

Onekama Parks & Recreation Committee

Monthly Meeting

May 5, 2023 8:30a

Members present: Brian Allen, Paul Mueller, Tyler Dula, Chair Michelle Ervin, Al Taylor, Bick Pratt (via telephone). Also present: Jean Capper, Seasonal Worker, Bob Blackmore. Absent: Andrea Arthur, Gary Madden, Justin Sedelmaier.

Meeting called to order at 8:35a.

Chair Ervin noted the minutes of April 7, 2023 incorrectly stated Jay Siwek was a member of the Committee.

Motion to accept meeting minutes of April 7, 2023 with the amendment of removing Jay Siwek from the minutes by Chair Ervin, seconded by Mueller. AIF, motion carried.

Correspondence: none

Sub-committee reports: none

Old business:

Jean Capper was introduced to the Committee as the new Seasonal Worker.

Langland Park Management Plan—Ervin. There was discussion about the Langland Park Management Plan for 2024 draft Chair Ervin emailed to members. She is also following up with the Brooks family on the history of the park. Taylor pointed out errors in EGLE information he presented. Chair Ervin to follow up on getting those errors corrected. Pratt reported that the Board has decided to go with Spicer to construct a thorough plan for drainage at Langland and Pratt submitted a grant proposal to MCFF.

Volleyball at Langland Park update—Mueller. Both EGLE and the Corps of Engineers have been contacted about the possibility of constructing a seasonal volleyball court at Langland Park. EGLE requires it to be sited away from dune grass, and would require no permit for a seasonal court. The Corps wants to see a site plan. A new site plan will be required every year because the beach changes yearly.

Parking issues—Ervin. There was discussion about parking and the availability of emergency vehicles getting down to the beach. Fire Chief Johnson approached the Board, the Road Commission, and the county about this at the request of Ervin and Bob Blackmore reports there is nothing to be done at this point. The issue will be monitored.

Fireworks—Taylor. Taylor to follow up on the Ordinance to see if shooting off fireworks is allowed at Langland Park.

Life jacket stations—Dula reported that life jacket stations are tied to a Village grant, so there will be one station installed at the Village Park.

Plant Selection Policy—Ervin. As a result of the planting of the Black Willow trees project, Ervin has researched and drafted a Plant Selection policy to help the Committee choose what plants to install in the parks for future projects. There was discussion regarding how this policy would best be implemented. Ervin will make changes to the draft and submit to the Board for approval.

North Point Park Prairie Project: rustic trail—Ervin. The different areas of the park are managed as different habitats. Invasive species are being removed and native species are to be introduced. Taylor stated the Committee needs to communicate with the public about what the work is being done in the habitat areas. Add information to the township website. Doing a controlled burn and replanting as a future project was brought up and discussed.

Species Management Plan—Dula. Research continues about how best to do this, and when it could be done.

New Business:

Parks Maintenance requests—Mueller. The Parks & Recreation Committee needs a procedure to follow when it is found that maintenance of any kind needs to be done in the parks. Contact Paul Mueller, by text or email, with a photo of the problem, who will maintain a list to check for follow up as well as tracking cost for accounting. Mueller will contact Steve Hall, the Township maintenance worker, to do the work.

Langland Safe Beach—Taylor is still pursuing information.

Glen Park engineering update—Allen. Allen is in communication with Gosling Czubak to design and install a boardwalk and bridge. Ervin reported that the Village Parks & Recreation Committee has agreed to meet with this Committee four times a year to work collaboratively. Glen Park is a good project candidate since it is within the Village. Phased implementation is recommended for this project for grants.

Public comment: none

Motion to adjourn by Ervin, seconded by Allen. AIF, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01a.

_____Chair

_____Recording Secretary

Submitted by Michelle Swanson, Recording Secretary