

Village of Sunbury
Parks and Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 1st, 2021
5:45 PM

I. Call to Order- Committee Chair Tim Gose opened the Sunbury Parks and Recreation Committee meeting at 5:53p.m., Wednesday September 1st, 2021, in Council Chambers.

II. Roll Call-Those answering roll call: David Martin, Cindi Cooper, and Tim Gose. Also, in attendance were Administrator Steve Pyles, Fiscal Officer Kathy Belcher & Olivia Ballard.

III. Minutes- Minutes from the August 4th, 2021, meetings were reviewed.

Motion by David Martin.
Second by Cindi Cooper.
3 yeas, minutes were approved.

IV. Visitors- No visitors.

V. Old Business

JR Smith and GRE Meeting

Tim Gose and Steve Pyles met with Big Walnut Youth Sports representatives to discuss JR Smith field and lions building. BWYSO is getting the park ready for the football season. They are planning on bringing in food trucks for their games.

- Dave Martin asked if the food trucks will require a water hook up.

Cindi Cooper answered that they will be 100% self sufficient and will not require anything.

Brad Gerwig will continue to mow the fields & BWYSO will continue to paint the lines on the field. Tim Gose discusses the idea of getting keyless locks for the buildings, eliminating keys, since there seems to be many different keys for the facility and it's now unknown how many people have keys and to what.

- Tim Gose will plan on contacting the Lions Club to find out if they have any plans for the building in the future.

Dave Martin states that he knows two people that are with the Lions club that Tim Gose could reach out to, Donna Evans & Rick Eyman.

Main issue at JR Smith is now the collapsing retaining wall in between the two buildings. A quote for the construction for the replacement of the wall had been obtained earlier that day, and it will be discussed at council later that evening.

- Cindi Cooper asked if this task is something the streets department would be able to accomplish.

Steve Pyles responds that there is a lot of work that will go into this project, and it would not be something the streets department would be prepared to take on.

Steve Pyles states that they have considered options for the wall. They looked into block walls and poured walls.

- Cindi Cooper asks if the current condition of the wall is dangerous.

Tim Gose answers that it is potentially dangerous, and collectively agree that it is, also Sunbury's engineer has said it's an issue that needs to be addressed. It is on the agenda for the council meeting later that evening.

Baseball Meeting

Cindi Cooper explains that she had a meeting with the baseball representatives, Steve Pyles and Mayor St. John at GRE. She described the need for the meeting, since there are three different organizations working together: the Village of Sunbury, Big Walnut School and BWYSO. Cindi Cooper then states that it is important to have open dialog with all organizations to have a good working relationship. BWYSO will be hosting a home run derby in the near future, which they are very excited about. She mentioned that there was not a school representative on site. The major issue at GRE is the bathroom facility. The school district owns the bathrooms; however, the Village of Sunbury has the keys to the restrooms.

- Tim Gose asks if it would be possible to also get keyless locks installed on the restrooms

Steve Pyles answers that the restrooms do not belong to the Village of Sunbury, so they would have to talk to the school before making any modifications.

Reservoir Trail Status

Tim Gose asks about the status of the reservoir trail.

Steve Pyles answers that there has been some brush clearing, but the project is behind schedule. Sunbury will plan to reopen the reservoir until the contractor has a better idea of when the work can be completed.

Sunbury Estates Pond

Tim Gose says he met with a resident of Sunbury Estates along with Damin Cappel, and Mayor St. John. Tim Gose says the resident is concerned about the odor from the pond, algae, and the treatment that caused some of the fish to die. Tim Gose says that he contacted the company and their representative said that in this case, they had a very heavy rainfall later on the day that they treated the pond, and the combination of the runoff rainwater bringing oil and gas could have combined with the chemicals that they used to treat the pond and become toxic to the fish. Tim talked with the representative about installing a sub-surface aeration system, which they are working to get an estimate on and could be more effective than the fountains.

Volunteers list

Tim Gose asked if there has been any progress made on the volunteers list.

Steve Pyles shares a memo laying out the different options for volunteering that he and Brad Gerwig had compiled.

1) Adopt a Park- group would commit to either sharing an adoption or fully adopting a park. Adoption would entail a three-date commitment to a half day workday for the park. Workdays would likely be early spring, mid-summer and late fall. The workday would consist of trash clean up and some other basic maintenance tasks that would be set as needed. We have three parks and the town hall that could be adopted for this purpose. We would include some recognition, including signage at the park.

2) Bicycle Ambassadors- as the Ohio Erie trail grows, having some extra eyes on the Sunbury section, providing information to those passing through the community and safe biking education would be some of the tasks we would ask of these volunteers. We would need to coordinate with Preservation Parks, provide and orientation and have identification t-shirt or tag.

3) Office and Project assistance- Staff will work to identify special projects that could benefit from an extra set of hands or someone's experience.

4) Volunteer Clearing House – Once special project would be to establish a good list of other organizations in the community seeking volunteers and create a webpage with that contact information.

- Tim Gose asks if that is something we could put on the website.

Olivia Ballard answers that it could put it on the website under the "How Do I..." section, creating a how do I volunteer tab. Tim Gose also suggested the idea of putting it under the parks and recreation page on the website. A draft of the website will be available at the next parks and recreation committee meeting.

VI. New Business

- 1) Dave Martin states that he received an email from Jackie Haight of Source Point, who is putting together a program called the age friendly Delaware county initiative. This initiative is all about having age friendly outdoor spaces and buildings throughout the county. Dave Martin will attend a zoom meeting & will report back at the October Parks and Recreation committee meeting.
- 2) Tim Gose met with Sunbury's state representative, along with Mayor St. John, Tom Curtain of Preservation Parks, Steve Pyles, Dave Brehm and Todd Barton who is the owner of Duncan oil. Todd Barton's property is the last property to be incorporated to finish the preservation parks trail. It is discussed that there is potential for a hub or facility to serve the Ohio Erie trail in that location.
- 3) Facility rental will be discussed at the October committee meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Motioned by Cindi Cooper.

Seconded by Dave Martin.

Motion approved (unanimous) 6:25 pm