

ST. ALBANS CITY PARKS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 6, 2017 6:00 PM

RECREATION DEPT., 39 BARLOW ST.

In Attendance: Tom Koldys, Angie Sturm, Joanie McGinn, Alec Kaeding, Jeff Young, Barbara Weinstein & Stina Booth.

Absent: None absent.

Staff Members Present: Andrew Gratton, Recreation Program Manager & Kelly Viens, Recreation Director.

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Updates on Houghton Park.

a. Tree installations

- Josh's trees were planted, kids helped, project was a success.
- A few plantings have been removed, possibly vandalized.
- City trees are here but haven't been planted yet, most likely due to weather, spots have been designated.
- Remaining stumps seem to have been ground down
- Confusion with Josh and his permaculture project has been sorted out (changing tree placement)
- Football field has not been reconditioned yet, delayed last fall due to cottonwood removal, currently delayed due to weather, probably postponed until this fall
- Jeff asked question about usage of baseball diamonds; their orientation may need to be changed in the future to move foul lines away from the playground.
- Barbara urges that we get picnic tables and offers money towards purchasing one (some), Kelly will look into Public Works building some.

b. Master Plan

- Chip Sawyer thinks it's a good idea but it should be tabled, possibly for a couple of years.
- Parks Commission may do some groundwork in the meantime.
- (Angie) installing a curb along the parking at Houghton, may be something to include in a Houghton master plan, defining an entrance, (Joanie) also adding a park sign at Houghton
- (Barbara) nicer trash cans.

3. Quick Park Inventory – determining short-term needs.

- (Jeff) Taylor Park garden clean up needs to be addressed, help is in short supply, Kelly will see if VYCC can contribute 2-3 times this summer with weeding and mulch/compost application.
- (Barbara) there's no water feature for kids on hot days, possibly setting up temporary sprinklers, (Angie) possibility of RiseVT putting out something one day a week, (Tom) Houghton would be a better spot of all the parks, (Jeff) tripod irrigators.
- Removing stones from under benches around the fountain in Taylor Park, replace with sod or mulch.
- Spots on east sidewalk and other areas in Taylor Park need to be filled, possibly temporary cement patching.
- Two trees need to be (re)cabled and one needs to be removed in Taylor Park, Kelly will look into whose responsibility it is and if it's being immediately addressed.
- Painting bandstand.
- Fixing flag when it's at half-mast, replacing with a smaller flag when it needs to be low.

4. Other business – to be considered immediately.

No other business was discussed.

5. Consider approval of meeting minutes: 5/2/17 (D&V).

A motion was made by Joanie McGinn; seconded by Jeff Young to approve minutes of 5/2/17 meeting. Vote was unanimous, 7/0.

6. Other business – to be considered for future agenda.

- VYCC will be looking for projects this summer.
- The unofficial entrance at Barlow may become "official".
- Selecting drinking water fountains, Alec will bring options he's aware of.

7. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Jeff Young; seconded by Joanie McGinn to adjourn meeting at 7:30 pm. Motion carried unanimously, 7-0.