

Park / Recreation Committee Meeting

Wed April 6, 2016

6:00pm - 8:15pm

Attended by

Jason Reser, Pamela Spoor, Melissa Catchen, Greg Claypole, Ryan Olexia, Frank Busofsky, Jim Paul, Dan VonHandorf

No votes were taken and here are the subjects discussed:

Several of the committee members were new and there was much general discussion on where the public spaces are located and their issues. First the Trolley park.

Ms. Spoor and Ms. Catchen do most of the care themselves but need help. Committee members volunteered to take specific maintenance duties. All the other public spaces are smaller. The Mt Allen Easement got some discussion as we are not doing anything to beautify it. It has a particularly pretty view and adjoins some green space. However we have no watering source there.

There was discussion of use of the Trolley park for more public events. A children's movie night being the most discussed. Mr. Claypole has looked into the cost of lights and a camera at the park. He also mentioned the possibility of a book exchange box for kids.

The Park / Recreation committee does have a small yearly budget.

The desirability of sidewalks was discussed but there is no budget for that at this time. There was some discussion of asking city council to change the rule limiting road funds so that they at least potentially could be used for sidewalks.

Mr. Reser has been in discussions with other Northern Ky cities. The planned route will go through Park Hills and it is desirable to have as much of that route as possible off-road. He has done much work in this area, has access to grant writers and said most grants are 50/50 or 80/20 but it is likely that some of our part could consist of volunteer services. Part of the proposed route would go up Amsterdam and through the trolley park and a short paved connector would be needed. Ms. Catchen expressed concern that a paved connector would encourage children skate or ride into cross traffic. Re-routing Hamilton Rd would be one way of addressing that. Around the time Gateway School was built Amsterdam was split into separate down and uphill roads. This has caused ongoing maintenance problems with landslides and Ms. Spoor reported that both Covington and Park Hills would like the road returned to two way traffic. That would make the downhill branch available for the bike route. Also discussed where the construction of a paved bike/pedestrian way along the old trolley right of way.

There was quite a bit of discussion of the logistics of such a pathway.

Dan VonHandorf will give an estimate of making a grave and/or paved path along the right of way at Lawton/Audubon.

Mr. Claypole said that Duke Energy might want paved access to the power lines that it has along the old trolley right of way and should be approved for funding.

Jim Paul