

MH Parks Commission Meeting of August 16, 2021

Meeting Called to Order @ 6:02 PM by Chairman Janke

Roll Call:

Present:

Mr. Czayka

Mrs. Freundlich

Mr. Friedman

Mayor Fritz

Mrs. Hardin-Levine

Mr. Janke

Mr. Minoff

Mr. Olsson

Mr. DeWater

Councilman Stanard

Absent: Mrs. Wyatt

Also Present: Mrs. Geck (MHHS), Mr. Misterka

Agenda:

Approval of Minutes from Parks Commission Meeting held on July 19th, 2021:

Any Amendments: None

Votes for Adoption of the motion:

Moved by: Mrs. Freundlich

Seconded by: Mayor Fritz

Yes:

Mr. Czayka

Mrs. Freundlich

Mr. Friedman

Mrs. Hardin-Levine

Mr. Janke

Mr. Olsson

No:

Abstain:

Mayor Fritz

Mr. Minoff

Councilman Stanard

Mr. DeWater

Not Voting:

Mrs. Wyatt

Updates from Mayor Fritz:

The Mayor distributed the most recent village protocols related to COVID.

Mayor Fritz stated that paving is complete at Village Park and the pad for the pavilion should be poured by mid-September.

Due to increased need for water in the community garden, Mr. DeWater is looking into buying larger water tanks.

Mr. Czayka commented that the tanks are no longer visible from the WRLC, so screening may not be necessary anymore.

The Mayor shared that the signs were taken down by the composting bins. People have also been throwing in bags with scraps for composting. These types of bags are not suitable for this type of composting and only for the high-heat method. The gardeners have done a good job with placing the weeds from the garden in the composting bins.

Mayor Fritz is excited about Head for the Hills and thanked the commission for their work on the event. He is confident that the commission is moving forward in the right direction.

Mr. Misterka is working on getting signs made to direct the hikers. He has laid out the 1.5 mile route through Forest Ridge.

WRLC is allowing participants to use their facilities for parking. The Cleveland Metro Parks is also an option for parking if needed.

Mayor Fritz explained that he recently met with the MHHS to discuss the plan that they had presented and discussed who is responsible for what at the birth site park. The service dept. will begin to work on certain areas of the park.

The Mayor is going to speak with the WRLC to discuss screening the gas well for aesthetics. He does want to keep the area low maintenance when developing a landscaping plan.

Updates from the MHHS:

Mrs. Geck confirmed that the meeting with the Mayor and Service Dept. was very productive.

The MHHS is working on additional signage for the birth site park.

Mrs. Geck met with the executive director of the James A. Garfield Alliance and toured the birth site park. They will be sending a photographer to the birth site park to obtain photos that will be added to their website, which will help increase viability of the park.

The goal of the MHHS is to make the park “self guided” with the additional signage and make it more than just visiting the cabin.

The Alliance will be publishing a brochure, which will include the birth site park.

The Garfield hike from the birth site park to Lakeview Cemetery is being discussed. Mrs. Geck will update the group when she knows more.

Mayor Fritz confirmed that the service dept. is working on the infrastructure of the park that require attention.

The Mayor commented that he was impressed with the number of visitors at the birth site.

Head for the Hills 2021:

Mr. Friedman had promo cards printed and Chairman Janke asked that the other commission members take a stack and distribute them throughout the community.

Chairman Janke noted that there is another local run in Chagrin Falls on the same day, so it is important to increase promotion efforts.

Mrs. Hardin-Levine had fundraising fliers printed to assist with sponsors. She has spoken with several businesses and will follow up to get commitments.

Commission members provided other suggestions for potential sponsors for the event.

Mayor Fritz noted that Greening of the Hills would also be an opportunity to promote the event.

Mrs. Hardin-Levine contacted Heinens and they might be willing to donate water and bananas.

Mr. Friedman asked that the sponsor names and their donation tiers be sent to him so that they can be added to the event website.

Chairman Janke asked that commission members promote the event through multiple social media sources.

There are currently 25 participants, but Chairman Janke is confident that the numbers will increase as the event draws closer.

Mr. Friedman believes that the number will double in the few weeks before the event.

Mrs. Hardin-Levine asked where promotional signs could be posted around the village.

Mayor Fritz stated that a sign at Village Hall and Forest Ridge would be appropriate.

Chairman Janke shared that there are currently 15 volunteers to help run the event. The village CERT team may also be willing to assist. There is also a Girl Scout troop that could assist.

Mrs. Freundlich added that she has enough resources for the activity for the event.

Mr. Friedman stated that he spoke with Hermes and that they commented that tables and chairs would be needed for registration.

Mr. DeWater affirmed that the village would have a large tent that can be used for the day of the event. There are also picnic tables, which can be used.

Mr. Friedman stated that he would be meeting with Hermes to finalize the route to ensure that the distance is correct.

Chairman Janke stated that he has been in contact with Arborware. He did obtain a deadline from them to ensure that the shirts were received prior to the event. The commission will need to order additional shirts to cover registrations received after the deadline for the shirt order.

Mayor Fritz offered help with promotion through the village Facebook page.

Mrs. Freundlich added that the activities for children would include a scavenger hunt and story time.

Councilman Stanard asked if the electric panel would be installed prior to the event.

Mr. Misterka confirmed that it should be.

Mr. Olsson asked if a group would be involved in managing the hike.

Mr. Friedman answered that Hermes will be managing this, as it is a part of the race event.

Mr. Olsson suggested the duties be sent to the volunteers ahead of the event.

Open Discussion:

No items for discussion.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 7:32 pm.

Moved by: Mayor Fritz

Seconded by: Mr. Minoff

Yes:

Mr. Czayka

Mrs. Freundlich

Mr. Friedman

Mayor Fritz

Mrs. Hardin-Levine

Mr. Janke

Mr. Minoff

Mr. Olsson

Mr. DeWater

Councilman Stanard

No:

Abstain:

Not Voting: Mrs. Wyatt