

October 20, 2022

Parks and Recreation Committee

Members present:

Laura Miller

John Bickhart

Tina Skinner

Audrey Reith (via phone)

Guests:

James Ambrose (tree committee)

Casey Groff (tree committee)

Heide Harper (garden liaison)

Staff present:

Robert Weer, Assistant Township Manager

- 1. Call to order 7:00 pm**
- 2. Approval of agenda** as presented
- 3. No Guests present**
- 4. Approval of minutes**

5. Park Report

Park: Robert said the Lowe's reached out and offered \$2,500 donation and asked what was needed. Because the park is trying to recruit volunteers, the township asked for tools that can be used when help is available. A flyer will be posted in the kiosk, on social media, etc. to thank Lowe's and encourage volunteers. Laura said that volunteer day will be third Saturday of each month beginning in November 19th, 9-11:30. Rain date the following Saturday. Approved by members. Heide said there is garden work to do.

Dog Park- Robert said the shade sails were taken down.

Garden: Heide said everyone is being reminded to clean up by Nov. 1st. The work is 25% done.

Financial Report: Robert said same as last month. We should do this quarterly. The township budget has not been approved yet. \$650,000 deficit means earned income taxes will get raised. Money is tight, he said.

6. Old business

Update on grants: nothing new

Benches are being delivered October 20 to be installed by township staff.

Blosser: Docstetter Foundation grant used on the Blosser property. New development trail and golf course trail improvements have been made. Robert said the State Road sidewalk gets “more traffic than we ever anticipated.” Taking foot traffic right down to the park. Also people parked at the park for homecoming and walked to the school.

Casey asked how long the sidewalk took to get. Robert said that it had been discussed forever, and grant applications were denied for many years, but in 2015 it gained traction when money was allocated to get the engineering plan in place for grant applications.

Goddard Memorial Garden: no update from landscape architect. John expressed concern that this is taking so long, and that she doesn't seem to be doing anything for 18 months. Robert explained that BOS chose the architect, and Ken has been working with her.

Laura volunteered to email Ken, copying everyone on the committee, with a request for a timeline from the architect. John pointed out that spring is right around the corner.

Invasive Plant removal: Laura, Casey, and John took a walk. The area we worked on in the spring looked good. Identified areas that might be more important than others – many along the perimeters where sunlight is allowing the invasives to get up in the trees. Hopefully incorporate it with volunteer days. Also, to create a log to record areas worked on. Casey asked about tracking volunteer areas too. He said vines are one of the main things we want to focus on. Committee looked at maps John has. Laura asked if the township has a CAD file from the engineer so that she can manipulate it. Robert made a note to check. Casey asked if contour, vegetation, and waterways are on the files. Laura said yes, proposed plans are on files, but she hasn't gotten it in a form that can be manipulated.

John Bickhart trail projects: John met with Bob in September, and he has been working with new maps. He gave Bob a copy of four volunteer projects to be looked over for format/presentation, then he will do the remaining eight projects. Robert said those will be reviewed, and sorted by projects ready to go, and those that need additional material or township staff help. John said he will email all 12 projects next month before the meeting so the committee can approve it for the December BOS meeting. Laura offered to scan the map and create a clear picture of his map with the numbered projects.

T-shirt and signage pricing:

Audrey sent pictures and estimates ranging from \$10-15 per shirt, with logo

Tina suggested “Goddard—I love this park!”

Or Laura suggested “Friends of Goddard Park”

Casey has not gotten pricing on a banner for volunteer days. Laura asked for a couple estimates to bring before the BOS

Brandywine urban forest proposal:

Robert said “it’s in the proposed budget”

Laura asked if he could share the proposal with the committee so we could review it. Robert agreed.

7. New Business

Volunteer Day: ideas to increase volunteer base using vinyl signs that announce “Third Saturday 9-11:30” event.

Discussion surrounded signs and banners.

Patrick said he has a contact in the charter school that he could reach out to.

Budget for 2023: Nothing

Community Day: shared idea to have a two to three-hour gathering with sponsored tables and booths for treats to be handed out, a scavenger hunt with township history, and a pet costume contest. (Outline attached) Everyone was encouraged to create a list of businesses and organizations that they work with and could approach to sponsor the event.

Volunteer Day: Laura said a list of projects needed: vine removal, garden maintenance

Scout Project: John said they were trying to identify appropriate projects. Robert said a plan is needed for trail markers with a

consistent look/identity. Laura suggested an intern would be helpful.

New Board Member: Three guests invited to consider appointment.

8. Adjournment: 7:30 pm