



Park & Rec Committee
Thursday, April 8, 2021 - 10:00 AM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Carol Van Deest called the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting for April 8, 2021 to order at 10:00 am.

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

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

Public present - Richard Waugh

2. Action on Minutes

a. March 11, 2021

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

AYES: Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher, Sharon Hendren

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

3. Joint Recreation District Updates

Waiting on applications; currently have about seven willing to serve on the board through the application process. After the deadline, representatives of the School Board and Village Council will meet to discuss vetting procedure.

4. JYAA updates

No updates to note; will continue to work with them once they start the annexation process.

5. Nature Works Grant for Trailhead Parking Lot

2021 Committee Goals

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

Bailey Klimchak updated that she is in the process of completing the application to apply for funds to pave the trailhead parking lot and plans to have it turned in before the deadline of June 1st. Added that the village has to cover twenty five percent and she will be working with Jim Lenner and the Finance Committee to make sure that funds are bookmarked somewhere if the grant is received.

6. Johnstown Trailhead Park

a. Shelter House completion updates; top soil/drain tile/sidewalk estimate

Estimates were requested for sidewalk installation in two areas: 1) from the Trailhead parking lot to the new shelter house and 2) from US 62 to the Hannahs Park shelter house. Jack Liggett said Holbrook Concrete's estimate was the best overall bid; his price to install the Trailhead sidewalk is \$2,000.00. Mayor Dutcher said he was confident the village could find the money in the budget to get it done.

Marvin Block said the stone yard on Pratt Street has a ten foot arch they are willing to donate for the entrance to the Hannahs Park walkway if the village would put in two pillars for it to sit on; need to get prices for the pillars. Mr. Block said Susan Straub will be drawing up a rendition of the walkway to get a visual on what it would look like. Discussion on the vision for benches along the walk way, concrete bump-outs where benches will sit would necessitate a new estimate due to the extra concrete. Ms. Van Deest also noted potential for applying for Babcock Foundation funds for beautification.

ACTION: Chip Dutcher moved for a recommendation from the Park & Rec Committee to the Finance Committee that we fund the Holbrook sidewalk bid for the Trailhead; Carol Van Deest seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher, Sharon Hendren

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

Ok for Holbrook to plan and get on his schedule but wait for Finance Committee approval.

Mr. Dutcher noted the \$1,500 for fertilization of the grass in the parks; Mr. Liggett took note of other tasks for service staff that were mentioned.

b. Pedestrian Counter update

Bailey Klimchak said she has an updated quote and will be ready to order today or tomorrow, it takes three to four weeks to arrive once ordered.

c. Dog Park updates

Bailey and Jack will meet this afternoon with contractors they would like to hire to build the fence, once that meeting is finished they plan to set up an official timeline to hire one of them and get started.

7. Active Transportation Plan Draft

a. [ATP Draft](#)

Carol Van Deest noted this plan is more about pedestrians and cyclists not about cars and trucks, more about getting around without those vehicles. Ms. Van Deest previously asked Council members and staff to review the draft and provide feedback. Mr. Lenner said he thinks the concept of the Mobility Hub should be mentioned in the plan. Mayor Dutcher agreed on adding the Mobility Hub, said he thinks the report is great, the best part is this is a good blueprint especially on the crosswalks and things to start working to fix. Added that we need an additional bike rack in the park yard. Ms. Van Deest noted the report mentions a sidewalk on Bigelow coming from Creekside and that Creekside is responsible for putting it in; Mr. Lenner said that will be put in with the traffic signal improvements; some discussion on potential for expediting that installation if possible.

Ms. Van Deest encouraged review of the comments on the draft. Ms. Klimchak said next steps are to take the comments and incorporate them into the document then get a final draft together; it needs to go to the Licking County Transit Board and her plan is to have a committee vote to recommend it to Council and then for Council to have a vote to adopt it.

8. Hannahs Park Walkway

Discussed earlier under Trailhead

9. Downtown Johnstown, Inc.

a. Clean Sweep

Sharon Hendren said Clean Sweep is May 22nd; discussion on potential for volunteers.

10. Licking Park District - Richard Waugh

Richard Waugh said he is still working on a parking lot at Concord Road, has a positive spin, getting a price for construction.

11. Other Business

1. Jim Blair asked Richard Waugh if there was any plan to put some control on electric bicycles speeding up to 30 mph on the bike path. Mr. Waugh said it is hard to enforce that, they did look at what the State of Ohio uses, there are three classes of e-bikes; Class 1 and 2 go up to 20 mph, and Class 3 goes up to 30 mph. The Licking Park District has a policy in place which follows the State's guidelines for paved trail paths only allowing Class 1 and 2 e-bikes; if there is an accident that involves a Class 3 bicycle going 30 mph, it's a civil suit rather than a suit that would involve the Park District or the Village of Johnstown.

2. Sharon Hendren asked about putting sign messages up for Clean Sweep.

3. Next meeting is May 13, 2021.

12. Adjourn

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

AYES: Carol Van Deest, Chip Dutcher, Sharon Hendren

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.