

MINUTES

Village of Brockport Parks Committee Wednesday, October 9, 2019
7pm – Village Hall – 127 Main Street, Brockport, NY

Mission Statement: *The Parks Committee of the Village of Brockport serves as an advisory committee to the Village Board and works with the Department of Public Works. We help provide well-maintained parks and recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.*

Present: Amy Guptill (secretary), Jennifer Haytock, Hanny Heyen, Linda Ketchum (chair), CT Oakes, Losh Spalla, Chelsea Wong

Excused: Barbara Blosenbauer, Joe Blosenbauer, Annie Crane (Village Board liaison), John LaPierre (Village Board liaison)

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:05

Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of September 11, 2019 made by CT Oakes, seconded by Losh Spalla. Voice vote: approved.

Old Business: Linda Ketchum

- Parkitects will send more age-stickers for play equipment so that we can complete labeling in all our parks
- Pruning workshop taking place October 19, 10am-noon, Village Court, 49 State St. Up to 20 people can participate.
- All park surveys except for Harvester Park and Havenwood Park are submitted.
- New rules-sign wording and "Need Help?" signs will be sent to Harry Donahue for ordering, winter installation; Harry isn't convinced we need five such signs for Corbett. Linda will talk with him about that.
- Tennis and pickleball court repair (quotes from Brian VanBuren) goes under DPW
- Port-a-johns removed at Labor Day, ask Village Board for longer contract (through mid-October) next April.

Liaisons Reports, Budget Report: No liaison reports; budget is unchanged.

Hanny Heyen: It's not always clear which expenses are made under the parks budget and which under the general DPW budget. This is something we should get clarity on going forward, so that we can track our current year budgets and reserves.

New Business: Linda Ketchum

- Zip Krooz Community Build in Barry Street Park was a grand success! Ribbon-cutting planned for Monday October 14, 2019, which is a day off school, at 3 pm. Parkitects provided a big ribbon. CT Oakes will bring big scissors.

Two article links below:

<http://www.westsidenevsnny.com/news/2019-10-14/zipkrooz-erected-at-community-build-event/>

<http://www.brockportstylus.org/news/article/current/2019/10/08/101639/barry-street-park-introduces-zip-krooz>

Hanny Heyen: We should be sure to update the websites and brochures about new park equipment and other amenities.

Linda Ketchum: Committee members should check the website (under the Government and Community sections of the village website) and see what changes should be made and send them to Linda, so she can compile the changes into one request.

- Status of graffiti on tables in Corbett Park, also one sign at pond: CT Oakes: It might be resolved.
- Norm Frisch completed changes to Parks Brochure. Sent to Village Clerk and posted on website
- "Brockport Reads" placed books in Sagawa Park. It looks great now, but it likely to deteriorate. Linda will check with organizers to remove weathered books as needed.
- One pollinator garden left to plant at Harvester Park, the largest one
- Monika's, Corbett, Barry St parks all recently weeded, most likely by DPW
- A. Guptill wrote a summary of parks committee news for the Fall Village Newsletter, out in November.
- Thank you to Lynda Cochran for being a parks committee member and vice-chair!
- CT Oakes: Ornamental bottles hanging from trees on north-side canal path in Harvester, reported to DPW
- CT Oakes: What is the policy about metal-detectors and digging in village parks? Linda Ketchum: There's no special prohibition on metal detectors, as far as I know. But digging is probably covered under some general rules about vegetation and land.
- H. Heyen to set special committee meeting date to discuss financing Corbett updates

- National Fitness Campaign initiative, sent info to all committee members, discussion

Linda Ketchum: I emailed out the info and timeline. The national organization wants to build 1000 freely-available exercise areas; they've built about 400 so far, so there's a clear time-horizon here. We are already a compelling case; we would need to raise \$90,000, and they would provide the last \$30,000. There is an application deadline this month to be part of the program, and then we would have to raise the money by the end of 2020 for a 2021 build. See info page attached to these minutes.

- Corbett Park working group: Last winter's working group created a to-do list for improving Corbett park, together with precise cost estimates. The group will meet again this winter to strategize further about how to fund these improvements, piece by piece, keeping in mind the NFC Initiative, and the potential role that could play. Hanny Heyen, CT Oakes, Linda Ketchum, and Chelsea Wong will participate. Others are invited as well.

Next Meeting: April 8, 2020, 7pm, at the Village Hall – 127 Main Street

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Hanny Heyen, seconded by Linda Ketchum, approved by voice vote. Adjourned at 7:56 pm.

NATIONAL FITNESS CAMPAIGN (NFC) – Fitness Court Notes/Timeline

September 24, 2019 at 2:30pm, Mayor Margay Blackman's Office, Village Hall, 127 Main Street

Sep 19 – CT Oakes sent a link to Linda Ketchum, sent a picture from Cobbs Hill also

Sep 20 – Linda Ketchum filled out the "Get In Touch" form on the NFC website at 9am:

<https://nationalfitnesscampaign.com/watch>

Message to NFC: I am the chair of The Village of Brockport Parks Committee. We have nine parks in our village and a very active community. As the host to a state college, we have a wide age range of people looking for outdoor activities. Our largest park is in serious need of updating. Children's playground equipment has aged and there are no replacement parts. A fitness path and wooden equipment has all but disappeared. We would like to get onboard with the National Fitness Campaign and see what we can do to improve fitness for all ages in Corbett Park, Brockport, New York. Thank you for your consideration. www.brockportny.org

Sep 20 – Briannah Smith, NFC Outreach Manager, contacted Linda Ketchum to set up a briefing call

Sep 20 – Linda Ketchum conferred with Mayor Margay Blackman to be part of the briefing call

Sep 24 – Cindy Trevino, NFC Partnership Development Strategist joined the conference call at 2:30

The mission of the NFC is to make world-class fitness free. They have been doing this for 40 years. Advanced technology allows for more holistic elements. There are different ways to use the court for all ages. Cindy briefed us about the 2020 Partner Invitation and sent documents explaining the campaign, plus, links to videos and news stories. By the end of 2020, they should have 400 sites across the country. The 2021 window is now open with an application deadline of October 2019. The requirements are:

1. Health is a priority in the community
2. The location needs to be accessible, connected to pedestrian infrastructure and trails
3. NFC gives 30K grants, 125K + install to construct the fitness court, help available
4. Timing is geared to have all details in place by the end of 2020 for a Spring 2021 install

Mayor Blackman and Linda Ketchum replied to each item. We are aware of the Cobbs Hill Park installation. We would like to see a fitness court in Corbett Park here in Brockport. The park sits directly on the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, which is part of the National Parks System. We host a State College that would probably be very interested in participating in this program with us.

The NFC Ambassador program launched last spring has community volunteers that lead workouts. Then residents can use the court on their own also. This would also tie into student training programs at The College at Brockport. There is an app showing how to use the fitness court.

Mayor Blackman asked for the Rochester Parks contact that was in charge of the Cobbs Hill project.

Cindy meets with their grants committee every two weeks and can coordinate a call with them for us.

Oct 9 – Next parks committee meeting. Cindy will email more information that we can discuss.