

## STILLWATER TOWNSHIP PARK COMMITTEE

June 14, 2021, 7:00 P.M. – via ZOOM

### REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Chairperson Barb Stahlmann, Park Manager David Kaetterhenry and Kevin Kaetterhenry, Assistant Park Manager Kelley Shantz, Park Committee Member Vanessa Barvels and Deputy Clerk Jennifer Maes

1. **AGENDA** – Approval of the agenda as written. M/S/P Shantz/Barvels (4 ayes)
2. **MINUTES** – Approval of the minutes from May 10. M/S/P Shantz/Stahlmann (4 ayes)
3. **PARK & TRAIL CONCERNS:**

#### **Otto Berg Park**

##### **Well Damage**

While repairing the damaged well, Mantyla noticed a need for emergency repair of the curb stop key which allows for the water to be turned on and off for the season. The repair has been authorized by the town board and completed.

The screening under the well-pump still needs to be installed and will require some stones to be added for support underneath. Asst. Park Manager Shantz will contact Schifsky to get the stones and will install the screen with assistance from Park Manager David Kaetterhenry. Kevin Kaetterhenry mentioned that there is some gravel washout at the drive entrance to the park. It is unclear whether the responsibility for that repair lies with the park or the road. Deputy Clerk Maes will contact Township Clerk Riehle for advice. If it is deemed a park concern, extra rock will be ordered for the well screen and both projects will be handled simultaneously.

##### **Playground Equipment Repair**

The rocking snail spring has been ordered from Northland Rec and will be delivered to Asst. Park Manager Shantz who will make the needed repairs with the assistance of Park Manager David Kaetterhenry.

The sport court repairs are still pending.

#### **Arcola Heights Park**

##### **Fire Post Sign**

At the request of the Township Board, Adam Earney of Washington County was contacted and has assigned an address to this park created by staff within the surveyor's office. This assignment should be reflected on other mapping sites, i.e., Google Maps, before the end of the month. The official address of this park is 15550 100<sup>th</sup> Street N.

The Park Committee has been asked to install a “fire post #” sign. Asst. Park Manager Shantz will contact Community Safety Officer Steve Nelson who will arrange for installation.

### **Posts and Chains**

Asst. Park Manager Shantz will likely make these repairs next week.

### **No Parking Signs**

The No Parking signs at the entrance of the park have been replaced.

## **Little Carnelian Park**

### **Fire Post Sign**

A “fire post #” sign is also required at this location noting the address 11295 Penfield Ave. N. Community Safety Officer Nelson will arrange for installation.

### **Fence Repair**

This repair is still pending materials information.

### **Tree Removal and Minor Washout**

These improvements are still pending and not considered urgent.

## **Otchipwe Prairie Trail**

### **Park Tour**

The Park Committee toured this park and Quarry Avenue Trail on Tuesday, June 1 at 6:30 P.M. Present were Township Supervisors Haines and Untiedt, Asst. Park Manager Shantz, Committee Members Stahlmann and Barvels and Deputy Clerk Maes.

Upon arrival, the committee happened to meet up with an interested resident who joined the tour of this trail.

### **Tree Damage**

There is a dead locust tree which should be removed.

The trail, like most, is cleared by an excavator. This method does not differentiate between good and bad trees, resulting in the loss of plums and oaks while buckthorn is not eradicated. Trees that are too close to the trail are damaged due to the width of the excavator. The resident suggested that perhaps another method would be preferable. The resident has an interest in prairie restoration and shared his contact information with the Committee. Deputy Clerk Maes will stay in contact with this resident to solicit his opinions and suggestions and gauge his interest and availability to join the

Committee which is seeking new members. Asst. Park Manager Shantz will contact Rick at Valley Green for an estimate to take to the Township Board.

#### **Horse Manure**

Asst. Park Manager Shantz was contacted by a resident wondering if there was an ordinance regarding horse manure on trails. There is no such ordinance. It is the opinion of the Committee that horse manure is organic and breaks down quickly, posing no risk to residents using the trails.

#### **Tree Down**

During the week ended June 12, Committee member Barvels noticed what appeared to be a tree down along this trail. She will investigate further tomorrow and report back to Asst. Park Manager Shantz.

#### **Quarry Avenue Trail**

##### **Large Dead Oak**

At the trail head there is a large dead oak tree. It is unclear if the tree is on the park property or the property of the neighboring resident, but there is a liability concern as the tree is large and near where people would park to use the trail. Asst. Park Manager Shantz will contact Clerk Riehle or possibly Engineer Bergman to determine ownership before action is taken.

##### **Second Dead Tree and Obstructing Buckthorn**

About 20 yards down the trail on the North side there is another dead tree that is very near the trail and should be removed. At the trailhead there is a reflective sign which is obstructed by buckthorn. Asst. Park Manager Shantz will contact Sentenced to Serve to see if they could remove them.

##### **No Motorized Vehicle Sign**

Last year the Committee requested installation of a "No Motorized Vehicle" sign, which was ordered but has not yet been installed. Asst. Park Manager Shantz will remind Community Safety Officer Nelson to check the status.

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **No Trespassing Signs near Fairy Falls**

The No Trespassing signs at 97th Street near Fairy Falls Park has been installed.

**Annual Picnic**

Planning continues for the Annual Township Picnic. Representatives from Sustainable Stillwater will attend to promote their “What’s That Plant” event, Bluebird Recovery Program and Green Business Directory. There is still a need for some kid friendly entertainment, as Deputy Clerk Maes has been unable to find a face painter or caricature artist. Committee member Stahlmann will contact Newsletter Editor Cole to discuss hosting a booth with a recycling handout. It was suggested that the picnic would be an opportunity to recruit Committee members. Deputy Clerk Maes will send an email to Committee members with the budget and volunteers will be assigned at the July meeting.

**5. NEW BUSINESS****Eagle Scout Project at Town Hall**

The Eagle Scouts have expressed interest in constructing a surround for the porta-potty at Otto Berg Park. Asst. Park Manager Shantz requested input on the design. Committee member Stahlmann will facilitate communication as the project progresses. The scouts expressed no interest in the bushes.

**Township Wide Garage Sale**

A resident expressed interest in a Township Wide Garage Sale. The Committee discussed possibilities and logistical concerns. Would this look like a map to residents hosting their own sales or possibly like a flea market at an area park where residents could rent a stall? The Committee decided to address the subject early next spring.

**6. TOWN BOARD LIAISON REPORT – No report****7. PARK MANAGER REPORT - Park Manager David Kaetterhenry reported****8. NEXT MEETING – July 12, 7:00 P.M. in person at Town Hall**

Thursday July 1, 6:30 P.M. a park tour meeting will be held beginning with Otto Berg Park and moving to Curtiss Hills Trail.

**9. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned 8:27 P.M. M/S/P Shantz/Barvels (4 ayes)**

Submitted by: Deputy Clerk, Jennifer Maes