

# **WALKERSVILLE PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**June 7, 2023**

In Attendance: Jay Lochner (Commission Chair), Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis (Commissioner Liaison), David Toohey, Anna Newman, Kevin Conley and Kitty Baker. Also present were Ashley Bailey (Communications Specialist) and Kelly Woods (Parks Maintenance).

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jay. The May meeting minutes were motioned to be approved by Anna, seconded by David and approved by all.

## **PARK USAGE REQUESTS**

### **- BOOGIE BEARS TRIATHLON CLUB**

**Robert Leisner**, 6801 Pax Court, New Market, MD. Robert is the asst. coach AND Stephen Hartman is the head coach. Robert requests use of Heritage Farm Park from June 1 – August 16, on Wednesday nights from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. to use the trail paths for running and biking. There would be @ 15-25 participants ranging from ages 6-15. Path courtesy was stressed to yield to others using this area. Michelle from GVAA states “no concern” with request. Paperwork was presented with the Certificate Holder as “Boogie Bears.” It needs to be changed to the “Town of Walkersville” and e-mailed to Ashley Bailey, it was approved. David motioned to be approved, seconded by Anna and all in favor.

### **- FOOTGOLF SIGNAGE – COLE QUALLS**

Cole lives at 30 Fulton Avenue and is making this his Eagle Scout Project. The main sign will be 3’ X 4’ and the hole signage will be 9” X 12”. There was discussion about putting a QR code on the main sign to have a link to the town website showing a map of the course and a scorecard. Mary Ann suggested to Cole to meet with Ashley and Sean to solidify this.

Shannon Baum and Frederick Sign and Banner will be possibly used for the final products.

The buckets and hole markers should arrive next week. Cole will create all the above and forward to Kevin who will then forward it to all commission members.

Kevin made a motion to approve, seconded by David and approved by all in favor.

- **FC FREDERICK SCRIMMAGEFEST – DAVE SHANNON**

Dave requests to use Heritage for a soccer scrimmage on August 19-20. There will be approximately 200-300 players plus parents. GVAA players can register for free. It was questioned if there are any other events at the park at this time because of the increased car traffic and parking issues. This should not be a problem with the date. Motion to approve by Kevin, seconded by Anna and all in favor.

- **ASTRO CRICKET PITCH**

Mr. VASU, 231 Vista Glen Road, Walkersville. Mr. Vasu presented a drawing of a possible cricket court (AstroTurf) to be installed at Heritage. Both of the locations presented interfered with GVAA usage.

Mary Ann suggested going to a Frederick County Parks and Rec meeting and talking with them. New parks are being planned and this could be incorporated into the initial design.

- **Project Open Space (POS) INFORMATION**

Chad Weddle, Burgess and Mary Ann attended the county POS meeting last night. There was \$2,632,630 requested from the municipalities and \$972,870.50 was available. The Town of Walkersville requested \$301,501 and \$120,000 was received. Therefore, the town will need to pay more money for the new playground at Heritage. It was stated this may push the dog park project back further.

- **PARK ACQUISITION UPDATE**

A grant was put in to purchase the 11.6-acre property to the right of the bowling alley on Pennsylvania Avenue and \$227,123.59 was received. This property was listed for sale at \$285,000. Chad will meet with the property owners to discuss possible purchase. There is interest from the town commissioners to purchase this property.

- **GVAA REPORT**

Michelle stated the current season is over. There were some champions from our area. The new website is still in process.

There was talk that the high school wants to partner with GVAA and hold some fundraisers at Heritage. Michelle questioned what paperwork is needed. It was decided if the event is a GVAA event then the town is aware. If it is a high school booster event, the usual Parks Usage Forms needs filled out along with the insurance coverage.

- **KELLY'S REPORT**

- Water at #3 was turned on before the town did so. Questioned how this occurred. Michelle contacted the baseball commissioner who thought it was ok to do so. From now on, he knows the process.
- He is concerned about the Homeschool soccer players safety as they run askew at Heritage. When permission is requested again to use the park, this needs stressed for adult supervision.
- The fish at Trout Park is in and will be installed soon.
- The twisty slide at the large pavilion at Heritage has cracks. It is closed off.
- A new board was put on to repair a bench at Community that was hit and broken by a tree falling.

- **COMMISSION REPORTS**

David – The sign by the houses at Trout Park needs replaced. Is worn.

Kevin – The GVAA soccer fields at Heritage now have signage by the shed and nets. He requests another sign which was approved.

The dog park was discussed since some figures were put out by Joe Birch as to the projected cost. Kevin thought the figures were elevated but Mary Ann explained they contain the labor necessary to complete the task. Kevin will follow up with Joe and Sean about this.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26.

The next meeting will be held August 2, 2023 (Mary Ann will not be present).

Sincerely,

Kitty Baker