

Hiram Recreation & Park Board
Beautification Committee
Meeting Minutes
Rosser Municipal Building
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram OH 44234

September 5, 2023

Park Board Members:

Chris McCreight, Chairperson
Mayor Lou Bertrand
Isabel Kopp
James McGee, Village Administrator
Abigail Stevenson, Beautification Committee
Mike Greenwood, Beautification Committee
Karen O'Sickey, Beautification Committee

Absent:

Official Recorder:

Wendelin Taylor, Asst. Fiscal Officer

Guest:

General: Chris McCreight called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Mr. McCreight called for a motion to accept the August meeting minutes. Isabel Kopp moved to accept the minutes. James McGee seconded. Motion passed.

Public Comment:

National Day of Service: James reported this year's National Day of Service will occur on Saturday, September 9th. The actual day of observance is September 11th however, due to the date falling on a Monday, the event will happen on the weekend. James has been contacted by the Church of Latter-day Saints, they have a number of volunteers willing to help spruce up Hiram Village parks and the Fairview Cemetery. He is hoping to have a enough people to paint, trim trees and shrubs and possibly clean some headstones.

Hiram Community Trust Grant: The parks received \$3800 from the HCT for dog park fencing. A discussion followed regarding locations and the fencing quote of approximately \$15,000 already received. Legislation will be needed to approve application for and acceptance of the \$3800. Once the legislation has been approved the money can then be appropriated for use.

Grant Opportunities: Ms. Kopp and Ms. Stevenson have been researching the Nature Works Grant. The application for funds can be sent late winter next year. Tax maps and additional information are needed to accompany the application. Discussion followed regarding the timing of grant deadlines and how to move forward.

Jagow Park: Ms. Kopp asked if the pavilion picnic tables can be salvaged or should they be replaced. James feels they are salvageable; however, it would take a lot of work to refurbish them. Having said that, James went on to comment that the perforated metal tables at Reign Hadsell Park are more desirable due to their durability.

Feral Cats and Hike & Bike Trail Parking Lot: The Committee agreed that there is a definite problem with feral cats in the park and the Village as a whole. Someone (a resident or possibly college students) has placed makeshift shelters long the Hike & Bike Trail. The committee will reach out to the college to make certain the shelters were not placed there as part of some project before moving forward. The Hike & Bike parking lot is being used by AVI Food Service as parking for its vehicles. Mr. McCreight feels this does not allow for public parking and access to the trail. James and Mayor Bertrand explained the history of the trail project. They also explained the agreement with the college to allow for AVI or college vehicle to park there is a part of that agreement. Mr. McCreight requested signs designating trail parking spot be installed. James said he can do that.

Mr. McCreight asked for a motion to conclude the Park Board meeting and commence the Beautification Commission meeting. Mayor Bertrand made a motion. Ms. Kopp seconded. All aye.

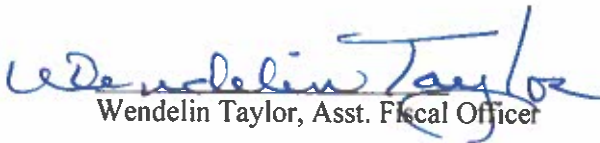
Beautification Commission:

Mr. Greenwood would like to continue the conversation regarding tree planting in the Village. He has in the past proposed a plan to replace trees along Hinsdale and possibly make a trees available to residents to be planted on private property. Mr. Greenwood has had a conversation with Tim Gibbons of T-N-T Tree Service, to purchase a larger tree and have it professionally planted would cost approximately \$700.00 per tree. Mr. Greenwood would be willing to present a proposal to Council for funding of the purchase of three (3) to four (4) trees that would be planted long Hinsdale. A conversation regarding funding and fund raising followed. Mr. McCreight asked both committees how they would like to move forward. It was decided to conduct a survey with Village residents and then decide how best to proceed after the survey results have been collected. Mr. Greenwood will present the idea of funding and fund raising to Council at the next council meeting.

The next Park Board/ Beautification meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

Mr. McCreight called for a motion to adjourn. Mayor Bertrand made the motion. Ms. Stevenson seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Wendelin Taylor, Asst. Fiscal Officer

Approved:


Chris McCreight, Chairperson