

**Jackson Park Board Meeting City Hall
December 8th, 2020 @ 530pm**

Present: Matt Skaret, Lynne Anderson, Jen Eicholz, Phil Markman, Michael Haeffner, Neal Carlson, Larry Anderson, Mike Gruhlke, Luke Ewald

Absent: Michael Gilbert,

Agenda Items:

Arts in the Park (Cay):

- Luke explained that Cay Gjertson contacted him in late November 2020 regarding a grant request and an Art in the Park program opportunity; Cay and Kathy Fransen are putting together a grant application that is due 12/9/2020; this grant is for \$7000 and we would like to do a Music At the Market program to work with the Jackson Farmer's Market to increase presence in the City of Jackson by offering a concert season in Ashley Park as the Market is about to close. This would be a “bring your own chairs, picnic in the park with possibilities for food trucks or local vendors selling food and JCA also providing kids art offered in the park at the same time;” the idea is that we would be COVID safe if we still need to be; our thoughts are 4-6 concerts (Kathy has already spoken to two musicians who are interested) and we could help out the community spirit as well as musicians who have been struggling during this time of virus; because the grant is for \$7,000 we could also include some type of stage which would allow us to do theater in the park in future years with some type of sound system if we could afford it; Kathy was considering contacting the City Council to see if they would support building a stage, but I suggested I contact you first.
- Motion made by Lynne, seconded by Mike Gruhlke, to allow Art in the Park, during the Jackson Farmers Market, all in favor, motion carries.
- **Action Step:** Luke will connect with Cay to ask her to please attend the City Council meeting on 12/15/2020.

Community Garden Project:

- Luke gave an update on the Community Garden project; we received a \$500 Federated Rural Electric grant; current location is preferably Zimmerli Park; current barrier is the deer population – we will want to determine a deer deterring system; Luke explained the cost of lumber has decreased about \$20 from this past summer—Boekett has recommended to wait until spring since cost of lumber will likely decrease; Luke will have to check with Matt Arlandson to determine his workload.
- Action: Luke will follow up with Matt regarding the timeline for the project; follow up with John Weland to get ideas to deter the deer population.

Ice Skating Rink COVID Guidelines:

- Outdoor skating is allowed, but the heated shelter house is not allowed under the current Governor's Executive Order; the city has not moved forward with hiring any ice skate rink attendants; there are eager parents that would like to have the rink up so their kids can practice hockey during the winter season—we've had some above average temperatures the past month delaying the rink from being set up.

Weflen Ashes Update:

- The recommendation is to keep things quiet if ashes are spread; Matt will contact the Weflen family to let them know about the situation.

Phil/Neal Report:

- Phil would like to get the three park benches in at the splash pad locations.
- Trail Snow Removal Plan was reviewed by Phil and Neal; more than likely it will be two or three days after snow falls; it is about a mile of trail from Dewey Street down to Riverside Elementary. North Highway sidewalk from Frost Ave to the hospital, Dewey Street trail from North Highway to Springfield Parkway, and Springfield Parkway from Dewey St. to Hills Ave (after March 15th)

Other:

- Veteran's Memorial Project is in progress; the last contact was 10/28/2020 with Dave; the Veteran's committee feels confident moving forward; we are hopeful this project will continue to move forward.
- Skate Park: possibility to relocate the skate park if a new apartment building is built.
- Healthcare Foundation Grant: Luke gave an update that. Several potential projects were discussed to go for a grant with including replacing the merry-go-round at Central Park and additional park upgrades from the Safety First evaluation.

Next Meeting:

- January 12th, 2021 at 530pm.

Adjournment:

- Motion made by Luke, seconded by Lynne, motion carries.