



Park & Rec Committee
Thursday, November 18, 2021 - 10:00 AM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Carol Van Deest called the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting for November 18, 2021 to order at 10:00 am

Members Present - Carol Van Deest, Mayor Chip Dutcher
Absent - Sharon Hendren

Staff present - Bailey Klimchak, Jack Liggett, Jim Blair, Teresa Monroe.
Public present - Craig Bohning, Dick Mosley, Keith Ryan, Dave Douglas

2. Action On Minutes

a. October 14, 2021

ACTION: Carol Van Deest moved to Approve; Chip Dutcher seconded and both were in favor.

AYES: Van Deest, Dutcher

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 2 - 0

3. Eagle Scout Project - Consideration

a. Noah Risdon Request Letter

A local Eagle Scout submitted a letter with his interest in building a community library box, he provided pictures of one he liked in Pataskala and is requesting permission to build one in Hannahs Park along with a bench next to it for people to read.

After committee discussion on design and potential location, committee direction for staff to

2021 Committee Goals

- 1. Apply for the 2020-2021 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant through ODOT for Raccoon Creek Park Trail Phase I
- 2. Establish a Joint Recreation District - Discussions in progress
- 3. Continue to work on the Mastodon Preserve and the Johnstown Trailhead Park projects -Parking lot completion, ~~Concrete pad removal~~ Establish a Dog Park, Tree plantings
- 4. Continue to work toward a Longwell & Miles Memorial Estate implementation plan
- 5. Continue discussions with JYAA about their soccer fields that are surrounded by Raccoon Creek Park (Dick Hill property) - In Progress
- 6. Pursue bike path extensions - In preliminary discussion
- 7. Pursue a Raccoon Creek path extension to Edwards Road
- 8. Market community assets - Parks, Trailhead (Shared ED goal)
- 9. Walkway to Hannahs Park from US 62f

contact Noah and ask him to look at the community food box design.

ACTION: Carol Van Deest moved to Approve Noah Risdon's request based on the Methodist Church food box design and to work with staff on location; Chip Dutcher seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 2 - 0

Discussion on vandalism at city parks. Jack Liggett to discuss the potential of installing cameras with Chief Haroon and ask him for an idea on cost to install in all three parks for next years budget.

4. Recognition Plaque - Mr. Montgomery

Discussion on placing a boulder with a plaque honoring Mr. Darwin "Chops" Montgomery in Bigelow Park; he was as long time village resident, employee/Street Superintendent and World War II veteran. Jack Liggett said he knows of a few boulders that could be used and bronze plaques are around five hundred dollars. Marvin Block to discuss wording with the family. Adamson Monument to do the plaque. Bailey Klimchak said at the same time he should do the plaque for the Trailhead partners, she has the wording; discussion on location at the Trailhead and the organizations who contributed donations.

ACTION: Carol Van Deest moved to go forward with the memorial plaque for Mr. Montgomery; Chip Dutcher seconded and both were in favor.
AYES: Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 2 - 0

When ready, will have Adam look at the boulders to choose most appropriate one. Jack Liggett asked where the money would come from to pay for the boulders and plaques; discussion on paying for some of it with extra budgeted money from the Oliver Bigelow headstone.

5. City Flag Contest

Tabled until new year.

6. Trailhead Updates

Bailey Klimchak said the Dog Park grand opening was very successful, there was a ribbon cutting, members of the Licking Park District and Johnstown staff attended and lots of dogs came to play in the park. There were reports of gates not closing well plus a gap; Tony Baldwin to fix with extra springs.

Dick Mosley said it was reported that the entrance area is wet in a low area; dogs get

muddy feet. Jack Liggett said grass should grow in next spring, drainage is being installed and parking lot to go in next spring. Year one is gravel, year two will get asphalt.

Trailhead parking lot has been paved, still needs to be striped and marked with directional arrows in the spring

Update on train station and conversations with owner Kevin Looker; Jim Blair and Craig Bohning went to look at the building; no sign of leaks, Craig Bohning said he did not think there was too much structural work needed, discussion on uses, renovation needed, need for parking if building is used. If building is put on historical registry there is funding available. Discussion on the need to own the land it is on prior to investing any money in renovation.

- a. Jim Blair to further discuss sale or donation of the train station and property with Kevin Looker.
- b. Keith Ryan to secure people to look underneath and assess the foundation.
- c. Carol Van Deest advises bringing the Evans Foundation in on the idea; Jim Blair to contact Sarah Wallace

7. Downtown Johnstown, Inc. - Craig Bohning

Craig Bohning said they have some funding now; Keith Ryan said they are looking into some type of Christmas decorations for the downtown poles in 2022. Discussion on the light pole electric receptacles, decoration options, wreaths/snowflakes. Asking the city to check the function of outlets; Jack said that could be done.

8. Licking Park District

Dick Mosley said they are pleased with the passage of their levy, it will mean more community resources. Updated on the Concord Crossing parking lot, the deed transfer is being recorded, will contact the city for curb cut. The contractor is lined up for the first of the year, will gravel first, let settle then pave. If all goes as planned should be ready to go in December. Had the ribbon cutting on their Nature Play Space phase one at Infirmary Mound Park; will be 5 phases and is an alligator theme.

9. Greater Johnstown Recreation District - Keith Ryan

Keith Ryan provided an update on the new Greater Johnstown Recreation District; they are working with Ice Miller on tax status; discussed vision, read their draft statement and received input from the Park and Rec committee. Added that their next meeting would be December 8th.

10. Other Business

1. Chip Dutcher thanked Carol for her leadership and time spent devoted to parks; Jack seconded her investment and work.

11. Adjourn

No further business. Ms. Van Deest moved to adjourn, Mr. Dutcher seconded and the meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Vision Statement: The Village of Johnstown is dedicated to providing a secure community environment that fosters cultural, recreational, educational and economic opportunities while preserving our unique historical character