

WILLIAMSON PARK COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

The Williamson Park Committee met Tuesday, July 27, 2021, in person. Attending members include Mr. Ervin, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Smith, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Purvis, City Planner Ms. Rock and her Assistant Ms. Shafer.

Mr. Ervin called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

The Committee discussed voting to authorize the City Clerk/Treasurer to keep writing the checks, and that other requests regarding this be voted on during the meeting.

Financial Report: Ms. Rock gave the Committee a copy of the current bank statement.

Park Manager's Report: Mr. Purvis, the new Park Manager, reported that his focus has been to get the trail in good walking condition. Mr. William Hudson has recently come aboard to help with this. Mr. Purvis has improved the wet locations on the trail by ditching and adding drain piping to divert water under or way from the trail, cleared away limbs fallen on or are growing into trail space, made several repairs to the boardwalks to include replacing missing or damaged lumber, collected and removed litter, repaired the damaged kiosk at Spain Street entrance, demoed one picnic table at the shelter area and painted the tables under the shelters, relocated the trash can beside main trail for easier access, cleared four side trails (Rabbit Run, Azealia Loop, Fort Trail, and trail to stone steps at the front of the park), some thinning between the trail and Park Drive so that the trail can be seen to increase walker safety, cut out and remove from the trail to remove trip hazards, mulched the worse sections of the trail, opened up the edges of the trail with string trimmers and continue to trim on a regular basis, worked on keeping the open area of the park a little more manicured than the rest of the park, kept board walks clean and blown off on regular basis, and trimmed limbs and grass on the park side shoulder of Park Drive. In total Mr. Purvis has worked 153 hours from March to June. Mr. Purvis reports that at present they are mainly in the maintenance mode, keeping trails trimmed and damaged areas of the trail repaired. There are several walk boards that need replacing, as well as cutting out around trees that are growing into handrails. Still need to replace one crosstie at the steps on east end of park and the crosstie steps at the Spain Street entrance need leveling and resecuring.

BBQ Dates: The committee discussed the Pig Pickin' in the Park event. Someone will talk to Nick's BBQ about donating rolls, slaw, and sides because they did so last year. They discussed the alcohol, live music, and ticket prices being \$25. There was talk of having a shuttle system like the years before. There was also talk of holding a silent auction at the event. Mr. Galloway made a motion to have the BBQ event on October 23, 2021. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business: The committee discussed putting a bench at the gathering space next to the creek. The committee discussed the gate at the front of the park, and how it needs to be removed and replaced with something else. Mr. Galloway made a motion to remove the old gate and put a chain up in its place. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The committee decided that they do not want a website, but a Facebook page instead. It is easier to manage and connect with people, and it is free. Mr. Carroll agreed to be in charge of the Facebook page. Mr. Ervin discussed having marked on the tree and signage to correspond with the trail map brochures that are out. The committee discussed having new members. Some of the people they discussed were Bridget Lawson, Al

Gilpen, and Kyle Gainey. The committee discussed parking lot options but did not decide on a specific location. Mr. Purvis, the Park Manager, discussed the lack of handicap accessibility that the park has and asks that it be remedied.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.