



## MINUTES

### LIBERTY TOWNSHIP-PARKS COMMITTEE

**March 15, 2021 @ 6:00 pm**

#### **Zoom – Virtual Call**

Next Meeting Date: April 19, 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, Paul, Ted, Rick, Dave, Rick, Laurie

**Absent:** Kim, Cleo

**Guest:** Christine Maticic- Trustee Liaison, Cheryl Zachry-resident

**Ratify of Minutes, previous meeting:** February 2021 minutes ratified with change of August Nature Walk date to 8/14, Dave moved, Ted 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Quarterly Reports:** No report, will be available in April

#### **Township Liaison Report – Rick:**

- Park restrooms and drinking fountains set to open 4/5/21
- New footbridge crossing turnbridge
- 140 feet of fencing destroyed by fallen trees due to storms in Wetlands East,
- Repaired Dedley Memorial bridge
- Neighbor complaints on disc golf course at Reserves. Will install private property signs near residences. Positive is the course has been very busy and well utilized during the pandemic.

#### **New Park Business:**

- Cheryl Zachry, Liberty Twp resident joined to discuss possibility of a community garden in Wilhelmina Park
  - Benefits of Community Garden would include; provide a way for neighbors to meet, provide walkable educational opportunities, promotes mental and physical health
  - Things for Cheryl to consider with input from the committee

- Put together a presentation on they layout recommended
  - Review of possible funding and we can partner with companies
  - Research potential demand vs. gardening spots needed
  - Submit a formal proposal to the committee, initial estimate of cost.
  - Consider survey of immediate neighbors and also a survey on the Township website.
  - Park committee in agreement that it is ok to move forward to gain additional information as noted above
- Christine Maticic; “Listen Up Lakota” radio program
  - “Listen Up Lakota” interviewed Chrstine. Christine went through the parks and discussed amenities of each park. Discussed the upcoming egg hunt
- Christine Maticic; Discussed Non-profit, 501c status
  - To revive prior non-profit, would need to file all missed returns, potential concerns would have a negative impact and spend all the park funds
  - Would suggest setting up a new non-profit
  - Filing cost would be \$600 federal, \$100 state, \$50 attorney general and approximately \$4500 legal feel
  - If revenues over \$50k in 3 years would need full status
  - Discussed interest if the committee would be interested in the 501c
    - If interested, would need help in targeted areas not limited to the below:
      - Attorney
      - Printing business
      - Experts in particular areas (finance, project management, contracting, accounting, other)
  - Committee would be on its own mertil but report to the parks committee

**Continuing Park Business:**

- Duke Energy Grant, Rick Plummer
  - 2 sets of grants; 1 nature grant \$10k, more stringent, more detailed. 2<sup>nd</sup> \$5k local grant. Area of need recommended would be mature trees w/ root balls
  - Committee ok with pursuing \$5k grant review

**Round table discussion:**

- Mark Weber will lead tree walk on 8/14/21 at Cherokee Park
- Dave – two areas pulled out rusty old barbed wire fence in Cherokee/Turnbridge, township crew will pick it up and dispose
- Next month, April 2021, call will be virtual via zoom, potentially outdoor meeting in May

**Adjournment:** 8:22pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Paul, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave; unanimous in favor