

APPROVED 3/8/23
POOLESVILLE PARKS BOARD
February 8, 2023
19721 BEALL STREET
7:00 PM
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: 7:16 pm

Present: Jeff, J.D, Jeff, Gayle, Tim, John, Preston, Doug, Niles via Zoom

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEXT MEETING March 8, 2023

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES January 4, 2023 - motion to approve by Tim- Terry abstained all others approved

OLD BUSINESS:

1. BOULDERING PARK

- At this point, a preliminary idea about funding out the project. Starting to accumulate the money in 2024 and building a budget similar to skate park, and look for funding. Will need more information in terms of scope from the company we are working with for design. Some discussions with Wade about getting quotes from a few other vendors for cost consideration.
- Jeff Eck added that he spoke with Frank Velez who was going to be her on Zoom, but he isn't. American Alpine club email, which Frank offered to help with the Bouldering park. They sent a letter providing their support, it is a DC chapter of Alpine club, offered to help identify elements for a bouldering park.

2. NAMING WESTERLY GROVE TOT LOT

- Niles updated the list from what he emailed around. 9 Names to choose from. Jeff asked if the names were in priority order? The two at top were at the top of the 2020 list from Parks Board. William Taylor was an African American, the others met the qualifications of serving on the boards. A while back, Jeff remembered that we would name a park after a person who was named from the Lynching project. Niles is going to send information to the planning project, but final, final will be in June. We should move this along in terms of what we want to do to get the sign made.
- Saving the name of a Taylor for a more prominent park, the new Wilshire project
- Deyo stands out as a good one, and was really about the youth of this town. Was helpful in getting the parks up and going. Chuck is another person who has served on a lot of boards. Should we have a secret ballot
- Tim made a recommendation for George Deyo for the Westerly Grove Tot Lot. Doug seconded it. All in favor- unanimous.

3. STEVENS PARK LIGHTS

- Niles will send letters to the neighbors of the park, explaining the criteria so far, turning off at 10:00 pm etc. Need to discuss the scope of the lights. Original plan was just the pickleball court area, do we want to do more, if so that needs to be discussed. Intent of soliciting information from the neighbors.
- Cost of lights estimate is being looked at. The budget list we've estimated \$60,000 as the starting point, that is lights for just the pickleball right now. Involves getting power to that area. John said he looked at the pickleball court standpoint, needing 6 lights.
- Gayle brought up the necessity of this considering the number of weeks that it would be used considering the cost. How many days would the lights be needed, specifically since the pickleball and baseball people are saying they won't be playing past 7 pm or 8 pm.
- April 1st sunset is 7:35 pm. Pickleball plays inside until March.
- Halmos lights are on a timer.
- Potentially a new park across West Willard, and have a housing contract that lights will be in this park. Have it all planned out in advance.
- Concept plan has been submitted across from West Willard.
- Niles will get a letter sent out to the neighbors before the March meeting telling the neighbors to come to the meeting in March if interested.

4. BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

- Niles laid out a few things about where we are in project progression. Provided a breakdown of cost. Main point is that we are trying to look at projects based on priority and spacing out the cost. Some of the things we may need to delay further due to other costs. We mainly want to note that the Commissioners haven't looked or approved, they will do that in March. Mostly looking for feedback and updating us on the process with budget priority.
 1. Stevens park pickleball court conversion- done the work of repainting and getting new nets, next part is converting the other half. Looking at grant funding and putting in applications. Budgeted for \$90,000- \$24,000 money already put aside. Building it already in this year's budget. \$90,000 does not include lights. Includes resurfacing.
 2. Whalen Commons wiring update- \$70,000
 3. Halmos Park bathroom remodel- grant money procured- currently in the bidding phase and evaluating the bidding in terms of final cost. \$108,500
 4. Halmos Park basketball upgrade- FY 26 estimated cost \$40,000
 5. Discussed in meeting previously Skatepark and Boulderling park
 6. Elgin pickleball FY 30

Skate Park

- Thomas McHaskal came in for updates on the skate park. Niles responded that we are going with the design that was proposed. Right now, applied for a Grant to cover the funds, won't know until Spring if we get it, also planning on (multi year project in terms of funds) open item pending funding. Process of layering in the funding. Thinking of 2 phases for install. FY 2024 which starts July 1, \$20,000 and 2025 another \$20,000. Thomas said he would be willing to help with funding if needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Need to see if pickleball people are getting permits for the courts
 - Niles doesn't believe they do- they have an internal process, but not an official parks permits, Preston will look into it with Cathy Bupp. Doug says we are looking to invest in these courts, then we need to make sure we are having them follow the process.
- Doug asked if we had an update on the synthetic mulch?
 - Niles said we still haven't determined the course of action on removal yet until we know more about the mulch itself. Removing would be in a phased sequence if we did do that. It is a tentative line item for phasing it.

- Jeff asked Jeff about the Commissioners, they are on a hold until we get a recommendation from the EPA. If not determined to be unsafe then we will leave it alone.
 - Is there any expectation on when the EPA will get back to us? Nope.
- Replacement equipment for Dillingham park, latest we heard was March 3rd that they will come and do the work to replace the equipment.
- Spring will need to do our walk, and we need to visit the areas where we will let it go back to their natural state.
 - Next week starting on the pollinator patch at Collier park.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS & STREETS REPORT:

- Been aggressively pruning and backing off the trees from sidewalks and roads
- Stripped sod off of Tball courts and will strip ball field 2 getting ready for baseball
 - Will get the ball diamond done this year
 - Open fields March 15th and restrooms April 2nd
- May be mowing in March this year. Mowed thru December this year which is 2 weeks later than normal years. Should be on schedule to get facilities ready to go.
- Cathay having an issue getting soccer fields for all of the teams. The big grassy area near CVS - Donovan property- we will mow and maintain if we can run some of the younger soccer people in there. Might need to talk to the new owner according to John, property was sold, and that is where the new townhouses may go.
- Do people ask about Whalen? We've always said no way. Not something we want to get into.
- Athletics starting to get maxed out, Tball is full
- Staffing- going to be able to have 2 - 6 month employees and 3- 3 month employees. Having a hard time getting young people to work. We will see how that shakes out.
- Bought an electric pole saw, have a weed eater, a chain saw, a blower, all commercial grade electric.

TOWN COMMISSIONER LIAISON REPORT:

- Met with town attorney Feb. 6th
- MCVFD Feb 17th oyster roast
- Fair Access committee- Whites Ferry - MoCo and Loundon meeting
- No public comment on old business
- Backyard Chickens- Eck thought inequality for backyard size, community chicken club recommendation by Jeff Eck. Alternative not agreeable for the chicken club. Ordinance was adopted.
- Grant request from Poolesville Piranhas
- Work need to do on the old town hall
- UMCVFD \$30,000 grant for fireworks event
- Water treatment plant, contract to redo the roof \$185,000 plus other fees \$200,000+
- Remediation budget amendment- well number 2 and 3 taken off line. Research treatment options for the water supply- recommendations made using a filtration dual bed, but doing a test first. Wade will apply for a permit to install the system on well #3. Pumping during a pilot test will make sure it doesn't seep into well #9. Budget line item added to this year in the amount of \$95,000
- AEDs in parks- Niles is researching grants

- Jeff heard of refurbished AED's from Bill McDonald
- AED could be \$3,000 - \$5,000

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn 8:25 by Doug, second by JD all agree