

PARKS COMMITTEE Minutes
5/6/14

Present: Carol Brakenbury, Ann Butler, Linda Ketchum, Pam Ketchum, Hannelore Heyen, Kristin Stiles, Sandi Henschel, John LaPierre, Village Trustee [Liaison to Parks Committee]

Not Present: Losh Spalla, Lindsey Macmillan

1. The meeting began at 4:35pm in the Village Hall. Hanny welcomed back the members who have been away. She then introduced Kristin Stiles, our newest member. Welcome Kristin.
2. The March 18th minutes were discussed. Two additions were made to the minutes. Linda made a motion that we accept the minutes as amended. Sandi seconded. The March 18th minutes were approved.
3. The April 1st minutes were discussed. Two additions were made to the minutes. Linda made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Carol seconded. The April 1st minutes were approved.

JOHN'S LIAISON REPORT:

1. Harry's going to get a new quote to find out about the Corbett park fence.
2. John & Harry went over to South Avenue Park.
 - a. They surveyed the property and now know what the boundaries for the park are.
 - b. The Walnut trees are on park property and can be taken down. Harry needs dry weather in order to remove the trees.
 - c. The junk along the west border of the park belongs to the person in the house to the west of the park. All the clutter and trash from that house, as well as the trees, are on park property. The party who owns the house is responsible for the cleanup but it was thought that DPW will probably do the cleanup.
 - d. John and Harry recommended a split rail fence along the west border.
 - e. Re: Corbett Fence - Harry will clear the fence. We [the parks committee] need to decide what to replace it with.
 - f. There are still questions about liability and safety.
 - g. We need to interview the neighbors who live along the fence to get their input, but we should wait until the Parks Committee decides on what to do. If it's a fence to replace the current fence, then neighbors do not need to be consulted, since it would merely be replacing an existing fence.

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED RE: THE FENCE.

Under consideration: Should it be a living fence or chain-link fence?

1. Linda suggests that we need to consider the lowest maintenance costs. If there's a living fence, who is going to take care of it?
2. Ann suggested a questionnaire for the neighbors to decide whether or not they want the chain link fence or a living fence.
3. Kristin suggests that the questionnaire include the question: *If there were a living fence, will you be willing to maintain it?*
4. Pam suggests that if the decision is to go with a living fence, it be designed to allow for easy maintenance. She gave some suggestions, which might work.
5. Hanny reminded us of the Rick Lair's survey results from the tree board re: a living fence.
6. Kristin suggested we look into a black or green-coated chain link fence. We need to know exactly how much it costs. Harry will look into the cost of both kinds of fences.
7. The question was raised about the fence near the pond on the east side of Corbett Park. Members will take a look at it.
8. John suggested we wait to contact the residents after the committee decides what to do.

Pam sent the following information re: a living fence:

One approach for a living fence or "green" fence is to use a repeat; 10 houses, 10 repeats. Each repeat would include (not in this order); a conifer with a little height 10' to 15', a hedge of lower conifers, some accent deciduous shrubs (viburnum) like those recommended by Rick Lair and possibly a small tree such as a paperbark maple. These elements would be repeated 10 times. The design would be made up of appropriate plant material for the site and would provide a variety of color, height (not too tall), texture, sense of order and would attract a variety of birds. A primary concern is to choose plant material that is easy to maintain, keeps the weeds down, provides interest throughout the year and attracts the birds.

*Members were asked to try to make a decision for next time.

REVIEW OF PARKS:

Who is responsible for which park's survey?

Barry Street: Hanny

Corbett Park: Kristin & Ann

Evergreen Park: Kristin

Harvester Park: Losh

Havenwood Park: Carol

Monica's Playground: Sandi

Remembrance Park: Pam

Sagawa Park: Linda

South Avenue Park: Lindsey & Pam

1. Parks Committee surveys are done in the spring and in the fall.

2. Pam suggested a survey form to be used by the committee.
3. We will do individual surveys. We will then send an email to Linda and Han by May 31, 2014.
4. We will send Kristin some of the previous reports.
5. Hanny suggested putting annuals in Harvester. Pam will dig up the daffodils after they are finished and annuals can be planted in early June. We will decide on a planting date at the next meeting.
6. Corbett fence will take priority.
7. We will need to do ongoing research on Corbett Pond. Hanny will contact someone to find out if anything can be done about the erosion at the pond.
8. Re: Pickleball courts: Harry is having someone come in to seal and 'line' the Pickleball courts on Barry Street. We have to wait for dry weather before he can do that and it needs to continue to be dry for a time afterward.
9. Members were asked to check out Village of Brockport Parks on the Village website. Members should check out the park for which they are responsible to see if they think anything needs to be added or deleted.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Pam discussed the possibility of instituting a search for a grant for playground equipment. There are a lot of opportunities for getting grant money for that equipment.
2. Pam passed out a schematic for South Avenue Park.
3. Hanny reminded us that South Ave was originally meant for green space. The green space proposal means we need to keep the playground area quite small.
4. Members need to decide what we want at South Avenue Park, and then make a proposal to the Board.
5. Dog park and water parks are for later discussion

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Linda let us know that the Day of Service with the SUNY Brockport student volunteers will be August 23, 2014.
2. Linda made a motion that we participate in this annual event. Carol seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
3. Members are asked to come up with [A.] What are the things the parks need? [B.] What is needed for Saturday Day of service?
4. A question was raised re: Surveillance cameras to help avoid vandalism or at least be able to identify those responsible if they vandalize Village property. Who's responsible for providing those cameras? Does getting them fall under any Grant? Police Dept.?

Sandi made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Hanny seconded and the motion passed.

The Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Henschel, Parks Committee Recorder

