

## Park and Tree Board Meeting Minute 6-16-2020

Zoom online meeting due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions for gathering

Meeting called to order by Stacy Simmons 7:14pm

In attendance- Ed Hersch, Trustee Liz Kormos, Ray Otten, Stacy Simmons and Kris Williams

Background of new board member Mike Tower shared by Liz. Mike is a member of the Friends of the Kayaderososs and has a focus on Kelley Park. He recently organized the tree planting at Kelley Park.

Approval of minutes for 5-19-2020 meeting - Motion made by Ed, second by Ray, all approved

There was no Public Comment

**Old Business-** Henry's trees are cut down- waiting on planting

The board members present discussed the need for the property owners, the public and the person enforcing the code regarding street trees to understand the code and to be educated as to the benefits of maintaining healthy trees in the village. **HOMEWORK-** the board will work on wording for the education of all involved with our street trees. Liz will be meeting with Dave LaFountain tomorrow to discuss the code and our concerns.

We discussed the use of volunteers to maintain Wiswall Park to save on labor and other costs potentially involved with keeping the park greenery cleaned up. The goal will be to keep the park tidy enough to hold it over to Autumn when the Rotary project begins.

Current State of our Parks-

The Iron Spring Park is looking good- the Trestle Garden was weeded, edged and lightly mulched; the Tedisco Trail garden is looking good as well; the Rotary Club is replacing the bench at the trailhead; the stairs that lead up to the trail need maintenance. Ed requested a walk-through meeting to look at the park and see other issues such as stumps to be removed, etc. We set the date of Tuesday 6/23 at 7pm to meet at the park- Ray requested we keep in mind handicap accessibility in our parks as we assess. Stacy will email the full board with the meeting info.

The village board approved outdoor dining on Front Street on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Picnic tables are being moved from the Kelley Park pavilion to Wiswall Park to provide seating for people to eat their takeout meals as well.

We will plan our next meeting to include a walk-through of Kelley Park.

**New Business-** It has been decided we will plant two Hydrangea Trees in the Trestle Garden after the wisteria is removed. Liz made contact with the children of the Puckhabers and they have offered to purchase the trees. We will be dedicating these trees to Mr. and Mrs. Puckhaber, possibly as our Arbor Day celebration?

We discussed the need for guidelines for best practices in our parks when dealing with weeds, invasives, and other pests.

**HOMEWORK to create these guidelines.** Ray will contact the Public Health Department to see about signs to alert people to the ticks at Kelley Park. Kris will source Integrated Pest Management practices from Cornell Cooperative Extension. Stacy will check with Jeff/ DPW to see if there is already a set of guidelines available.

Stacy brought up the subject of 'acceptable uses of parks'. At this time, it is not a focus of this board and is handled by the village office as groups request the use of parks.

The next board meeting will be July 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm at Kelley Park (weather and COOVID19 regulations permitting)

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm was made by Kris, second Ed.

Respectfully submitted by Stacy Simmons

#### **HOMEWORK-**

Street Trees-

Code Education

Public Outreach

What is expected of homeowners and businesses?

What are village responsibilities?

What should be left for Licensed Arborist?

Benefit of Street Trees- possible class at CCE/ Kris?

Tree Walk/ Liz?

Heritage Trees