

City of Jackson Park Board
Jackson City Hall
7/9/2024
5:30 p.m.

Attendees:

- Attendees: Michael Haeffner, Mike Gruhlke, Luke Ewald, Neal Carlson (City of Jackson Parks Supervisor), Tony Oxborough (Acting City Administrator), Joe Pell (Jackson City Council member).
- Absent: Mike Gilbert, Mike Eddy, Lynne Anderson.
- Guests: John Weland, John Schultz (Veterans Plaza Committee), Fred Berns (Veterans Plaza Committee), Dave Hargen (Veteran Plaza Committee), Jeff Johnson (Veteran Plaza Committee),

Bank Midwest Community Grant:

- Luke shared with the Park Board the Friends of the Jackson County Trails Committee received \$10,000 from the Bank Midwest Community Grant (acting as the 501c3 on behalf of the Park Board);
- This funding will be used to replace the stadium lighting in Albertus Field;
- The City of Jackson will need to submit an invoice for this project in order to be reimbursed through Bank Midwest.
- The Trails Committee would then reimburse the City of Jackson since only non-profit organizations were eligible to apply for this grant.

Veterans Plaza Update- this would be for City of Jackson:

- See images of proposed Veteran Memorial at bottom of page.
- John shared that Granite Stone would be part of the design that would be five feet tall and three feet wide would have names of the veterans that would be engraved on brass plates; there would be no specific name, ranking they held, etc. a "veteran is a veteran."
- LaCanne Celebration of Life- the committee visited with LaCanne Celebration of Life on stone options and pricing- Joe LaCanne is willing to help identify the stone best suited for the project give us a deal on the stone and brass.
- Dave shared he spoke with Tri-State Builders; Dwayne is putting together a cost estimate for the basic shape of the design of the plaza which would include ground work, layout for the concrete, retain structure, etc.
- The size of the complex is yet to be determined- this is something that needs to be determined very soon if we want to pursue donations and funding opportunities, and share the design with the public.
- The Veteran Committee would like to have a bench part of the plaza for folks to sit and reflect when visiting the plaza.
- The family of the veteran and/or veteran would have to purchase the brass and engraving- Fairmont currently charges families \$200 per family to put a name on their veteran plaza.

- Family members who wish to include a name for a veteran who is POW, MIA, KIA would include an asterisk.
- Tony shared the city owns the land and is willing to help with location logistics (i.e. lighting, light poles, flooding mitigation, etc.).
- Tony would like to have the veteran committee maintain the cosmetics of the plaza (i.e. brass plate names), snow removal would be completed by the City after all other snow has been removed from the streets, etc.

Flood Recap:

- Neal is planning to receive playground and park improvements summaries from Safety First within the next few days- this will be for Ashley Park play equipment.
- Ashley Park playground equipment has been posted with caution tape to discourage youth from using the equipment due to contamination.
- The Des Moines River Trail system along Memorial Park, Ashley Park, and portions of City Hall, helped allow heavy machinery place dirt/clay to create the dikes which saved portions of the community from flooding; the city plans to leave dirt on top of the Des Moines River Trail System; the Des Moines River Trail system is likely going to be need replaced due to machinery damage.
- Dikes throughout the community and in parks will be assessed over the next few weeks; some will be removed, others will continue to be left as is.

Odell Wind Farm Grant:

- Albertus Fields lighting-
 - Luke shared he completed the Odell Wind Farm Grant in mid-June 2024, we are now in the phase where we need to submit it with council approval.
 - Tony shared \$90,000 is the estimated cost for the Albertus Fields project; it would be about \$60,000 to complete at least one of the fields.
 - The goal is to get the baseball fields functioning so adults and youth can use it throughout the warm season.
 - It was agreed to apply for this grant, we will add Odell Wind Farm Grant to the Jackson City Council meeting- Consent Agenda for 7/16/2024 meeting.

Neal/Tony Report:

- Mosquito/gnat spraying will occur on 7/10/2024; spraying includes park and trail areas owned by the City.
- Seasonal Park staff continues to do a great job; they are helping with flood damages while continuing to address the basic needs of all parks in the committee.

Next Meetings:

- 8/13/2024 at 530 pm at Sunset Park.

Adjourn:

- Meeting adjourn at 625pm.