



Park & Rec Committee
Thursday, August 13, 2020 - 10:00 AM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chairman Carol Van Deest called the virtual Parks and Rec Committee meeting for August 13, 2020 to order at 10:08 a.m.

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

Staff present - Bailey Klimchak, Jim Blair, Ben Lee, Jim Lenner, Teresa Monroe

Public present - Richard Waugh

2. Action on Minutes

a. June 11, 2020

ACTION: Carol Van Deest moved to accept the minutes; Chip Dutcher seconded; minutes approved.

AYES: Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 2 - 0

3. Updates on Active Projects

a. Raccoon Creek Park estimate (Bailey)

Bailey Klimchak provided a cost estimate received from the Village Engineers for a portion of the Raccoon Creek Park Trail, from the new parking lot to US62. TAP grant funds applied for this year would be allocated to the village for construction in 2024, so in 2024 dollars it would cost \$313,869.60 to put the trail in and the village would have to contribute twenty percent. Licking Parks Director Richard Waugh noted that the recipient of TAP grants pay one hundred percent of the design cost and twenty percent of construction cost; in this case approximately \$90,000.00. Ms. Van Deest said the village is very committed to this park project even if it gets done in phases and would like a vote to give Bailey some direction.

ACTION: Chip Dutcher moved to move ahead; Carol Van Deest seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: 2

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

2 - 0

Ms. Klimchak said letters of interest open up end of October so she will start moving in that direction.

Mayor Dutcher said he would like to see the village add a sidewalk on top of the sewer line being installed down Jersey Street. Mr. Lenner said he wasn't sure it was that simple but would bring it up with the engineers to ask.

b. Trailhead Shelter House (Bailey/Jack)

Bailey Klimchak updated that the village has received the money to construct a shelter house at the Trailhead; \$30,000 was received from The Energy Cooperative's Operation Round Up and \$10,000 was received from the Babcock foundation. The shelter house should be complete by September or October this year.

Ms. Klimchak said she would also like to get moving on putting a Dog Park into the budget for next year so she would like to ask and get a vote on keeping \$15,000 in the budget (possibly from the Hannahs Park dry restroom fund) for parks to clean out some dying trees and scraggly brush in the middle of the Trailhead, the money should also cover some grading work behind the parking lot in preparation for extending it. Mr. Dutcher said they would put a request in to the Finance Committee for the \$15,000 for Trailhead cleanup.

ACTION: Chip Dutcher moved to Approve the request to Finance Committee; Carol Van Deest seconded and all were in favor.
AYES: 2
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 2 - 0

c. Mastodon Preserve update (Carol)

A sign is being designed that identifies the Mastodon Preserve Discovery Trail. Ms. Van Deest said Terry Priest also wanted to spread awareness of the QR readers along the trail. Ms. Van Deest said the path that goes back to the mastodon site is very weedy and in need of some maintenance; a work order was issued to the service department; Ms. Van Deest noted she would like part of the \$15,000 for Trailhead maintenance to go toward the mastodon trail maintenance. Mr. Lenner said with next budget he would like to look at contracting the mowing for the village; with all the extra things the street crew takes on, it would free some time up. Mayor Dutcher asked how to link in with the mastodon trail signs the county put up to have them direct to the mastodon site; Mr. Lenner said the next part of that project is a way-finding app which he is not sure will become a reality.

d. Other

Ms. Klimchak said she thinks the village should get a definite answer on whether or not

Downtown Johnstown still wants to do a basketball court at the Trailhead because if not, she would like to have service take out the concrete pad. Ms. Van Deest said she would contact Downtown Johnstown Inc. and get an answer. There was some discussion on the dog park location and parking; Richard Waugh said the Park District really appreciates the relationship they have with Johnstown and he would be interested in Johnstown getting a cost estimate for the dog park for consideration next year and they might be able to help out financially.

4. Rails To Trails Update (Jim L.)

Richard Waugh said the Licking County Park District now owns forty acres at the furthest northwest point in the county; the money used to purchase it was from wetlands preservation. There happens to be a 1302 foot important connection between the Ohio to Erie bike trail system and it is their intention is to make that connection. There was discussion on where the railroad beds were located through the Johnstown area and possible connections.

5. Other Member Comments

1. Ms. Van Deest said the committee will meet again virtually on September 10, 2020
2. Ms. Klimchak updated that trees would be planted on US62 in front of Subway. Working on the start of the Memorial Tree Fund. Plant first tree in Rolling Meadows Park in memory of Cletus Beam, investigate plaque costs.
3. Some discussion on trees planted outside of the right-of-way and how it could affect Arbor Day status.

6. Adjourn

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

AYES: 2

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 2- 0

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.