

Park Hills Parks, Recreation & Beautification Committee Meeting March 16, 2017

Committee Members Present: Greg Claypole and Jason Reser, Melissa Willig, Krista Morrison, Jim Pfaller, Mary Ann Maffia, Rachel Freitag-Doellman, Stella Snowden, and Dan VonHandorf.

Community Present: Joan Bovard

Discussion of Mission and Vision Statement

Committee decided that each member should email Jason a couple of statement ideas and then the committee will vote at the next meeting.

Planting Protocol - Avant Gardeners

Krista emailed list of Avant Gardeners looking for members to take ownership of park spaces. The Gardeners and City will be working in tandem to complete the annual protocol list provided for the parks by Council Member Spoor. Mary Ann will be taking care of the fountain & bench area in the island on Park Road. Other volunteers are still needed. Major weeding and mulching will be accomplished by public works.

The Rizzo Memorial on Hamilton has areas that will need maintenance in the future, but neither the City nor the Avant Gardeners know if there is already someone taking ownership of the maintenance.

Defining ownership for the rest (city hire in Public Works, Avant Gardeners, Committee Members)

Dan's assistant is a landscaping professional and is effective and efficient at the work in the parks. Mulch and pre-emergent is already being spread, major weeding is done. 6 yards is out in the park, 8 yards in the playground. Dan wishes to install a drainage system to take the water from Trolley Park and direct it to a catch-basin before it reaches the playground.

Public Works vs. Hired Contractor for Spring and Fall

Council Member Zembrodt emailed the committee a request to investigate the cost of the major spring and fall landscaping maintenance. She obtained a quote of \$2000 for an independent contractor to do the work. Dan thought that

he would be able to do a better job for at the same or slightly lower cost due to the efficacy of his part-time help and institutional knowledge. The Committee did not decide but has been impressed with Dan's ownership of park maintenance and details thus far.

Clean-Up Park Hills & Fort Wright - April 8th, 2017

Last minute addition to agenda – Ms. Margie Witt from Fort Wright invited Park Hills to take part in a Clean Up day on April 8th. The committee was not exactly sure what needs to be done, but we did review a document from Ms. Witt. Committee members volunteered to promote the event on NextDoor, FaceBook, and the Digital Message Board. Joan Bovard will contact Ms. Witt to enquire about how involved the schools are already. Rachel will promote on NextDoor. Jason will contact Lt. Webster about Reach and the Message Board. Dan will drive the dump truck to pick up trash and shield volunteers on Dixie Highway.

Potential Projects - What do we want to work towards?

Discussion and ideas were tossed about. Maps of city-owned property were distributed as well as the City's incomplete Pedestrian, Pathway and Bicycling Trail Program.

<http://www.parkhillsky.net/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Park-Hills-Trail-Project-Summary.pdf>

The properties clustered around the VFW hall and up to Trolley Park drew interest and ideas. Jason spoke about equity as it applies to access to facilities and the wish to do a project south of Dixie where residents have no access to park facilities. This would be more difficult as the city does not own property there, though Ms. St. Onge from the PHCA is working to see if NKU would be able to lend permissions on their open-space at the end of Mt. Allen Road.

The issues with St. Joesph Lane, with the apartments at the end, the narrow road, and the St. Joesph Lane TANK Bus stop being the busiest stop on Dixie were discussed. Jason said that looking at a more comprehensive plan like the pathway study may be a better solution as some residents don't want a sidewalk in their yard.

Discussion Greg thought an Appreciation Party or Picnic for all the 50+ committee volunteers, parade volunteers, families and friends would be an excellent event that the city could use to activate a space. This lead to a discussion about the need to research zoning to see if food trucks are appropriate for the city owned properties.

Some other ideas for possible park areas: Farmers Market, Village Green, Free Friday Flicks/ Screen on the Green, Musicians, Community Garden, Community Compost.

Adjourn.

Action Items:

- Each member submits a vision / mission statement for anonymous voting at the next meeting.
- Determine maintenance ownership of Rizzo Memorial on Hamilton
- Contact Mayor about drainage project for Trolley Park
- Forward findings to Mayor on Independent Contractor vs. City Employee for Spring & Fall Park Landscape maintenance.
- Submit ideas for discussion on next agenda
- Promote Clean Up Day
- Research Zoning (<http://linkgis.org/mapviewer/index.html>)

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