

## WALKERSVILLE PARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 5, 2022

In Attendance: Jay Lochner (Committee Chair), Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis (Commissioner Liaison), David Toohey, Patricia Rowley, Anna Newman, Artie Fauble and Kitty Baker. Kelly Woods (Parks Maintenance) was absent. Sean Williams, Walkersville Manager, and Ashley Bailey, Communications Specialist, were present also.

The meeting was called to order by Jay at 7:00 (new permanent time). The December 2021 Meeting Minutes were approved as written except for the correction of the possible number in attendance at the Tree Lighting Ceremony...changed to @ 300.

### **PAUL JOHNSON – TROOP 1998 – EAGLE PROJECT**

He wishes to rebuild the bridge at Community Park located by the tennis courts that was destroyed by Hurricane Ida in September 2021. Paul presented pictures of possible bridges and it was decided a flat bridge, because of ADA compliancy, needs to be built. Footers will need poured for a firm foundation. It is projected this build will occur in March/April. Mary Ann advised Paul to contact Joe Birch to further discuss project, design and permits. Also, Joe will sign off on Paul's project for him to begin. The project was motioned to accept by Artie and seconded by David. All approved.

### **MICHELLE DOSTER – GVAA FOOTBALL REPRESENTATIVE ABOUT PRESSBOX**

This project was originally presented on 8/07/19 by Dave Petrosky and Keith Lertora. These plans remain as submitted previously.

Michelle tonight - Luke Myers, Merritt, is overseeing the project. Grading work needs to be done and a permit obtained. Wishes to redirect excess water that pools during rains, build a gravel path to where spectators sit and possibly move bleachers.

It was suggested that Luke meet with Jim Birch to finalize plans. It is hoped to begin construction in the spring with a couple weeks duration. This was motioned to approve by David and seconded by Anna. So carried.

### **MIKE MCNEISH – FOOD TRUCK EVENT FOR WALKERSVILLE AND 5 FEEDER SCHOOLS**

This is suggested to be held on Sunday, May 1 from 12-4 at Heritage. This event in the past has netted @\$200 for each school. This was motioned to be approved by Mary Ann and seconded by Patricia. So carried.

### **RON LAYMAN – HFP MANOR HOUSE ISSUES**

Wants to have members visit the Manor House to see progress. It was decided to hold our next Commission meeting there on February 2 at 7:00.

Ron questioned when Glade Valley Community Service is moving out of their room. Mary Ann will follow up on this.

States there is an issue with parking behind the Manor House with usage of the W/Z building and events at the house. There is minimal lighting and parking. This will be further discussed at the joint meeting of the Burgess and Commissions and the Parks Commission on 1/12 at 7:00 p.m.

In previous drawings, the U.S. Department of National Parks Service showed a driveway in front of the Manor House. Ron thinks this would be useful for handicapped persons and special events. Feels a gravel one-way driveway would work from “gate to gate.” This will be further discussed and pursued.

### **MARY ANN BRODIE-ENNIS REPORT**

The Economic Development Commission is “up and running.” Their next meeting will be the third Monday of March (the 21<sup>st</sup>) at 7:00.

Aria is planning a ceremony by the memorial at HFP on Friday, May 6.

Memorial Park bricks are being extended. These will be added around mid-March.

P.J. Roofing fixed the Manor House roof leak.

Need to discuss Pavilion fees. Currently are \$50 and \$75, with a \$75 security deposit and a \$10 alcohol permit. No security deposits have been held in two years. Makes for more paperwork and will be an issue with on-line pay.

Possibilities to consider:

- Do not collect security fee
- Increase overall Pavilion fees
- Charge more for out-of-town applications. (Are @ 50% of applications).
- If security fee is discontinued, will areas be left with extra cleanup since there is no deposit incentive?

Sean went to the podium to help facilitate this discussion and provide additional information.

This will be further discussed at the 1/12 meeting.

Need to discuss garden plots and park hours at the 1/12 meeting.

Would like a Park Planner to access parks and provide guidance with better utilization. This will be added to next year's budget.

Snowbirds were added to the W/Z building.

A forester visited Community Park. He talked about adding trees to two different areas. Several hundred whip (small trees) trees to be planted behind tennis courts by the stream. Also, 20 trees (five gallon bucket size) to be planted by the field around the path on the left (adjacent to Creekside). Maintenance provided for whips for two years.

Mary Ann would like Ashley Bailey to create a flyer detailing benches and tree possibilities for Memorial gifts.

### **MICHELLE FYOCK/GVAA REPORT**

Basketball, wrestling and winter trainings are underway. Registration for spring sports is open and will close mid- February. Elections will be held in March.

She would like to be trained on keypad entry to the W/Z building.

In the W/Z building, there is field hockey begin played with special indoor equipment/bumpers. Kitty questioned if the floors are conducive for this and if

there needs to be contact with the town or Parks Commission as to activities that are being held there. Michelle responded "GVAA has exclusive use of the building through April." And, she stated that a recent walk through netted no visual damage to the interior of the building. This will be discussed at the January 12 meeting.

Jay stated that GVAA financials (due in March) to be submitted to B & C and Jay.

**PATRICIA ROWLEY** – Stated she recently saw Amy Petrosky who mentioned that a track and field area is still needed at one of our parks.

**KITTY BAKER** – During a recent Community Park walk, she noticed that the United Way exercise areas (poles with signs) are in disrepair. The back of the signage is rotten and one post does not have a sign at all. Mary Ann will consider removing these.

Also, a check was made on the Chess Eagle Scout Project box (Isaac Benson presented 3/4/20) to see if the lid was corrected (was warped with water damage possible). It appears to be repaired but Jay mentioned that the Scout has not approached him to sign off on his project.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 by Artie and seconded by Patricia. All approved.

The next Parks Commission meeting will be held on February 2 at 7:00 at HFP Manor House.

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Baker