

**Hiram Recreation & Park Board**  
Meeting Minutes via Video Conferencing  
Rosser Municipal Building  
11617 Garfield Road, Hiram OH 44234

**September 21, 2021**

**Park Board Members:**

Chris McCreight, Chairperson  
Mayor Lou Bertrand  
Steve Zabor  
James McGee, Village Administrator

**Absent:**

Suzann Bennett  
Jo Walsh-Cobb

**Official Recorder:**

Wendelin Taylor, Asst. Fiscal Officer

**Others Present:**

**General:** Chris McCreight called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. Steve Zabor motioned to accept May 2021 minutes. James McGee seconded. All voted aye, motion passed.

**Public Comment:**

**Old Business:**

***Parks General***

- **Jagow:** James reported that he and Steve Schuller have mulched and trimmed Jagow Park. The water fountain is still leaking. When that fountain's water source is turned on it loses up to 20,000 gallons per month. He believes the issue is below ground although nothing is bubbling up. He thinks a new line should be installed to resolve the problem. Any holes that had been located on the park grounds have been filled in. The basketball court has a light pole that is leaning. It is one of two poles providing light at the court. Steve Zabor asked if the park is open at night. James stated it is not. Steve Zabor asked if the leaning pole provided light for the pavilion. James stated it does not. The second stable pole is located between the basketball court and the pavilion. James would like to remove the leaning pole entirely and convert the remaining pole to LED. This pole would serve as a security light for both the pavilion and basketball court. James would prefer an electrician do the work. Steve requested two quotes be done, one for the conversion to the remaining pole to a security light alone and one for the conversion of that light to LED.
- **Hike & Bike Trail:** James has contacted Skibiski Asphalt to seal the trail.
- **Bike Racks:** Steve Zabor has had a discussion with Kim Ule the new owner of the Hiram Professional Building. She is open to having a bike rack installed. Steve has contacted the Village Zoning Inspector, Dominic Gualtieri, regarding any permit needed. Steve is not certain there will be a fee for the permit he will follow up with Dominic. Another possible location for a bike rack would be the southwest corner of Jagow Park. He is not certain whose approval would be required for that installation. James believes the Park Board is responsible that approval as long as the bike rack is installed on Village park property. Steve asked who actually owns the sidewalk in outside the Hiram Professional Building and who would be responsible for applying for a permit. Mayor Bertrand stated the property owner is owner of the sidewalk with provision of government or Village right-of-way. The owner is technically responsible for the permit fee however since this is a benefit to the Village and the Park Board is spear heading the project the fee should be waived as a government project for the benefit of the Village.

- **Memorial Trees:** Chris McCreight would like to tour the Parks for placement of memorial trees. He will send out a survey to the members for the best date to meet.

**B. Grants** -- James has received emails regarding the Hiram Community Trust Grant. At this time he has not seen a physical letter of confirmation. He asked if any monies awarded be set aside and used next year. Currently there is no budget in place for those monies. Chris Szell believes the Park Board requested \$2840 for signage. James stated the Park Board was awarded half that amount. A discussion regarding the number of signs, location, timing of production and installation followed.

**New Business:**

**A. Baseball field** - Chris McCreight asked James for an update on the usage of the ballfield. The ballfield has in the past been reserved first come first served. Jason Groselle is the first to request use of the field this year. James has not heard from the Tim Sommers the usual coach. In past years Tim has monopolized the field. Steve suggested the Park Board request a game schedule from Jason Groselle. Chris Szell suggested Tim Sommers be contacted out of courtesy to let him know the field has been reserved. Chris McCreight would like to explore the current policy next year.

**B. Plantings for tree lawns** -- Chris McCreight asked if there is any kind of planting that can be planted in the tree lawn. James stated that per current ordinance the answer is no. Beautification has been trying to identify plant material such as shrubs, small ornamental trees, etc. that would fit in those spaces and would not have a large root system that would disturb or damage sidewalks or curbs. At present Chris Szell cannot think of anything that would not create a problem.

Chris McCreight will conduct a Doodle poll on line with the Park Board members to schedule October's meeting. All present agreed. Meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Approved:

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Wendelin Taylor, Asst. Fiscal Officer

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Chris McCreight, Chairperson