

Town of Tryon Parks Committee Minutes May 9, 2023

The Parks Committee met at the Vaughn Creek Greenway picnic shelter with the following members present: John Vining, Greg Miner, Amy Arledge, Karen Bird, Vard Henry, and Susie Hursey.

Park Updates:

Rogers Park-

John Vining and Jim Fatland, Town Manager, met at Rogers Park and discussed the need for new picnic tables and repairing the rotted pergola. Fatland indicated that Town would take care of these issues. Fatland asked John about the exterior lights on the park's restroom as they were on during the daytime. John indicated to the town manager that they were supposed to turn off during the daylight hours. No final decision was made on the exterior restroom lights.

Vaughn Creek Greenway-

The park is generally in good shape. Greg McCool, Town Public Works Director, was very responsive when notified that a tree was down over the trail, and used the trunk of the tree as a barrier to keep visitors from parking too close to the picnic area. Plans for cleaning debris from Vaughn Creek are still underway, pending permission from the landowners from all of the county's streambanks to enter the private properties.

Woodland Park-

Beautification Project:

The requirements of the matching grant from the Polk County Appearance Commission from last fall for \$1,000 have been fulfilled, and the final report is due by May 31, 2023. The committee will schedule work days to weed and mulch before then so that we can submit the required pictures. Susie Hursey reported that we have been approved for another matching grant from the Tryon Garden Club for \$1,000. The new grant will allow us to add more plants, mulch, and perhaps a few well-placed rocks.

Because of the heat and possible lack of rain in the summer, we will ask the Tryon Garden Club if we can wait until the fall before installing any new plants. As a part of the Tryon Garden Club's grant, we are required to place a sign at the park acknowledging their contribution. Susie Hursey will ask Susan Bell about a source for a small sign that acknowledges both grant organizations.

At the end of the meeting Vining said Jim Fatland asked him about the Parks line item in the town budget. John told the Town Manager that the Parks Committee did not have a line item. Fatland said he was considering a budget item for the Parks at \$5,000. Overall, the members at the May meeting thought this was a great idea from the Town Manager.

Next Meeting Date: July 11, 2023, at 4pm at Town Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00.

Minutes prepared by Susie Hursey.