

Park Improvement Committee Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 @ 7:30PM, Library Community Room

Committee Members Present

Frank Ryan

Shannon Quinn

Mike O'Donnell

Kristen Bennett

Richard Thomasey

Thomas Moskal

Stephen Greco

Jeremiah Carnes

Michael Conahan

Committee Member(s)/Not Present

Spencer Durkin

Other Attendees

Jim Benson

Robert Dessino

1. Meeting opened at 7:30pm
2. Roll Call
3. Introductions
4. Discussion of Nomination of Leadership roles- Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary.
 - a. Nominations
 - i. Shannon Quinn nominated for Chairperson by Stephen Greco, second by Frank Ryan.
 - ii. Richard Thomasey nominated for Chairperson by Kristen Bennett, second by Shannon Quinn.
 - iii. Richard Thomasey nominated for Vice Chairperson by Shannon Quinn, second by Mike O'Donnell.
 - iv. Marie Filik nominated for Secretary by Stephen Greco, second by Mike O'Donnell.
 - b. Unanimously voted in:
 - i. Shannon Quinn- Chairperson
 - ii. Richard Thomasey- Vice Chairperson
 - iii. Marie Filik-Secretary
5. Discussion
 - a. Ideas/Updates
 - i. Victor Cromwell Park (VCP) should be a major overhaul not just short-term fix. (Ryan)

- ii. Parks should be designed ‘active’ or ‘passive’ parks. Active (soccer, football, baseball, etc.) not in residential areas. Passive parks (walking, picnic, etc.) okay in residential areas. (Thomasey)
 - iii. Middlesex Pool should be covered with a dome to allow swimming to be part of physical education curriculum. (Thomasey)
 - iv. Memorialize park space so that they stay park spaces (Thomasey)
 - v. Utilize “pocket lots” to create neighborhood parks. (Thomasey)
 - vi. Daisy Park purchased by Army Corp of Engineers. Create a passive park along Flood wall (Carnes)
 - vii. Establish subcommittees for VCP. Mountain View, Pocket parks (need list) and trails (Conahan)
 - viii. Lincoln park. Development was stopped. Should obtain deed and Heritage Committee should get it on the historic preservation list so nothing can be built there. (Ryan)
 - ix. Starting 1/1/23, Borough hired Grant writing vendor to help us obtain more grant funding. (Conahan)
 - x. Creating a walking trail all the way around VCP. (Conahan)
 - xi. VCP should be crown jewel. (Fireplace doesn’t work, bathrooms don’t work). Could freeze lake and use for ice skating. Add paddleboat rental (Stephen)
- b. Fundraiser Ideas
 - i. Bonfire in Flying field (sell marshmallow roasting kits)
 - ii. Hot cocoa by VCP lake
 - c. Planned events
 - i. June ‘23- Community Day returns
 - ii. Movies in the Park
 - iii. Concert in the Park
6. Old Business
- a. NONE
7. New Business
- a. Mission & vision statement-discuss next meeting
 - b. Make subcommittees next meeting
 - c. Shannon & Rich to review meeting schedule (holidays, July/August-one meeting, December meeting)
8. Adjourn Meeting at 8:40pm by Carnes, seconded by Conahan.

Next Meeting- Tuesday, January 3, 2023