

Park Improvement Committee Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday December 5, 2023 @ 7:30PM, Library Community Room

Committee Members Present

Michael Conahan
Stephen Greco
Shannon Quinn
Mike O'Donnell
Frank Ryan
Thomas Moskal
Spencer Durkin

Committee Member(s) Not Present

Jeremiah Carnes
Kristen Bennett
Todd Nicolay
Richard Thomasey

Public/Borough staff

Richard Hendrzak
Claire Levourne
Jack Mikolajczyk
Lenny Vidal
Michael LaPlace

1. Meeting opened at 7:37pm
2. Roll Call
3. Minutes- (accepted by Stephen Greco, second Michael Conahan)
4. Chairperson report
 - a. Shannon thanked everyone for sticking with the committee this past year.
5. Subcommittee Report
 - a. MVP
 - i. MVP Upgrades
 1. Field lighting Update
 2. Fencing- working on measurements.
 3. Foul poles -need to investigate ways to fund this.
 4. Storage trailers- paint & replace or possible donation of trailer/sea box.
 5. MVP Playground area
 - a. Lenny shared that we will be using grant money to update playground areas, update area for ADA compliancy, addition of senior outdoor fitness center and bathroom by end of 2024.
 - b. Second and third phases include football, basketball courts, tennis courts (possibly converting handball court to two pickle ball courts)
 - b. VCP
 - i. Michael LaPlace indicated that there is funding in place for the engineer to conduct a preliminary plan. Engineer to map park this winter so that in the Spring the committee can work with engineer to come up with a master plan. The goal is to have a master plan by summer 2024.
 - ii. Richard Thomasey (not present) sent a note to the committee suggesting the hill area on Oak drive be brought down to "ground level" removing some brush. Lenny Vidal indicated he will look at the area.

6. Old Business
 - a. NONE
7. New Business
 - a. Next meeting set for Tuesday, January 9th at 7:30pm in the Library Community Room. (Sunshine Notice posted/sent on December 8, 2023) This will mostly be a reorganizational meeting. Dates for the rest of 2024 to be decided at the January 9th meeting.
8. Correspondence
 - a. None
9. Public Comments
 - a. Claire Levourne asked if old VCP playground equipment could be repurposed at another park. *This equipment was damaged due to Ida and the new playground was funded by FEMA. Per Lenny Vidal, it will be open once the playground mulch is received and installed. Should be open late December/early January.* Claire indicated that Heather/Clean Communities plans on planting plants VCP that would help prevent geese. *Lenny Vidal to address with Mark Stitts/Parks Supervisor/Clean Communities. Lenny also indicated that nothing should be planted until we hydro rake the lake. Borough purchased hydro rake because it was significantly cheaper than hiring an outside organization to rake. The hydro rake will be stored at the Foreign Express building that the Borough now owns. Before they can remove the 2-3 feet of sediment, they need to find a cost-effective way to dispose of the muck.*
 - b. Jack Mikolajczyk asked the committee if there were plans for the other parks. *The committee wants to work on beautifying the smaller parks (pocket parks) while other plans are waiting to come to fruition. Michael LaPlace indicated that this may be laid out in the master plan for our parks and will send Shannon Quinn a copy of the plan. Lenny Vidal indicated that Cook Field and Fitzsimmons are his next updating projects. Jack asked Lenny to find out what it would cost for training to become a certified playground installer.*
 - c. Richard Hendrzak thanked the committee, the Borough, and the Recreation department for their responsiveness to his concerns. He suggested adding lights to the soccer field that MYSA uses. *Rec/Parks already provides MYSA with use of light towers.* Richard also suggested having an AED on site at MVP. Mr. Hendrzak would also like to see the road closed around the tennis courts. *Lenny Vidal plans to coordinate installing bollard gates like those at VCP in that area.*
10. Committee Member Comments
 - a. None
11. Adjourn Meeting at 8:21pm by Shannon Quinn seconded by Michael Conahan.

Next Meeting- January 9, 2024