



MINUTES

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP-PARKS COMMITTEE

February 15, 2021 @ 6:00 pm

Zoom – Virtual Call

Next Meeting Date: March 15, 2021 Location: Virtual - Zoom

Park Committee Members: Bill Walker, President | Kim Sippy, Vice President | Ted Sitchanoff, Secretary | Paul Dittman, Treasurer | Dave Lintner | Laurie Ballenger | Cleopatra Kum | Rick Plummer, Parks Liaison |

Call to Order time: 6:02pm with Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present – Bill, Kim, Paul, Ted, Rick, Dave, Cleo, Rick

Absent: Laurie

Guest: Christine Maticic, Trustee Liaison

Ratify of Minutes, previous meeting: January 2021 minutes ratified, Dave moved, Kim 2nd

Quarterly Reports: No report, will be available in March

Township Liaison Report – Rick:

- Worked on chipping honeysuckle in Cherokee and Turnbridge parks
- Met with Lynn White, reviewed dates, Liberty Twp. parks dates to be discussed in continuing park business

New Park Business:

- Duke Energy grant
 - Need additional information on grant specifics, Bill will send to review prior to next meeting
 - Discussed needs: options discussed, planting of trees, ground seeding along Gregory Creek to reduce erosion and reduce invasive species

Continuing Park Business:

- Event dates confirmation: Discussed Liberty Twp. Park dates, put in a couple dates for Lynn White
- 4/17/21 Wildflower Walk – Dudley Woods
- 4/24/21 Garlic Mustard Pull – Dudley Woods

- 5/1/21 (non-park sponsored) Lynn White – Soil and Water
- 5/15/21 Bird walk/hike - location TBD
- 6/5/21 Nature walk – Cherokee Park
- 6/19/21 School of Fish – Reserves Park
- 6/19/21 to note: Butler County has an event at Dudley Woods
- 7/10/21 Butterfly Walk – Cherokee Park
- 8/14/21 Tree Walk – Dudley Woods

- Open event items:
 - Looking at possibilities of speakers/hosts for some of the events scheduled.
 - Explore possibility of signing up in advance, preregistration system
 - Monitor for continued COVID updates and cancel and/or limit capacity on an event per event basis.

Round table discussion:

- Dave – A lot of honeysuckle cleared since January 2021, 6+ large piles. In Cherokee Park, no honeysuckle making fruit. Some of the neighbors are reaching out and discussing and buying into this process
- Dave - Mark Weber Landscape had a crew of 4 workers volunteer for a full day to clear honeysuckle down by Gregory Creek in Cherokee/Turnbridge
- Christine – Ohio winter township association held virtually this year.
- Christine – Sustainability on parks and recreation into the future
 - Focus on knowing your cost – not just on an activity/event basis but for the long-term cost
 - Explore funding stream(s)
 - Parks and Recreation partnerships with local leaders, for Liberty Twp look for way to partner with the Trustees when need arises
- Christine – Parks and recreation of the future. How can we incorporate health and wellness topics, racial discussions, and other social issues?
 - Explore way to partner with experts to present on different topics
- Bill – Possible activity – nature photography walk(s) in our parks

Adjournment: 6:58pm, 1st Paul, 2nd Ted; unanimous in favor

