

The following minutes have been approved but
not physically signed.

These minutes will be re-posted once physical
signatures are obtained.

Thank You.



Subject to Approval

- Approved as corrected
 Approved as submitted

RICHFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 5, 2021

6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: VIA ZOOM

Meeting ID: 878 8968 4038 Password: 495949

CALL TO ORDER: The zoom meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: *Jason Keppler, Carolyn Sullivan, Amy Huey, Sam Papp, and Elisabeth Kelly*

ABSENT: *Ron Hayden*

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Wheeler, mayor, Laura Toth, assistant to the mayor and interim park director, Gary Domanick, council representative, Sarah Durham, PROS representative, Leon Younger, PROS representative, Denise, resident, Kim Ganley, resident, Bobbie Beshara, resident, Ellen Daniels, resident, Michael, resident, and Doug Wenger, resident.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MAYOR'S REPORT:

We applied for the CRAG Grant from Rumpke today. It is a recycling grant which we will receive \$3,637 towards our recycling contract cost with Rumpke

The culvert on Brushwood is failing and it is on our list to replace this year.

Tim Ryan sent out information on grants available in Summit County today,

There are four types of grant submissions:

1. **Programmatic**—general support or funding for a program
 - a. Example: Provide \$150,000,000 for small business development centers.
2. **Report Language**—Request to add language to report accompanying the bill. This does not include dollar amounts.
 - a. Examples: The committee encourages SBA and its resource partners to continue efforts to increase outreach and direct support to women entrepreneurs and small businesses in underserved communities.
3. **Bill Language**—Request to add or change statutory language of an appropriations bill.
 - a. Example: Sec. 522. None of the funds made available in this act may be used to purchase first class or premium airline travel in contravention of sections 301-10.122 through 301-10,124 of title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

4. **Community Project Funding**—Directs funds to a specific state or local government mentor eligible non-profit recipient. If you are requesting that funding be directed to a non-profit organization, you must provide evidence that the recipient is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (NOTE: A Member of Congress may only submit ten community project funding requests to the Appropriations Committee each year. Thus, this category of funding is extremely competitive.)
- a. *Example: Provide \$500,000 for an XYZ Non-Profit Organization to provide entrepreneur training in Warren, OH.*

COMMUNITY

Through March 11, 2021, we have collected \$5,488,500 of the \$30,440,314 budgeted for revenue, or 18% of the budget, slightly below the expected rate of 20% near mid-March. On the expenditure side, \$5,431,722 was expended overall by the Village through mid-March, or 15.8% of the \$34,328,942 budgeted for expenditures.

If you have question, concerns or comments, please contact me or my Executive Assistant at 330-659-9201 x 234 or email me at mwheeler@richfieldvillageohio.org

OLD BUSINESS:

Feasibility Study Update:

Leon Younger from PROS broke down the feasibility study to the board. He stated that Richfield is a very active community in terms of fitness. Eighteen interviews were conducted with Village government officials, park board members, and individual with municipal positions to obtain information about people's perceptions of the parks and recreation system as well as comments about a potentially new community center. An online survey was also conducted—456 responses received, the purpose was to receive a better understanding of the support, amenity preferences, and funding options for a potential community center. Two building sizes were given based on the information received from the survey. Mr. Keppler asked for clarification about the building cost, Mr. Younger explained the cost would be cheaper without a pool being put in. Mr. Keppler also asked about if other communities that have various places around them to compete with. Ms. Huey asked about the percentage of people included in the study. Mr. Younger said he took into account people who are both inside and outside the village as well as people who work within the village. Ms. Huey also asked if information regarding the pandemic was included. Mr. Younger stated that they recognize that has been an issue but most of their work has been based on 2019. Ms. Sullivan asked if a low response rate that we received was typical for a survey like this. Mr. Younger stated that he felt it was a good turn-out and it might have been a smaller response because of the holiday. Mr. Wenger asked about the estimated salary for the employees. Mr. Younger stated that the benefit package was based off what employees receive now and the rest was based on an assumption on what those positions would be doing and what the market is doing. Ms. Daniels asked about information regarding property value. Mr. Younger stated it was looked at because they are unsure what they are building yet. Bobbie Beshara asked about the senior citizen included in the possible recreation center. Mr. Younger states that all of the spaces are multifunctional, and it is really about how you design it. Ms. Huey asked if a private organization came in i.e. YMCA would the feasibility be helpful for them in making a decision regarding building one of their locations in Richfield. Mr. Younger wanted to remind they board and community members that this project is not just a fitness center, it is a community center that is multifunctional. Mr. Wheeler wanted to reiterate that PROS consulting was not given a direction, they were asked to do an independent feasibility study with no input from anyone. They were tasked with figuring out what we wanted, needed, and what we can afford. Dr. Domanick said that the board needs to look at the study in depth before speaking to council about it all. And then they will go from there. Mr. Keepler said that the decision needs to be brought to council and the longer it sits the most likely it will not get done. The board decided to take

the time to look over the report as a whole and come back together at the meeting in May with their thoughts and opinions. **Please see the link for a copy of the feasibility study here:*
<https://www.richfieldvillageohio.org/531/Rec-Center-Feasibility-Studies> *

Developments on Eastwood Barn:

Mayor Wheeler said we have two contractors looking at the property now. They want to give us a proposal, they haven't done it yet. —so, we are currently waiting to hear from the contractors.

Egg hunt details:

Ms. Toth stated that the egg hunt went well. We did our hiding Saturday night at 9:00, that was the start of the event. Everything was laid out per route. There was a total of 75 families that participated. We received lots of positive feedback from the participate, and everyone enjoyed it.

Naming of the pond / lake, waiting to hear back:

No update, waiting to hear from Labalzo family before proceeding, discussion has been tabled.

Tree / landscape report:

Dr. Domanick stated that there are 1100 trees this will be April 24th. We already have 8 business to adopt-a-spot. The specific spot locations will be discussed at the next meeting.

Project pride details:

Ms. Toth said that project pride will be occurring April 24th. The east drive behind town hall will be the paper shredding, location for project pride will be at the senior center parking lot, the drug drop-off for unused prescription will be at the police station. There will also be a location to drop-off recycled electronics. Supplies such as reflective vests, gloves, garage bags, etc. will be provided and can be picked-up at town hall. Ms. Toth will be working with Revere Local Schools about routes for the high school seniors receiving volunteer hours. It will start at 9:00 am. and will go until 12:00 pm. Each group receives instructions on what to pick-up, as well as what to avoid. How which route they will be cleaning-up.

NEW BUSINESS: Next meeting date on May 3rd at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Toth asked about blue-bird nesting boxes be put it at Eastwoods preserve. As well as the things needed at the community gardens. She also mentioned that the parks should have signage about paths within our parks, and include maps, and rules for the parks. Mr. Papp suggested having the board meet at the individual's parks to discuss and revise the park rules.

Board goals:

Mr. Keppler mentioned that the goals want to be discussed when the board is able to meet in person.

AGENDA REQUESTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT: 8:08 p.m.

Jason Keppler, Chairperson

Elisabeth Kelly, Secretary

Date: _____