

Florence Township Park Commission

Meeting Minutes – Oct. 21, 2013

Attendance: Brad Stone, Bill Siewert, Julie Karlsrud, Ron Knudsen, Dean Nelson and 13 guests

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Old Business:

Park Activity Applications: 1 pending for Carolyn Hedin
1 approved for Ron Knudson

Park Business: Wakondiota – Roof over bleachers – pending

Frontenac Station – Projects completed

Community Center – New TV and security camera

Steamboat Landing – Rip rap along shore line – pending

Valhalla – presentation from Bill Bleckwenn with discussion

We reviewed the proposal from McGhie & Betts which brought up many questions that Brad will email to Bill. We now know that at this time there is no evidence of erosion along Valhalla and that there is much more invasive growth than what we had originally thought.

Questions/topics to discuss with Bill Bleckwenn:

As invasives are removed what type of indigenous plants will be put in right away to avoid erosion?

Bill is a neutral party that will help develop the park.

How much grant writing can be done for \$700 in the proposal?

What will be the hourly rate?

Have Bill here for Nov. meeting and then schedule a community meeting to discuss the concept.

What is considered a trail?

Who would be responsible if there were to be a land slide?

General consensus is that there is no need for trails in Valhalla park.

What is the design/plan that will show what direction to proceed with to remove the invasive and plant the indigenous plants immediately?

A vegetation survey/inventory is being recommended by Robert Schroeder.

Robert Schroeder will check with two foresters to see how much inventory we should be able to get for our money and he volunteered to donate \$1,000 to help with the process.

Continue working with a consultant with a very specific and clear plan.
Make sure that there is a clear understanding of how much and how long this will take with concrete answers.
There is money in the park budget for the park design.
NO benches, trails, workout areas in the Valhalla Park, just vistas.
Make an investment in a process that will end with an enjoyable park.
The plan should be relatively simple.
Get a detailed plan of what level we can achieve for the money, including the inventory of plants/trees, any construction needed and step by step plan.
Find out from Bill Bleckwenn how many grants he will apply for, \$ amount of the grants and what would be an hourly rate for this process.

Ted presented a petition signed by 37 people to keep the area know as Steamboat Landing as it is.

It was decided to have the area surveyed to determine property lines, who the rightful owner is, what the legal size of the property is and clarify the meaning of the designation, dedicated public land. A motion was made and approved to recommend to the Town Board to have the area surveyed by someone who has not done it before – neutral party.

The road to the brush dump is now closed with a locked cable and if anyone wishes to dump in there they will need to contact Joe Ellingson at [651-468-8218](tel:651-468-8218) and he will make arrangements with them to get in.

Thank you to Dean, John and Bill for fixing the dock.

The next meeting will be November 18, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

Park Commissioners contact information:

Brad Stone	612-226-6066	jbradstone@aol.com
Bill Siewert	651-345-4694	wwsiewert@gmail.com
Julie Karlsrud	651-345-4591	julie.karlsrud@gmail.com
Ron Knudsen	651-345-4359	rrknudsen@qwestoffice.net
Dean Nelson	651-380-0814	lund1800@hotmail.com

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Julie Karlsrud