

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 3, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Aaron Findling, and held via Zoom. Committee members present were Lindsay Buker, Caleb Christen, Aaron Findling, Randy Fahringer, Todd France, Rick Gilts, Will Harbauer, Christopher Patrick, and Tony Wade (9). Quinn Baumgartner and Jessica Kemp were absent (2). Also present were Council Representative Deborah Born and Operations Manager, Greg Kuhr.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 5, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. France asked that his comment be struck from the record about paving the path at Woodlands Park. Mr. Harbauer moved to approve the amended minutes. Seconded by Mr. Findling. Ayes: (9). Nays: (0).

PARK REPORTS

Rivercrest – Rick Gilts reported:

- No change, looks good
- Freshly mowed
- Activity picking up at the park
- Kudos to the City crew

Milestone – Will Harbauer reported:

- Looks sharp, kudos to the City

Riverside – Will Harbauer reported:

- Looks great
- Family takes frequent walks
- Clean out growth of saplings in sides of steps

Orleans – Jessica Kemp emailed report:

- Park looks great, there have been a lot of people using the park
- There is still graffiti under the bridge, and the lights under the bridge were not on (thought they used to be on all the time, not sure if they are working or if they have light sensors or a timer now), and Mr. Kuhr said that he would double check on the lights under the bridge, as he believes that they are on a photocell sensor
- Wondering if there could be a bike rack somewhere near the river walk, and Mr. Kuhr said that it wouldn't be a problem to add one near there

Municipal – Christopher Patrick reported:

- Looks great, and that there has been a lot of activity over the weekend
- He would like to explore the possibility of heating the pool, and the previous quotes that had been received for heating options, and Mr. Kuhr said that he would look into it

-Mr. Findling asked about the installation of wind screens at the tennis and pickle ball courts and Mr. Kuhr said he is gathering quotes for the scope of the project and that it will be in the 2022 budget at the latest

Woodlands –

-Mr. France noted that the concrete pads are being installed for the sculptures, and Mr. Kuhr said that the project was started last week and confirmed that Toledo Edison was out there today doing work on the electric for those pads

Eisenhower – Lindsay Buker reported:

-Looks great, busier than last year

Hood – Aaron Findling reported:

-Freshly mowed and well-manicured

-Noticed that the white fence around the porta-potty has been removed, and Mr. Kuhr said that they are working on rebuilding that structure due to the wind

Three Meadows – Tony Wade reported:

-Erosion project looks nice, especially the docks area

-Problem with kids throwing rocks in the pond – maybe need a sign

-Noted the dirt piles at the northeast side of the pond, and Mr. Kuhr added that those piles are still there for DPS to use

-Asked if there is a schedule for the repair of the sidewalks at the shelter house, and Mr. Kuhr said that once they have their summer help that the sidewalks will be prepped and poured

-Mr. Wade asked Ms. Born if there has been any more consideration given to installing a walking path around the pond, and Ms. Born said that she brought it up at the last Recreation Committee meeting, and that she will continue to do so

-Noted that the floors need cleaned at the shelter house and Mr. Kuhr said that his seasonal help can power wash those floors

Bicentennial – Todd France reported:

-The porta potty structure has been fixed

-The soccer goals have been removed and Mr. Kuhr said that they are currently at DPS for storage (not sure if ownership of goals has been determined)

Rotary – Greg Kuhr reported:

-Inclusive Playground site work is under way, and DPS is continuing to make improvements around the park

-The extra dirt from the playground will go to good use

REVIEW OF RECREATION COMMITTEE – Deborah Born reported:

-Brief discussion about the Fort Meigs Crosswalk Study, and Mr. Gilts said that he's happy to see the progress thus far – Mr. Kuhr said that he would like time to review

-Shared concerns from residents regarding the inappropriate graffiti at Woodlands Park, and thanked DPS for cleaning that up

-Shared concerns from residents regarding recent violence at the basketball courts at Municipal Park, and noted that the Police Division handled those
-Thanked Mr. Wade for his suggestions regarding pond erosion at Three Meadows Park
-Asked Mr. Kuhr about the artists that will be displaying their work at Woodlands Park, and said that she's concerned with the art being an easy target for graffiti – Mr. Kuhr noted that lighting is a part of the project, so that should help

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. France shared a presentation and pictures with Committee members that he has been working on with regards to the use and activity at Orleans Park compared to other parks in Perrysburg. He said that he passes by Orleans at least 4-6 times a week, and said that he wants to understand the benefits of the parking lot being paved for future use. Mr. France added that based on the information that he gathered on April 10, 2021 that there does not seem to be a huge need to pave the parking lot at Orleans Park. He added that he would like the Committee to be more proactive to guide the development of the parks, as noted in Chapter 280.01. Mr. Kuhr acknowledged Mr. France's points about Orleans Park and noted that currently the park is being used for kayaking and canoeing. There was a brief discussion about how often Orleans Park has flooded over the years, and Mr. Kuhr said that recently it was up to two years ago. Mr. Kuhr discussed the yearly maintenance that is needed to maintain the gravel lot at Orleans, and there was further discussion on the cost effectiveness of paving the lot. Ms. Born said that she likes Mr. France's points and added that she hasn't heard that the public is concerned. There was a brief discussion about the Committee considering a recommendation with the parking lot at Orleans Park, and a few members said that they wanted to think about it before voting. Mr. Patrick noted that there will need to be a plan made to address the egress entrance of that park as the use increases.

Mr. France made a recommendation that Orleans parking lot not be paved. Seconded by Mr. Findling. Ayes: Buker, Christen, Findling, France, Gilts, Patrick, and Wade (7). Nays: Harbauer (1). Abstain: Fahringer (1).

Mr. Harbauer asked about the status of reserving the shelter houses, and Mr. Kuhr said that currently the City is taking reservations but with limitations based on the Governor's current orders. He added that restroom facilities are still closed, but that they are ready to open them when the Governor allows.

Mr. Harbauer made a recommendation that the City open the public restrooms. Seconded by Mr. Patrick. Ayes: Buker, Christen, Fahringer, Findling, France, Harbauer, Patrick, and Wade (8). Nays: Gilts (1).

Mr. France suggested that if weather permits that the Committee meet at Three Meadows Park for meetings going forward, and Ms. Born added that the Administration made the decision to hold formal meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Alfaro
Recording Secretary

Next meeting: Monday, June 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom