

Elmer G Biddick

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

11623 State Road 80 Livingston, WI 53554
Phone (608) 943-6363 Fax (608) 943-6365
www.biddickfoundation.com

Jason B Biddick - President
Rachel L. Jordan - Vice-President
Bradley D Biddick - Secretary/Treasurer

Peggy J. Buldick
Dinah Overton
James W. Neundorff
Wendy Potter

GRANT APPLICATION

***Must be received in our office on or before the due dates below**

Due Dates April 15th and October 15th

Date: April 15, 2020

Name of Organization (must match IRS 501(c)(3) designation) Village of Cobb Parks and Recreation

Address 501 Benson Street

City, State, Zip Cobb, WI 53526

Phone 608 623 2777

Person Responsible for the Grant Mary Foley -can be reached at 608-341-7754

Position in the Organization Splash Pad (Community Volunteer) Coordinator

Organization's Purpose The Village of Cobb Parks and Recreation mission is to enhance the lives of its residents and visitors by providing safe and well-maintained parks and public spaces to strengthen the bond of community.

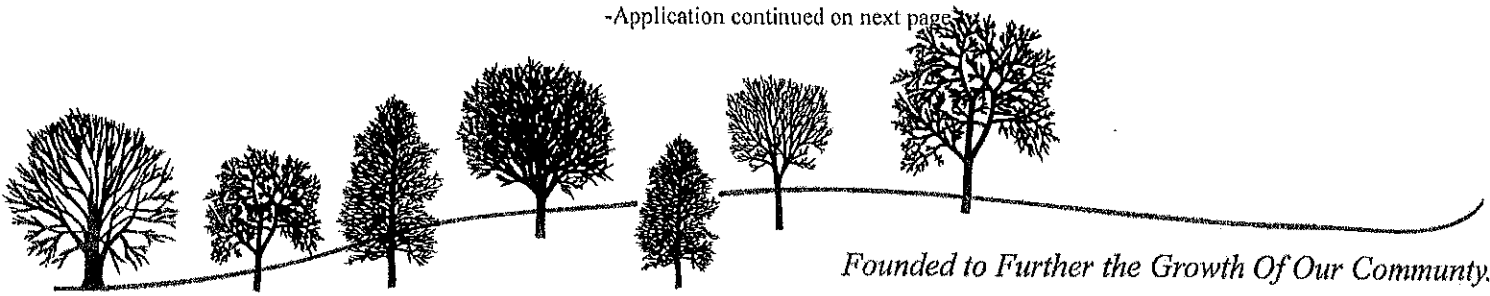
It is our vision to provide growth to our park system by creating unique facilities so people will make visiting and inhabiting our community a priority.

This application must include your organization's latest IRS Letter of Determination showing exemption and public support status. (Not required for units of Government & public schools).

Grant Request \$ \$2,500.00

Describe the reason for this grant request in the space below: We are requesting funds from the Elmer Biddick Foundation to assist with the building costs related to a proposed Splash Pad at Scheper Park in the Village of Cobb. A Splash Pad is a designated zero depth aquatic play structure. It is commonly described as a water playground or sprinkler pad. Water sprays from the surfaces and from unique features. A Splash Pad encourages physical, social, cognitive, and sensorial development in children of all ages. Water activity is a source of fun where activity is abundant and where creativity thrives.

-Application continued on next page



Founded to Further the Growth Of Our Community.

Attachments to this grant that we find useful in considering your grant request.

- A. Supporting information.
 - 1. Specific use of grant.
 - 2. Time schedule.
 - 3. Other sources of funding.
 - 4. Describe the effect of postponing your request to another time.
 - 5. Describe who, when, how and where will the effects of this grant be felt.

- B. Your organization's history, activities, services, and composition. (Videos are of limited use.)

Applications are considered in June and December of each year. The corresponding deadlines are April 15th and October 15th. Concise grants that address the needed information are appreciated.

PLEASE SEND THIS APPLICATION TO ELMER G BIDDICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION:

Biddick, Inc.
11623 State Road 80
Livingston, WI 53554
Phone (608) 943-6363
Fax (608) 943-6365

A) ATTACHMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR A ELMER G. BIDDICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION GRANT:

Specific Use of Grant: The Elmer G. Biddick Charitable Foundation Grant request will help to build the proposed designated zero depth Splash Pad at the Scheper Park in Cobb and assist in reaching the proposed fundraising goal of \$100,000.00. Please see the attached visual example of a Splash Pad.

Time Schedule: The Village of Cobb Board of Directors approved designating a portion of land for the building of the Splash Pad on June 12th, 2019. Since then, an organizational and fundraising committee was created and organized. Fundraisers have been coordinated and held since September, 2019. To date, the fundraising committee has raised \$25,000.00.

* Commercial Recreation Specialists from Verona has been selected to be our consulting Splash Pad building provider and will assist in all pertinent aspects of the project.

* Local trade vendor contractors have been contacted and bids have been submitted for water/drainage, excavation, cement, and electrical.

* As we continue to raise funds, we will break ground with local contractors as advised by updates to the Village Board. We had hoped to raise our funding goal during 2020 but will endeavor to persevere, given the Covid19 pandemic guidelines, until we reach our goal.

Other Sources of Funding: Fundraisers for the Splash Pad began in September, 2019. Thus far, we have coordinated fundraisers including a Steak Sandwich Family Feed, an ATV ride, Holiday Family Photos, and a "Travelling Holiday Basket Silent Auction" in 2019. The largest donation came from the Cobb Corn Roast Committee for \$8,000.00. We will be reapplying for a donation from them in 2020.

Many more fundraisers are being planned during 2020 including community "Burgers and Bingo" and a "Drive-In Movie" at Scheper Park, a community "Yard Sales for a Cause" on busy Highway 18 in Cobb during the summer, and general appeal contacts with area businesses and individual families and donors. **However, due to Coronavirus issues, we respectfully have stepped back from sending out our general appeal letters to businesses and individuals. NOTE:** We have, however, continued to receive unsolicited donations from community members, the most recent being a donation \$725.00, received April 3, 2020.

We were planning on applying for grants at this time from various local grantors including the Elmer G. Biddick Charitable Foundation, the Lands' End Foundation, the Culver's Foundation, and other foundations supporting community development projects. Given layoffs and "staying in place" health directives, we will adjust this plan accordingly.

Describe the Effects of Postponing your Request: With regard to describing the effect of postponing our request to a different cycle, building costs will continue to rise. *However, we defer to the realities of this granting cycle to your Board of Directors and most assuredly can postpone this request, with updated information, later this year as you direct.* Even though we continue to adjust our fundraising plan, we have made a firm commitment to raise these funds. After we reach our goal of \$100,000.00, we will continue to raise community funding for ongoing expenses of the Splash Pad as well as other expenses for all our three Cobb parks, including Scheper Park, Cobb School Park, and our mid-town Community Park. *This is not a "One and Done" community commitment!*

Describe who, when, how, and where the effects of this grant will be felt: We envision this park being utilized by a regional group of families especially because it will be a unique zero depth recreational water pad. There are NO zero depth splash pads in our immediate area.

According to the Census Bureau's Population Estimate Program from August 28, 2019, there were approximately 474 Cobb residents. Families with children under 18 made up approximately 39% of Cobb's population. Specifically, there were approximately 125 children and early teens from 0-15 years of age living in Cobb.

We know, of course, not all children will use the Splash Pad; however, add to the potential users the number of parents, babysitters, or family members who will accompany their children and early teens that use the Splash Pad. Please review the other adjoining communities' growth statistics on the final page of this proposal

The Splash Pad's proposed operational timeline will be open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Hours of operation will tentatively be from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, 7 days a week.

The functioning of the Splash Pad primarily encourages physical development by the unique way it encourages children to move from one spray area to another.

In terms of water conservation practices, water sprays are activated when a child moves their hand over a sensor to begin the spraying. Therefore, water is conserved when no one is in the Splash Pad area. In further conservation practices, the water used will be recycled back into the ground water via the Splash Pad's "Flow-Through Trough" water recycling process.

B.) Describe your organization's history, activities, services, and composition.

Organization's History: In January, 2019, Mary Foley, Lead Coordinator of the project, began gathering information about Splash Pads. While working with Commercial Recreational Specialists and other municipalities that have Splash Pads, we were able to present a project proposal to the Cobb Village Board members. Surveys were sent to all residents and data from those surveys showed that the community would support our project. The Village Board approved to provide placement of the Splash Pad at Scheper Park and fundraising efforts began. A group of community members formed a committee that will work together to maintain and improve the parks and recreation in our village. Our Capitol campaign of "**GROWING TOGETHER**" began in June, 2019. The committee plans and organizes fundraisers for the Splash Pad project. We have an active Facebook page (www.facebook.com/villageofcobbparksandrecreation) that keeps our community members engaged and up-to-date on all aspects of the Splash Pad fundraising project. To date, we have held 5 successful fundraisers.

Activities: While we continue to work towards our goal, fundraising activities provide for unique opportunities for our community to "grow together." Community growth happens in many ways and each fundraiser held has been a chance for community members to gather for a common cause. Community members circled around to enjoy a parking lot lunch break at our Steak Sandwich Fundraiser. We showed commitment to one another by braving the rain storms for an ATV/UTV Ride. We captured precious moments of childhood and family at our Holiday Photo Shoot. We were able to share the deep heritage of one of our committee members by providing a homemade Spaghetti and Meatball Supper. We look forward to more activities of community togetherness by continuing to plan for our "Burgers and Bingo" and a "Drive-In Movie at the Park."

The Fundraising Committee was created with the intention of selecting different members representing Cobb residents. As the Coordinator, I have a unique involvement with different community organizations in Cobb. I currently hold positions on the Cobb Public Library Board and the Black Hawk Lake Commission. I am also Chairman for the Cobb Corn Roast Classic Car Show. I am passionate about my community and all that it has to offer to its residents and visitors.

We enlisted a committee member who lives in Cobb, is a parent to four children under the age of 5, and works full time as the Administrative Assistant at the Iowa-Grant Elementary and Middle School. She is able to provide incredible outreach duties to all the school's students and their families. Another committee member, who acts as a "grandparent liaison," has extensive fundraising experience with non-profits and community events, and has experience writing grants. We continue to recruit committee members.

We have partnered with the Dodgeville Chronicle to serve as the new "Cobb Reporter." We now provide weekly updates about community and Splash Pad events.

We are researching donor acknowledgement opportunities including naming rights, sponsoring each of the water features in honor or memory of someone, and signage and methods requested by donors. *We plan to include all grantors' names on a donor sign at the park.*

We have noticed a continued increase in excitement about this project based on the numbers of the 375 persons who attended our February, 2020, Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser and the \$5,435.00 that was raised!

In conclusion, we kindly request your consideration for reviewing this proposal. As a foundation that promotes to the significant general welfare for people in Iowa and Grant counties, we appreciate the opportunity to apply. We also defer to the unusual nature of the times during which we are applying for this grant. We surely can postpone this request until the second cycle of this year. Thank you for all you do.

ATTACHMENT WITH POPULATION INFORMATION FROM SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES:

According to the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program from August 28, 2019, area statistics included:

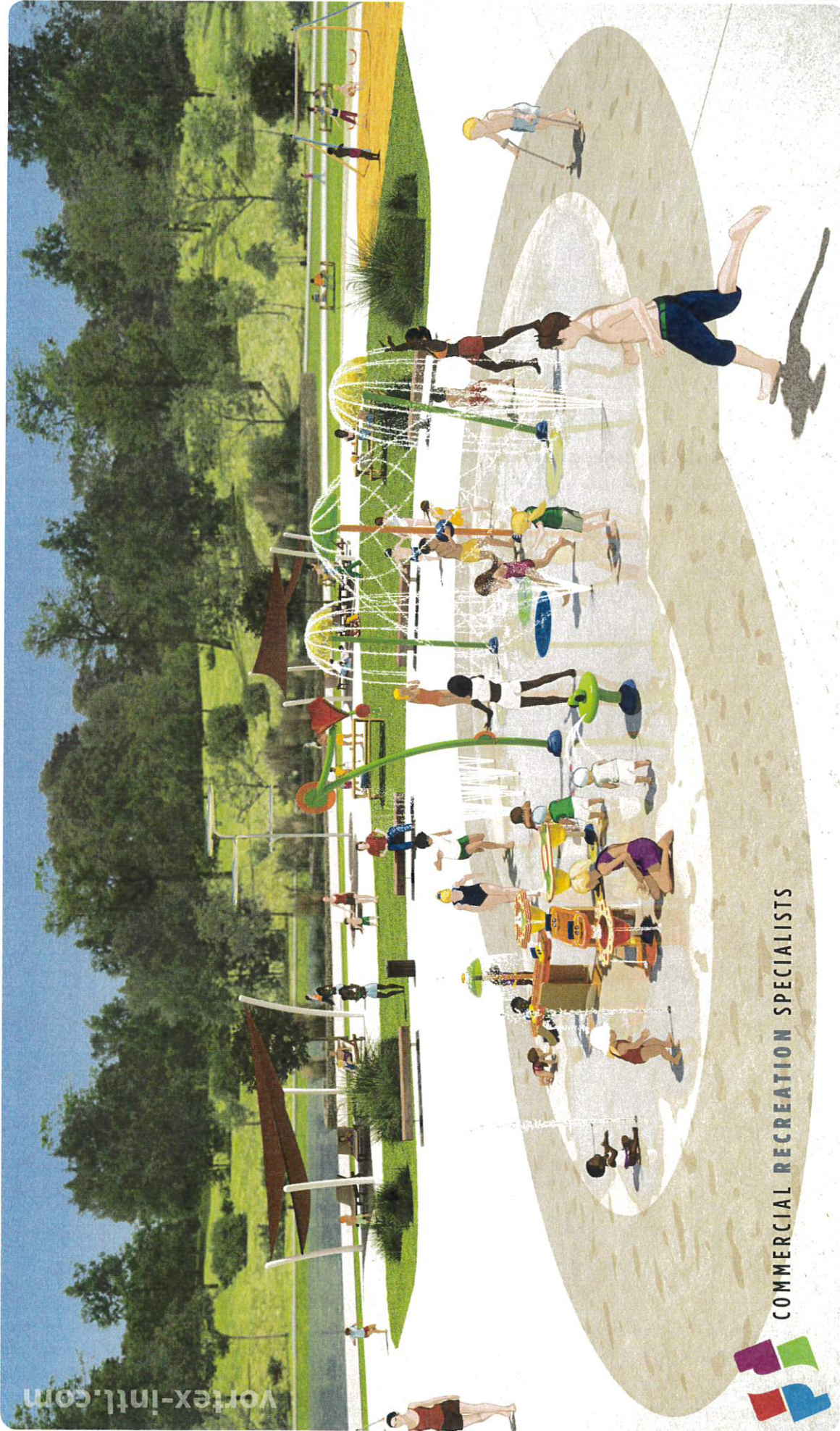
LIVINGSTON had a population of 641 residents with approximately 186 children ages 15/under

LINDEN had a population of 533 residents with approximately 130 children ages 15 and under

HIGHLAND had a population of 834 residents with approximately 276 children ages 15/under.

MONTFORT had a population of 883 residents with approximately 235 children ages 15 and under. (BestPlaces.net)

REWEY had a population of 287 residents with approximately 90 children ages 15 and under



vortex-intl.com



COMMERCIAL RECREATION SPECIALISTS

Old School Park Splashpad - Cobb, WI

View 1

