



Park & Rec Committee
Thursday, January 14, 2021 - 10:00 AM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Carol Van Deest called the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting for January 14, 2021 to order at 10:00 am

Members Present - Carol Van Deest, Mayor Chip Dutcher, Sharon Hendren
Absent - None

Staff present - Jim Lenner, Bailey Klimchak, Jack Liggett, Jim Blair, Marvin Block, Ben Lee, Teresa Monroe.

Public present - Dick Mosley, Richard Waugh (Both with Licking Park District)

2. Action on Minutes

a. December 10, 2020

ACTION: Chip Dutcher moved to Adopt the minutes; Sharon Hendren seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher, Sharon Hendren

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

3. Goals 2021 Discussion

1. Apply for the 2020 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant through ODOT for Raccoon Creek Park Trail Phase I - **Grant application submitted**

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

9. Walkway to Hannahs Park from US 62

a. Committee Goals

Review of goals list discussed at the previous meeting.

Committee approved Goals for 2021 as follows:

- 1. Apply for the 2020 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant through ODOT for Raccoon Creek Park Trail Phase I - Grant application submitted*
- 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 62*

4. Raccoon Creek Park (including TAP grant)

Grant application due January 31st, Bailey Klimchak said they are right on schedule and would like to have submitted the week of the 25th.

5. Johnstown Trailhead Park

a. Johnstown Trailhead Park Timeline

Document presented showing activity and history of projects at the Trailhead park for committee review; this document can be kept up to date and could be helpful when applying for grants to show the village has worked to make continued improvements. Bailey asked that the Babcock Foundation be added as a donor to the Shelter House. Staff will work to add project costs to the spreadsheet.

b. Pedestrian Counter

A pedestrian counter could be helpful for statistics when applying for funding; a cost of \$8,000 previously approved by Finance Committee but ultimately decided to hold off until 2021; timing of purchase will be discussed at the next Finance Committee. Ms. Van Deest thought there may be money available through the Walk.Bike.Ohio.

6. Walk.Bike.Ohio (WBO)

Bailey Klimchak provided update; Walk.Bike.Ohio is a statewide pedestrian plan that has been a two year project for ODOT and provides a road map for addressing challenges and identifying opportunities in the State. It includes an assessment of the current active transportation system and outlines some goals, strategies and action items to achieve

those goals. Ms. Klimchak shared some data, goals and strategies from the project and said this plan is good for Johnstown because we are working on the Active Transportation Plan right now and will hope to work with ODOT to address some village goals. Ms. Van Deest talked about future potential for pursuing a connection between the Commerce Park and the bike path; committee discussion continued on thoughts.

Other ideas for Trailhead Park discussed were Food Trucks, Farmers Market and Pickle Ball.

7. Mastodon Preserve

Signage identifying trails and QR readers are up. No new updates.

8. Licking County Parks - Richard Waugh

Richard Waugh provided updates: LCATS did counts on the bike path for the Licking Park District this past year; added that they could differentiate between walkers and riders. A car counter was being installed at Infirmary Mound Park, product software is Eco-Counter; could check with LCATS on the counters. Noted a new recreation preserve north and west of Johnstown on North County Line, an important bike trail connection between Delaware and Knox Counties and a wish for connecting with Johnstown in the future, not being actively pursued at this time but it is on their radar. The park district hopes to purchase 1/3 acre along Concord Road for a twelve space parking lot for the bike trail; exhibit has been sent to the property owner, waiting on response.

9. Active Transportation Plan update

Ms. Klimchak said public survey was released on the fifth, encouraged all to share to get as much feedback as possible.

10. Other Business

1. Ms. Hendren asked when the fence for the dog park would be sent out for bid; Ms. Klimchak said she and Jack Liggett would like to start getting a schedule together over the next few weeks. Mr. Liggett said engineering/design work would be needed prior to sending out for bid. Is there potential for sharing the Licking Park District plans already engineered. Mr. Liggett asked for clarification on whether or not he was to proceed with getting engineering. Mr. Waugh said the part district has specifications that are ninety percent complete and were sent to Johnstown with a preliminary estimate based on layout, he does not think much money now needs to be spent on engineering, just needs staff to get the layout finalized with exact placement and dimensions. Mr. Liggett will work to meet with staff to finalize; status report to be provided at next meeting.

11. Adjourn

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

AYES: Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher, Sharon Hendren

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.