

Patience urged on future of Kiwanis Park, splash pad

by Faith Ann Brown
CORRESPONDENT

VINTON -- With a committee appointed to find future solutions if the City of Vinton decided to take ownership of the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School and grounds, there have been concerns raised about the existence of Kiwanis Park, located south of the school grounds.

Tom Lindauer, a Vinton Kiwanis Club member, attended the council meeting recently with an update on a proposed

splash pad.

Lindauer explained that when the council first approved a plan for a splash pad, the Kiwanis Club began fund-raising for the project.

To date, Lindauer said, the club has raised over \$80,000 for the project. "We (Kiwanis Club) understand that the project has been put on hold because of the Braille School, but I wanted to let you know what the club and residents of the community have done," Lindauer said.

"We still want a splash pad," Mayor Bud Maynard said during the meeting. "We would like to be able to explore every option before any final decision is made."

"We just want to make sure that we keep moving forward. The club raised these funds thinking that it was going for the splash pad," Lindauer said.

Maynard asked that Lindauer and the Kiwanis Club have a little patience. "We will get some answers," he said. "I just ask that you give the committee a little

time."

"We just wanted you (the council) to know what we have done," Lindauer said. "I was just not sure that you were aware of what we have done."

In other business:

-Kurt Karr gave an update on iVinton. A proposal to introduce a local telecommunications option to residents.

"First I want to thank you for your support of this project," Karr told the council.

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Karr shared that step 1 of the plan was the vote which was approved by the community. Step 2 was the feasibility study which was recently accepted.

With the feasibility study in hand, five different committees have been formed to take a deeper look. Once that is completed, "we'll come back to the council with recommendations," Karr

explained.

Karr explained that one goal iVinton had was to "have the ability to control our own future."

"How far away are we," Brian Parr, council member, asked Karr during the meeting.

"I think we are about two years away," Karr said. "We have a lot to do yet."