

**Hiram Recreation & Park Board**  
Meeting Minutes via Video Conferencing  
Rosser Municipal Building  
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram OH 44234

**October 5, 2022**

**Park Board Members:**

Chris McCreight, Chairperson  
Isabel Kopp  
Mike Greenwood

**Absent:**

Mayor Lou Bertrand  
James McGee, Village Administrator

**Official Recorder:**

Wendelin Taylor, Asst. Fiscal Officer

**Others Present:**

Chris Szell, arrived at 1:11 p.m.

**General:** Chris McCreight called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. Mike Greenwood motioned to accept May 31, 2022 minutes. Isabel Kopp seconded. Motion passed.

**Public Comment:**

**Century House:** Chris McCreight reported progress is being made by the Historical Society. That should have a noticeable outcome in the near future.

**Bike Racks:** This project is on hold.

**Hiram Parks Smoking Ban:** Chris McCreight has forwarded to the Board members some information regarding signage and the possibility of legislation prohibiting smoking in the parks. Isabel and Mike did not see any problems with Chris' recommendations. Chris McCreight asked Chris Szell, as Council President, did he think the proposed legislation be sent to Tom Reitz the Village Solicitor? Chris Szell agreed forwarding it to Mr. Reitz would be necessary.

**Memorial Trees:** Isabel Kopp has donated three (3) memorial oak trees to be planted at Reign Hadsell Park in memory of M.J. Eckhouse.

**Mulch:** Mulch has been ordered for the playground area of each park. Chris McCreight has expected help from college student volunteers to spread the mulch where needed. That plan unfortunately did not come to fruition. However, James and Steve were able to get the job accomplished.

**Grants:** Mike Greenwood introduced the possibility of applying for the "Canopy Restoration Program" grant. The application would need to be submitted by October 14<sup>th</sup>. After some discussion it was decided to revisit the idea next year. Isabel presented a Soil and Water Conservation District Grant which makes trees available for water shed area reforestation. Chris Szell skimmed over the grant information and stated the grant was for the reforestation of flood plains and stream side areas. Hiram Village does not really have areas meeting that description.


**Park Walk Through:** The primary focus of the walk through is to identify areas in need of work, the maintenance of green space and any repair/replacement of equipment or structures that may be needed. A discussion of possibly replacing the Jagow Park pavilion followed. The roof needs to be replaced. James McGee would like to replace the entire structure. Chris Szell stated the pad was in pretty good shape and could be salvaged. Water damage to the lighting in some locations was spotted as well. Chris McCreight will have a discussion with James to hear his thoughts on the matter.

**Beautification Commission Meetings:** Mike Greenwood stated that he has been looking into the possibility of Beautification and the Park Board combining meetings. He does not believe this should be a problem. Beautification has had issues holding meeting with quorum due to lack of attendance. He asked that Beautification members be invited to Park meetings.

**Other Business:** Jim Schweikert has been in discussions with the college regarding the community use of their ballfields and equipment. Chris McCreight will reach out to him for an update.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

  
Wendelin Taylor, Asst. Fiscal Officer

Approved:

  
Chris McCreight, Chairperson