal Clerk



## Final Public Meeting – October 2017

### Attendee List

ATTENDEE LIST	
TOWN OF ALBION	
PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN	
PUBLIC HEARING	
October 16, 2017	
6:00 P.M.	
Print Name	Telephone or Email
1 <u>Shaun Tilghman (R3A)</u>	<u>260-347-4714</u>
2 <u>CASEY MYERS Albion Park</u>	<u>260-564-1976</u>
3 <u>DAN GAGEN Park Board</u>	<u>260-564-4283</u>
4 <u>Joe Smith Park Board</u>	<u>260-385-3226</u>
5 <u>Bev Fitzpatrick Park Board</u>	<u>260-564-0070</u>
6 <u>Zane Gray</u>	<u>260-343-1344</u>
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# Publisher's Affidavit

Tax ID 35-0436930  
General Form No. 99P (Rev.2)

Prescribed by State Board of Accounts

**To: KPC Media Group Inc**

P.O. Box 39, KENDALLVILLE, IN 46755

REGION 3 A DEVELOPMENT (LEGAL) A

To: ALBION NEW ERA

NOBLE, Indiana

Order #: 2047100

## PUBLISHER'S CLAIM

### LINE COUNT

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Head -- number of lines	1
Body -- number of lines	25
Tail -- number of lines	1
Total number of lines in notice	27.0

### COMPUTATION OF CHARGES

27.0 lines, 1.0 columns wide equals 27.0 equivalent lines at 0.4359 cents per line.	\$11.77
Additional charges for notices containing rule or tabular work (50 per cent) of above amount	\$
Charge for extra proofs of publication (\$1.00 for each proof in excess of 2)	\$
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIM</b>	<b>\$11.77</b>

### DATA FOR COMPUTING COST:

Width of single column in picas - 9.9  
Number of insertions: 1  
Size of type - 7 point

Pursuant to the provisions and penalties of IC 5-11-10-1, I hereby certify that the foregoing account is just and correct, that the amount claimed is legally due, after allowing all just credits, and that no part of the same has been paid.

I also certify that the printed matter attached hereto is a true copy, of the same column width and type size, which was duly published in said paper ALBION NEW ERA 1. The dates of publication being as follows:  
10/04/2017

Additionally, the statement checked below is true and correct:

☐ Newspaper does not have a Web site.  
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☐ Newspaper has a Web site, but refuses to post the public notice.

LANETTE MCGUIRE

Date: 10/04/2017

Title: Legal Clerk

### PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING TO DISCUSS ALBION PARKS & REC FIVE-YEAR MASTER PLAN

The Albion Parks & Recreation Board is hosting a public meeting to discuss the Five-Year Parks & Rec. Master Plan. The public meeting will be held on Monday, October 16, 2017, at 6:00 PM, at the Albion Municipal Building, located at 211 East Park Drive, Albion, IN 46703. Representatives from Region 3-A Development & RPC will attend to discuss the project.

The parks board will review revisions made to the rough draft, before resolving to adopt the Five-Year Master Plan. The public is invited to join in the discussion, as this will be the final opportunity to provide their input. For additional information, please contact Shaun Tilghman, Community Development Planner, at (260) 347-4714, between the hours of 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

ANE.2047100,10/4,hspaxlp