

Village of Fall Creek

Minutes of Community Relations, Recreation & Health Committee Meeting March 31, 2022

1. **Call to Order:** 4:00 p.m., Village Hall Meeting Room, 122 E. Lincoln Ave., Fall Creek
2. **Roll Call:** Committee Members Present: Chairperson Karen Hurd, Trustees Ben Burch, Matt Mattoon, Tim Raap, Karen Strasburg. Absent: None. Staff Present: Administrator/Public Works Director Jared McKee, Deputy Clerk Joan Drehmel. Also Present: 9 citizens.
3. **Certify Open Meeting Law Requirements Have Been Met:** A notice of the meeting and an agenda was posted at the three public places and local newspapers were notified.
4. **Adopt Agenda:**
 - MOTION (Burch/Mattoon) to adopt the agenda as printed. PASSED, without negative vote.
5. **Old Business**
 - A. **Keller Park Ballfield Coordination with Stakeholders:** The draft of “Proposal for Use of Kitchen and Restrooms at Keller Park” was reviewed by the committee and representatives from the FC Area Fire District, FC Lions Club, and the Youth Sports Association. The FC Lions Club has agreed to donate the kitchen equipment to the Village who will then be responsible for its maintenance. Bob Dewitz of the FC Area Fire District will speak to that organization about donating the equipment they have purchased. One issue still undecided was whether the Youth Sports Association would reimburse the Village for expenses incurred for maintaining the ballfield. Matt Bartow stated the Youth Sports Association intended on doing all the field maintenance if the Village mowed the lawns. The money raised from advertising would pay for the costs of lime, paint etc.
The committee members agreed that the Youth Sports Group would be responsible for soliciting advertising.
Administrator/Public Works Director Jared McKee will work with Matt Bartow to draw up a lease agreement, as well as the escrow split.
Matt Bartow explained the plans for the new field, open air pavilion, and storage shed for concession supplies. The committee members were in favor of the plan. Matt Bartow will present the plan to the FC Lions Club at their next meeting.
 - B. **Parks Grant Update and Discussion:** Chairperson Karen Hurd reported on the types of DNR grants the Village could apply for to complete the projects listed on the survey for the Outdoor Recreation Plan. Local organizations have expressed an interest in partnering with the Village to get the projects done. These partnerships go a long way in helping the Village get approval for the grant. The grant submission deadline is approaching so the committee discussed which projects on the list could be completed this year. Consensus was to replace playground equipment this year, and to pursue extending trails next year. The Village Board has already approved applying for a grant so Chairperson Hurd and Administrator/Public Works Director Jared McKee will be preparing the application for submission.
 - C. **Eagle Nest Update:** Chairperson Hurd reported that Scott Mehus, Director of the National Eagle Center, will be coordinating efforts with the school, village, Beaver Creek Reserve, and interested citizens.

6. New Business

A. Trees at Keller Park: Administrator/Public Works Director McKee reported the ash trees in Keller Park are currently being treated for the Emerald Ash Borer, but that it might be time to plant smaller trees in the boulevard to replace the infected trees. Matt Mattoon noted there is an established list of replacement trees to choose from. Committee discussed possible donations to fund the project.

▪ MOTION (Mattoon/Strasburg) recommending to the Village Board to approve planting trees in Keller Park along the boulevard, to accept donations for the project, and to install a plaque recognizing those who donate. PASSED, without negative vote.

7. Adjourn @ 5:42 p.m.

Joan Drehmel, Deputy Clerk