

Jackson Park Board Meeting

Jackson City Hall

8/10/2021

Attendees:

- Michael Haeffner, Matt Skaret, Neal Carlson, Lynne Anderson, Luke Ewald, Phil Markman, Mike Gilbert, Jen Eicholz.
- Absent: Mike Gruhkle.
- Guests: N/A.

Dog Park Community Survey:

- Luke shared that interest still exists for the dog park, and JCAPS is willing to help maintain the dog park; in discussion with JCAPS and other parties, it was suggested the Park Board approve conducting a community survey to seek public input on a potential location; Luke suggested that we as a park board determine a few locations and seek council support to move forward with a survey.
- Possible community outreach include: Jackson County Pilot, Survey Monkey,
 - If you had to select a location for a dog park, where would you put it?
 - Include questions such as “Other”, “No opinion”, and determined locations by park board (i.e. South Albertus Field, New Disc Golf Course location/MnWest College area, Central Park, and Memorial Park).

Community Garden Expansion:

- Luke shared there is now a “[Jackson Community Gardens](#)” Facebook page up and running;
- The Zimmerli Park garden has been growing very well; there are opportunities to continue to use the land area for future gardens at Zimmerli Park.
- Luke suggested looking at future locations such as Memorial Park, Patterson Park, Getty Park (by the old warming house concrete slab).
- Motion made by Mike Gilbert, seconded by Lynne to go with Keeping Jackson Green sign for the Zimmerli Park, all in favor, motion carries.

Bike Share Locations:

- Lynne shared the Jackson Trails Committee decided to move the bike share out of the Jackson Motorplex to a more suitable location for the residents; the goal is to purchase new docking stations so we can place them elsewhere during non-racing days.
- Motion was made by Luke, seconded by Chris, to approve the bike docking station location at the old warming shelter house.

Ashley Park Shelter House Rental

- Matt shared an update on the Ashley Park Shelter House Rental proposal; there have been conflicts with increased usage; Matt proposed one rental per day rather than have multiple parties use the rental house per day; Matt proposed increasing the rental fee next year to \$40-\$50 for renting the shelter house.
- Matt shared an update on waiving fees for individuals who wish to waive fees for using the shelter house; Matt proposed that fees could be waived on a case-by-case basis for non-profit and community organizations for events Monday through Friday; these requests would need to go through park board and city council for approval.
- Motion made by Chris, seconded by Neal to go to one rental per shelter house per day, all in favor, motion carries.
- Motion made by Lynne, seconded by Luke, to adopt the Park Shelter Rental Fee Waiver Policy, all in favor, motion carries.

Canoe/Kayak Launch:

- Michael H. shared there has been an increase in kayak and canoeing in Jackson; the new addition would be located south of the ripples (Memorial Park area); this discussion has been brought up in the past years during the Memorial Park project phases, but the cost was expensive to install at the time;
- Matt suggested that we explore various types of kayak launching options and prices.
- Action Steps: connect with Windom on what they have done for their Kayak/Canoe Launches.

Grant Recap:

- Luke shared there are several grants due in the coming month(s) that might benefit the park board and City of Jackson; the following grants are due between September and October 2021: Federated Rural Electric Foundation and Remick Foundation.
- Items that could be replaced include: Picnic tables, kayak/canoe launch, community garden signs,

Jackson Park Board 2022 Budget:

- As of 2021, the current budget is \$175,156 and 2021 Year to Date actual is \$121,877.
- Overall, we are doing fine with the budget; some line items are higher compared to others, while others are lower than other line items.

Jackson Park Board Future Planning:

- Dumont Park modernization is around \$30,000
- Matt shared the City of Jackson Parks Department Playground/Parks Capital Improvement Plan that was developed in 2019 with a total capital improvement fund balance of \$121,188; each year has a park that will have improvements made over the next five years, to be completed around 2024.

- Chris suggested that picnic table and other park inventory go into a Budget Line Item for park maintenance.
- Motion was made by Mike Gilbert, seconded by Luke, to continue to use the current Capital Improvement Plan focusing on Dumont Park in 2022, all in favor, motion carries.

Phil/Neal Report:

- Matt shared that new toilets are needed in the restroom at Albertus Field; Neal shared there has been ongoing vandalism at these bathrooms.
- Neal shared the Ashley Park restroom is getting touched up with paint and trimming.
- Park staff will be wrapping up their seasonal help;

Adjournment:

- Motion made by Jen, seconded by Mike Gilbert, to adjourn, all in favor, motion carries.

Next Meeting:

- September 14th, 2021 at 530pm.