

Jackson Park Board Meeting

Jackson City Hall

10/12/2021

Attendees:

- Michael Haeffner, Mike Gilbert, Matt Skaret, Neal Carlson, Luke Ewald, Jen Eicholz, Chris Vee, Lynne Anderson, Mike Gruhlke (via Phone),
- Absent: N/A
- Guests: N/A.

Community Garden Winterization and Harvesting:

- Luke provided an update the gardeners are looking at putting together a harvesting event sometime in late October or early November 2021; following the harvesting, we will want to winterize the garden beds preferably with black tarp to keep the soil healthy during the winter; would it be possible to purchase 15ft x 10ft black tarp for each garden bed?
- Motion made by Lynne, seconded by Mike Gilbert, to purchase \$100 in tarp for the community gardens at Zimmerli Park.
- Ordering options include Amazon: *Heavy Duty Poly Tarp 10 Feet x 15 Feet 10 Mil Thick Waterproof, UV Blocking Protective Cover - Reversible Green and Black - Laminated Coating - Grommets - by Xpose Safety*

Picnic Tables for Memorial Park:

- Luke shared there have been many fisherman in Memorial Park and walkers/bikers going through the park throughout 2021; it would be nice to have one or two picnic tables placed along the trail for folks to take breaks or have lunch during the spring/summer/autumn season; would this be something we could look at getting for 2022?
- Neal shared the park department is looking at doing a picnic table inventory to assess how durable the current tables are; the new trend is moving toward aluminum picnic tables; it was also suggested having a picnic table for Dann's Island.
- Neal will work on a picnic table inventory and get prices on new aluminum tables and report back at the next meeting.

Dog Park Update:

- Luke shared a PowerPoint presentation on getting a dog park established; some of the unique things regarding the dog park: creating a mission statement or vision for the dog park; we have already taken several steps in the planning process to get a dog park (based on past history); determining the location (Albertus Field), and what the animal committee would like to see added to the dog park are the next steps (invite to November 2021 meeting).

- Lynne shared an update regarding the dog park meeting from 2013; Andrea Sether visited with the park board on 10/8/2013 to give an overview of how she helped develop a dog park in Algona, IA; some of the key takeaways were:
 - The area needed is about one acre, entire area enclosed with five feet fence, 1/3 of the area for small dogs and 2/3 of the area for large dogs; have an area to allow for a big gate for lawn mowers,.
 - Double entry area for each section so dogs can't escape.
 - Rules/policies signage, parking area, benches, water accessibility, garbage cans and dog waste receptacles.
- Action Step: make a recommendation that south Albertus Field be used as the dog park; advise JCAPS animal committee to put together a plan for the dog park; invite JCAPS to the November 2021 meeting; the City Park Board discussed the possibility of financing main infrastructure, but additional features will be up to the animal committee or private volunteer group.

Canoe/Kayak Launch Update:

- Phil Nasby had a meeting with Matt and Lynne on 10/12/2021 to get ideas on the kayak launch; Phil asked what is our main ask for the Kayak Launch is— attracting visitors or keeping it more for residents to use; we also want to know if we want a launch or a ramp (and do we want this to be multiuse or just for kayaks); Phil shared the DNR would be willing to pay for the launch in Memorial Park if we want to put a launch in;
- Through the county we have Kilen Woods, Christianity Church, and along the river (beyond the rapids); the next locations would be Petersburg, MN and Estherville, IA.
- Drew sent Luke an email regarding the Canoe/Kayak Launch projects in Windom; Phase I of the Windom Water Trail will be 2.8 miles from Dynamite Park to Island Park. SHIP helped with signage. The Windom Kiwanis Club helped raise \$6,080 for the low impact kayak and canoe launch in Dynamite Park and a more regular launch in Island Park (steps). The biggest variable is the water level, so ice does not rip it out and you can still use. Dick's Welding is currently building the low impact kayak and canoe launch in Dynamite Park. Windom will use concrete slabs from a railroad crossing for the steps.
- Action Steps: invite Phil Nasby to a park board meeting to discuss a recommendation launch; we will want to ensure there is adequate parking.

Phil/Neal Report:

- Neal shared that mowing has been the primary project to work on; the disc golf course has been worked on by Bill Swan; Bill has a vision for a multi-use park as the disc golf course comes to fruition;

Boy Scout Building:

- Matt emailed Tom Holte regarding the concern with the Boy Scout shed; there is some confusion on what is missing on the Boy Scout Shed; Phil and Neal looked at the Boy Scout Shed and didn't see any concerns with the building.

Adjournment:

Next Meeting:

November 9th, 2021 at 530pm.