

Village of Three Oaks Parks and Recreation
Committee Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2020

Call to Order: 7:01 pm

Roll Call: (roll call)

Joan Brown present Gigi Carroll _____ Marlene Kramer present
Larry Shawver present Tyler Ream present Debbie Schutt _____ Becky Thomas present

Absent: Gigi Carroll (Happy Birthday Gigi!), Debbie Schutt (sick)

Guests: _____ Dan Faulkner _____ Richard Smith _____
_____ Sharon Christner _____

Approval of: Minutes September 14, 2020 / Agenda October 5, 2020 (roll call)

Motion: _____ Larry Shawver _____ 2nd _____ Beckey Thomas _____

roll call: Joan Brown yes Gigi Carroll _____ Marlene Kramer yes Larry Shawver yes
Tyler Ream yes Debbie Schutt _____ Becky Thomas yes

Public Comment:

Unfinished Business:

- Carver Park:
 - Varnishing of Pavilion wood: Dan: completed and looking good!
 - Maps in Kiosk: Larry noted this wasn't maintained in the past and should be regularly updated. Dan has been doing a great job with it.
 - Community Christmas Tree lighting and options: Dan spoke with Clay from DPW. Clay recommends planting a new tree that isn't as tall. Right now a lift is needed to put christmas lights on the current tree. Squirrels often damage the lighting and it is very hard to maintain. Joan noted that the tree decorated last year is not the usual tree that was used. The usual tree was accidentally cut down.

MOTION: Motion to purchase and plant a new Christmas tree in Carver Park

Motion: _____ Tyler Ream _____ 2nd _____ Marlene Kramer _____

roll call: Joan Brown yes Gigi Carroll _____ Marlene Kramer yes Larry Shawver yes

Tyler Ream yes Debbie Schutt _____ Becky Thomas yes

MOTION PASSES

- Chamberlain Path: Dan is working on the final paperwork for the Pokagon grant for this project. The last thing we need to do is put a plaque along Chamberlain Path to acknowledge the Pokagon Fund for their donation. Becky suggested placing a plaque into one of the planter boxes. Larry noted that it can be a simple plaque, nothing too extensive.

- Dewey Cannon: Becky asked about tree trimming for the trees that need it in Dewey Cannon. Joan noted that the trees cannot be trimmed until the weather is consistently under 45 degrees. Dan is going to get with Clay on this.

- Dillard Park: *See “Community Involvement” under New Business. Butterfly plants for back flower beds.

- Warren Plaza:
 - Placard/stand- Joan noted that the placard is looking great!

- Watkins Park:
 - Watkins Park Grant Application revisions : Dan: revisions were sent in. May be some time before we hear back and get a revised score.
 - Hoadley Trail wetlands project: dead in the water for now.
 - Wood chips for Timber Town (Spring 2021)- volunteer project opportunity. Larry mentioned that this would be a great project for the Rotary club. Dan said the chips get dumped over the railing and they just need help spreading them around evenly. Larry is going to contact the Rotary to get confirmation they can take on this project.

- Township Report –

- Public Restrooms – discussion postponed
- Picnic tables –staining /painting in Spring 2021 - volunteer opportunity : Tyler, Larry, Joan, and Marlene all volunteered to take part in this project. Sounds like a great project for the Parks and Rec board.
- Ball Park Lease renewal – with Legion Post 204 status of lease discussion: Last month P&R board approved a new 3 year lease. (a 30 year lease by the village just ended) The lease is currently in the attorney's hands and is being sent to the Legion for approval. If approved by the Legion the lease will then go before the Village Council at their next meeting Wednesday Oct 14th. Over the next three years we can decide how to approach this arrangement for the long term.

New Business

- Hoadley Trail: future improvements to paths : Dan will be looking at the budget as we consider improvements. Larry mentioned there was a grant application and/or improvement plan for the trail that was worked on in the past that included making it handicap accessible. Asked Dan to pull up that plan for next meeting. Larry noted that the trail is very wet and often impassable. Will need some solid investment and improvement to get the trail fully functional.
- Community Involvement – butterfly friendly plantings in Dillard Park: Tyler noted that the master gardner that lives behind Dillard park is planning to plant milkweed in her yard to attract butterflies. A lot of interest in planting more butterfly attracting plants in the parks and around the village. Sharon Christner's comments in the public comment section lead to discussion of possibly having a class on planting and propagating milkweed and other butterfly attracting plants. This could be held in the library or a park. Tyler will get in touch with the gardner about this.

Dan noted that Suzanna Bierwirth asked about getting hanging flower planters for downtown. There are questions about how we would maintain these. Specifically water retention in the pots. Otherwise they would need very regular watering and would be hard to reach. Other towns have had to use a watering truck to do this. Tyler noted that he had met a woman (Joyce @ 7 Walnut St) that lives near Carver park that is a master gardener and may have some insight.

- Marlene and Tyler will meet Dan at Carver park at 9am on Friday to assess where the new Christmas tree will go.

Public Comment:

Sharon Christner: Would be great if the milkweed could be offered to local residents to plant. Would love more info on growing milkweed to attract butterflies. Marlene mentioned that the plants do not transplant well. Joan noted that it is best to plant it from seed. Sharon mentioned that Ellen Dubois may be a great resource for gardening info as well.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion: _____ Becky Thomas _____ 2nd _____ Larry Shawver _____
roll call:

Joan Brown yes Gigi Carroll _____ Marlene Kramer yes Larry Shawver yes
Tyler Ream yes Debbie Schutt _____ Becky Thomas yes

Next meeting **November 2, 2020**