

Jackson Park Board Meeting

Jackson City Hall

7/13/2021

Attendees:

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

Ashley Park Shelter House Rental (New Addition to Agenda):

- Matt received an email from Our Saviors Church to use the Ashley Park Shelter House free of use for a private event on 7/21/2021; Michael Gruhkle proposed that we look at new language in our rental policy as to how we rent to individuals and organizations free of charge; there was additional discussion on raising the rental price for the Ashley Park Shelter House and other Shelters.
- Motion made: a motion was made by Lynne and seconded by Mike G. to use the Ashley Park Shelter House free of charge for 7/21/2021.
- update the current policy

Community Garden Facebook Page & Update:

- Luke provided an update on the Zimmerli Park Gardens; the current gardeners would like to have a Facebook Page to help with garden promotion; they would like to know is if it would be okay to start and manage a FB page for the community garden.
- The City would like to be a silent partner for the Facebook Page (administrator or editor) ensures the content shared is appropriate.
- Motion made by Lynne and seconded by Luke to allow Facebook Page to be created by the gardeners at Zimmerli Park.
 - The City of Jackson will be an administrator to this page.
- FarmBot: [FarmBot](#) is a robotic open hardware system that assists anyone with a small plot of land and a desire to grow food with planting, watering, soil testing, and weeding. It uses a Raspberry Pi, Arduino, and other awesome components, including weather-resistant materials.
 - The gardeners created a breakdown of a small and a large Farmbot setup as well as very conservative predictions of the yield based on planting a single type of vegetable in that FarmBot bed.
 - FarmBot Genesis XL: \$12,100.
 - FarmBot Express: \$5,000.

- Predicted yield: predictions are based on monoculture bed, using the square footage of the starter setup; growing season with hoop house over greenhouse from March to November.
- Garden Bed Updates:
 - Bed One has: 50 watermelon (sweet baby: cantaloupe size), 40 jalapenos, 5 bell pepper, 20 habanero, 100+ Thai Dragon Peppers, 29 lemon boy tomatoes, 20 beefsteak tomatoes, 30 Early girl tomatoes, 100+ cucumbers.
 - Bed Two has: 80 Early Girl Tomatoes, 15 bushels of Jelly Bean Tomatoes, and 80-100 Cucumbers.
 - Bed Three has: no user at this time.
- **Due to time constraints, Luke didn't share the following information....** Garden Strategic Plan: Luke shared with the Park Board he was asked to develop a Community Garden Strategic Plan to help showcase the importance of addressing food insecurity in Cottonwood and Jackson Counties; as part of putting together the Strategic Plan, local public health would like to have assistance from the Jackson Park Board to develop the plan, particularly with a few key statements:
 - Mission Statement: ex. To work toward an equitable food system by ensuring access to garden space and healthy food, and by educating beginning farmers and gardeners of all ages Or Grow Annapolis is a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering and sustaining community gardens and urban agriculture programs. Creating partnerships between community, government, schools and local businesses, we harvest more than food by empowering people from diverse backgrounds to GROW Annapolis together.
 - Vision Statement: ex. People cooperate to create and sustain healthy communities by growing food and caring for nature within their urban environments OR Our vision is of a community where people of all ages and backgrounds come together in the simple shared experience of growing food.
 - Values:

Picnic bench requests from residents for Ashley Park/Other areas:

- Neal shared that picnic tables have been remedied prior to July 2021.

Light vandalism at Ashley Park:

- Luke shared that a resident notified him of light vandalism in Ashley Park; Phil and Neal have known about this vandalism already.

Dog Park Update:

- Matt shared that a proposed location for a dog park go down by Albertus Field; it is important to note that this area might flood; Phil shared that there are folks who have used this area to run their dogs in this area.

Ashley Park Update:

- Matt shared that he didn't hear back from the Lions Club regarding making improvements to the small Shelter House in Ashley Park.

Phil/Neal Report:

- Neal shared the Splash Pad is pretty much completed—the water toys, baby changing station, the shade structure is up, the timer is set to go off when it is supposed to.
- The Biker Bob statue was discussed during the trail meeting, and it was decided not to add flowers around the statue.
- The Seasonal Park help has been doing a great job painting signage, cleaning the park bathrooms.

Next meeting:

- August 10th, 2021 at 530pm.