

St. Clair Township Park Committee Meeting Minutes 05/11/2021

Meeting to order 7:00pm

Don Wallace, Brian Dulski, Tonda van Hoose

Tonda motion to approve minutes, Don Second, Approved

Board Update:

- Bids were opened. Board decided to table and allow the incoming board to determine the course of action. New board must accept a bid to move the project forward. \$150,000 MEPRD grant at stake. Must complete project and have it approved before the township is eligible to apply for another grant.
- Stuckel has examined the topography of Centennial Park for the new restroom, but has not yet made a recommendation.

Centennial Park:

- Discussion of accomplishments over last four years:
 - Three beautification events held. Volunteers removed honeysuckle and collected trash.
 - Tree planting (200+) native species.
 - Three benches installed along walking trails
 - Nature play area planned and partially installed
- Discussion of recommended actions:
 - Complete nature play area installation
 - Restroom facility upgrade
 - ADA fishing dock at Star Brewery Pond
 - Interpretive signage (historical and natural)
 - Additional limestone paved trails (around pond and to south east of current trail)
 - Construction of bridge large enough to support vehicles over Richland Creek to be able to have access to south east side of the park to perform maintenance and make improvements
 - Richland Creek erosion control, especially near footbridge near parking lot
 - Annual beautification day
 - Path to connect neighborhood to park
 - Forest management plan (grant available)
 - Invasive removal, especially honeysuckle

Loop Creek:

- Discussion of accomplishments over the last four years.
 - Tree planting (30+) native species. Formerly open field.
 - Park plan established including walking trail, benches, adult swing, three wired pavilions, water fountains, restroom, parking lot, splash pad, resurfaced courts (basketball and tennis). Two of three phases approved.
- Discussion of recommended actions:
 - Swing set has been already approved by board, but yet to be ordered and installed

- Phase III including final pavilion, court resurfacing, additional playscape, and splash pad
- Security measures to reduce vandalism
- Sewer tank and tennis court relocation

Wolf Branch/Whiteside:

- Discussion of accomplishments over last four years:
 - Tree replaced at WB tennis court
 - WB tennis court and hockey rink resurfaced
 - Parking lot installed at WB hockey rink
 - WS tennis court resurfaced
- Discussion of recommended actions:
 - Portable toilet at WB rink/courts
 - Portable toilet at WS tennis courts
 - Batting cage installation at WB and WS
 - Base boards of WB hockey rink rotted in places. Replace.

Grants:

- Discussion of available grants
 - MEPRD, due annually July 1
 - St. Clair County Parks Grants Commission, up to \$50,000, due date unknown
 - IDNR grants vary
 - Morton Arboretum (forest management and tree planting)

New Business:

- none

Tonda motion to adjourn, Brian seconded, passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:32