

April 19, 2023

Board Members:

Heide Harper
Laura Miller
Audrey Reith
John Bickhart

Staff:

Robert Weer

Guests:

Dave Conners (BOS)
Casey Groff

1. Call to order, 7pm
2. Approval of agenda
3. Recognition of guests- Dave Conners
4. Approval of minutes for March 15th
5. **Park Report:** Nothing

Dog Park: nothing

Veggie Garden: Heide mentioned that there is no water in the rain barrels. Robert said they were drained in preparation for winter. Heide thinks there may be a leak in the rain barrel, Robert said he would look into it. Donated soil was delivered, and the gardeners worked to install into garden beds. Heide is interested in having more raised beds, people are not renting beds that are not raised. Heide asked for 6-8 more raised beds. Robert suggested we request it in the 2024 budget. Robert said that donations from Laurel valley have dried up.

6. Old Business:

Community Day- Tina has stepped down from leading the effort to organize the community day. Dave Conners would like to discuss and find a way to keep it rolling. He is willing to help with fund raising and parking. He said the key is to keep it simple. Pick 5-6 items to happen. Robert said that last time we had this event the committee met one year in advance and met twice a month, the last month they met every week. Dave suggested virtual meetings. Dave thought he could raise 6-7k, if we have additional money above the needed amount it could go towards the park. Audrey asked if our letter/form could be put into township social media. Audrey said that the state police would need to be contacted by the township for parking. Audrey said she can put the form into a pdf and send it to the township if they could post it. Robert said "Township is not to do anything" Dave said the overall thought process is that the taxpayers should not be paying for the community day event.

Dave asked about proposed activities: Laura mentioned that Tina had planned to have a history scavenger hunt for the kids (history museum to help, Scott Steel) Halloween parade for kids and dogs, the event would be limited in time.

Dave asked what is the proposed budget? Laura said We don't know.

Last time we had this event we had food trucks, bought cases of water, ect., we believe the budget was 5k., trailer and stage were donated tractor was from public works.

Audrey mentioned that the township would need to get riders insurance.

Dave mentioned he would email Tina to see if she would step back in with everyone in alignment. Food Trucks need to be contacted right away because they book fast, Laura said she has one food truck contact. Dave mentioned "Mazula Fire pizza" that goes to "Be here brewing".

Volunteer Day-Casey- Casey said volunteer day went well, they had 4 volunteers in addition to our members. He gave out t-shirts. He feels that it would take another workday or 2 to finish up the current area. Conversation surrounding herbicide application. Outcome-just cut and no herbicide application.

Park Trail assessments- JB said he didn't know why the township rejected the volunteer projects he developed as "shelf ready projects" Robert said that the township prefers to address the needed improvements in a permanent manner (waiting for opportunities with grant money) rather than having volunteers working on a temporary fix. JB asked if the property line could be identified so the one trail re route could happen with volunteers. Audrey agreed that the trail re route was important. Robert said he could have the area delineated by the may volunteer day. A 10-15 foot buffer was recommended.

JB said he would like to sit down with the individuals that provided feedback to his Park trail assessments and go over their evaluation. Robert said he would take back our response to their evaluation. Robert said the township wants to take all things as one big project. They are waiting to pave all the paths. Robert said that is the permanent fix. Casey asked if there were alternative fix's that were not so damaging to the forest? Robert said no. Laura Mentioned that Husbands run trail has steep slopes, wetlands and exposed tree roots. Robert said they're following Natural Lands Proposal. Laura said that the Natural Lands Proposal did not advise to pave the trails

Dave said that the township is trying to find projects for grants but that should not keep parks and rec from doing smaller projects.

Discussion surrounding putting the banner up for the next volunteer day.

Casey would like to propose we have a budget item dedicated to increasing the volunteer base. There was a discussion surrounding the role of the parks and rec committee.

Dave said that we are an advisory committee to the BOS. Previous successful parks and Rec committees focused on the larger trail system, not just Goddard Park. Robert said that we should be back to what our committee was originally designed to be. For Instance, "Should we have pickle ball in the park?" or "Long Term plans for the Blosser property" Robert said that the description of our committee is in our ordinance. An amphitheater and athletic field were mentioned.

Goddard Memorial Garden- Laura said that last meeting we received plans from the township landscape architect. The garden has been relocated and re designed. Members viewed the plans. Dave suggested meeting at the park with Shane and develop a plan moving forward . Dave mentioned there were several artifacts on the Goddard property that could be salvaged and perhaps included in the garden. Dave will talk to Shane and get a couple of dates, then send those times to the committee for a meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:45pm-table new business for next meeting.

