

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 7, 2021

Call to Order

Doris called meeting to order at 5:31 pm

Travis Coggin	<i>present</i>	Charlie Mattair	<i>present</i>
Nora Hahn		Sierra Brown	<i>present</i>
Ashley Brown	<i>present</i>	James Singleton	<i>present</i>
David Locke	<i>present</i>	Josh Rodrigue	<i>present</i>
Bridget Martinez	<i>present</i>	Robert Basford	<i>present</i>
Doris Michalak	<i>present</i>	Maria Thorne	<i>present</i>

Approval of Minutes from 3-3-21

Motion was made to approve minutes by Travis.

Motion was seconded by Ashley.

Citizen Comments

Doris relayed the following comments from citizens and Josh addressed them during his briefing.

1. Some people felt that there was not enough information about the Easter egg hunt, possibly due to using Senate entrance where there is no marquee.
2. Clarification was requested about the rental of Carol Fox Park pavilion or the entire park.
3. Concerns about school busses with older children showing up and taking over the park.
4. Question about the increase in pool pass fees and that activities should be included in pool pass fee.

Items for individual consideration

- a. Clark Henry play structure discussion - *Robert Basford*

Robert brought up that there is money in the budget for a new play structure. Looking to add something non-traditional and work would begin after July 4th. Robert requested input from committee members. First identify which age group to target and then which direction we want to go to ensure that we get the right feature. There is already a structure for ages 5-12, so considering maybe adding something for ages 8 to 15. Location would be near existing structures, depending on the type. There are different options available like football obstacle courses, fitness equipment, mixed, sensory, obstacle course, and more challenging activities. Most likely would not be able to put up a canopy due to the trees

Doris commented that this is what the committee is for – to go around to talk to residents and collect feedback. It was also mentioned that citizens have expressed desire for recreational facilities for older age groups. A survey was talked about. Bridget asked about the budget and Robert stated that the budget was about \$70 to 80K.

A portable, trailer-mounted, configurable skate park was discussed. The cost would be about \$27K. The skate park was viewed favorably by several committee members. Doris asked if skateboarders would actually like it. Josh will conduct surveys of high school students and Doris asked Sierra to also do some research among her age group. There were questions about durability, storage, warranty, and possibility of renting the structure. Robert will do more research and present the information to members. The skate park is something that would maybe be considered for next year.

Robert added that the more challenging park activities are, the deeper the mulch depth that is required. Also there are grades and flood plain levels to consider. Have to stay clear of tree canopies and roots.

b. Future events discussion - *Joshua Rodrigue*

We are moving towards having larger events again. Planning for a large July 4th event. If all goes well we may start having more events. Josh and Robert are having meetings about the event. Also talking to police and fire departments and public works to discuss the parade route.

July 4th event will be from 11 to 3 and there will be 3 musical acts, food trucks, a rock wall, bounce houses, farmer's market will be on that day at the park. Also wanting to have festival games and a dunking booth. From last event, people commented about wanting a cook-off or pie contest. Would like to have fireworks, but not sure if it would be possible. Will look into it.

Founder's Day event in October was discussed for 65th anniversary of Jersey Village. Josh has a band called The Spasmatics scheduled for October 3, 2021. Thinking about maybe doing a Cow Fest theme for the Founder's Day Event. Josh mentioned possibly a dog show with cow costumes, maybe food contests, or dairy themed demonstrations.

Josh said he would have to cut back the scale of the Fall Frolic and Halloween event this year since it is also in October. Trunk or treat was mentioned with possibly a few bounce houses. James brought up the fact that the committee was the one that used to run the fall frolic in the past. The possibility of the committee running the Fall Frolic was discussed. When scheduling was mentioned, Doris brought up the need to waiting to see what the school football schedule will be to avoid conflicts. She also said that 100% commitment is needed if the committee wants to take it on. Josh said that he will start working on the new Play Guide that will encompass September through February and would like for the committee to decide and let him know next month.

Josh discussed results of a survey where he asked residents what new things they would like to see in 2021. An art festival and a holiday Christmas light parade or event were the top two items. Josh will look into options for maybe lighting up a park depending on costs and also asked committee members for suggestions. Also mentioned possibly making Holiday in the Village an evening event.

Ashley asked if there was going to be a float contest at the July 4th parade and Josh said that there would be.

Doris said that she heard great things about the Easter parade asked about the persons dressed as bunnies on the route. She also wanted to know who delivered the baskets. Josh said that he drove around and delivered the Easter baskets.

Staff briefings

Recreation

Robert talked about the skate park. He also talked about the landscaping and hopes that we'll have warmer nights so that the plants come back. Budget prep season is starting.

Parks

Josh gave a report on the Easter event. He said that there was a bit of confusion about it because we were not sure what it was going to be. Will work on improving communication for next time. Thousands of eggs were put out at parks and around city buildings and some people volunteered their yards for eggs and put up signs so kids would know to go collect eggs there. Thinking about using same format next year. Committee members contributed thoughts on putting out more eggs, putting signs limiting the number of eggs per kid, allowing kids to collect by age groups, posting updates on location of eggs on social media, etc. Josh talked about delivering Easter baskets to 12 kids. The Easter bunny on the fire truck and the parade route were discussed. The parade was handled by a group of resident moms.

Josh said that he was changing the name of Food Truck Fridays to Foodie Fridays in case a food truck breaks down and the vendor has to set up in a canopy.

Josh said that he has received really good reviews about the Trail Tales at the nature trail at Jersey Meadow. Will take the signs down and will put up a new story at Clark Henry Park.

Kickball season is coming to a close. Had about 90 people register and reviews have been positive.

Sand volleyball league will start on April 25th. New net is on the way and new sand will be delivered next week.

Pool Project update – the diving board is in. All projects are pretty much completed. Deck just needs the finishing color. Pool house is coming along as well. Should be finished soon. The pool is clean and ready to go.

Ashley asked about the smell at the pool. Josh said that they have not pin-pointed

the source but it may be due to a fan pushing the smell from the pump room. Robert added that they are still looking into it and may install a venting stack.

Doris asked about the Carol Fox Gazebo rental. It does not include the entire park. The last person who rented the gazebo blocked off the entire park and wouldn't let other people in. Josh is going to change the wording on the website to clarify that. Members discussed rentals in general. Doris asked if there was a way to put a sign on the gazebo that lets people know when it is rented.

Robert talked about possibly adding seating and fencing around the splash pad.

The school buses with older kids at Carol Fox Park was brought up and there is nothing that can be done about that.

David asked if bicycles are allowed in Carol Fox Park. There were older kids on small bikes getting on the obstacles. Josh said that there are no rules against it.

Josh explained that the pool membership pricing increase was not temporary. The water programs like aerobics are an additional fee. A comment was made that cost may be too high for senior citizens. Pool revenues don't cover operating costs, the pool fees are for crowd control. Robert mentioned that the rock wall amenity was still a possibility for the future.

Ashley said that she thinks that swim tests are needed at the beginning of the year to keep people off of the amenities that need saving.

Doris summarized the to do list for the committee members: research if there is interest in the community for a rock wall amenity, collect input about what age group and type of play structure is wanted at Carol Fox Park, collect research about portable vs. permanent skate park.

Doris asked the committee to vote by show of hands if they wanted to take on the Fall Frolic. The committee voted to take on the Fall Frolic event and clarification was asked about the guidelines for meeting as a subcommittee to ensure that rules are followed. Robert stated that up to three persons may meet and discuss details of the event, or that committee members may post a public notice stating that they are having an event planning meeting that is open to the public.

The committee members talked about voting and budgets for events. Robert brought up that some grants require council approval to be a resolution to get more points. There are bonus points for an advisory committee which counts as the stakeholder input and that can provide an additional 5 or 10 points. Most grants come available with a quick turnaround and if the request gets on the agenda quickly, the chances are better of receiving it.

David asked about committee member involvement and participation versus just advisory. He mentioned that for example, in the past, the committee used to fill the Easter eggs, but they didn't this time. There seems to be a feeling that committee

members have been relegated to the role of advisory members. Doris added comments about running events in the past and there not being enough persons to run the activities.

James stated that nobody wanted to push the committee members out intentionally from running events, but that there had been some events in the past that there was not enough participation from committee members, so part time staff had to be brought in to help. Doris said that people need to commit completely to the Fall Frolic and it is an opportunity for the committee members to run their own event and see what works.

There was a discussion to that the com wanted to ensure that they maintain resp over a future.

Ashley brought up that she and Nora had volunteered to run a dog show in August and that it kept getting pushed off and that now it is getting grouped in with Founder's Day.

Robert explained that the reason that the dog show had been put off was that we were not allowed to have any events due to COVID 19 restrictions.

Travis brought up the memorial pavers at the dog park. A request was made that they be made level and straight.

Next Meeting date

May 5, 2021

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by David.

Motion was seconded by Ashley.