

**PARKS BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 20, 2022**  
**6:30 PM**

Nina Schroeder called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Don Buchert, Marty Hura, Nina Schroeder, Scott Weaver, Cookie Vanek

**Other Village Personnel Present:** Mayor Linda Clark

**Citizens/Others Present:** DMRC Liaison Phil Rath

- ❖ Motion to approve June 22, 2022 minutes made by Scott, seconded by Cookie; all “ayes.”

**Old Business:**

- Mayor Clark provided a Buchert Park Phase 3 update:
  - This project is nearly done; its projected completion date is still July 29.
    - The trail has been set with gravel. Asphalt will be laid and the High St. crossing lights will soon be installed.
- The mayor provided a Phase 4 update:
  - The grant application was submitted to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), and a copy was supplied to the Downtown Mantua Revitalization Corporation (DMRC).
- Nina asked when the Service Department expected to place signage or barriers at Buchert Park to keep people from pulling beyond the parking lot and into the playground’s grass.
  - The mayor said it will likely be after Service has poured footers/installed benches at the cemetery and repaired the mini excavator.
- Nina thanked Phil for passing out copies of the DMRC’s informative “2021 Annual Report” to councilmembers at the regular June meeting the night before.
- Phil acknowledged that the DMRC originally earmarked \$30,000 for Phase 4, but its projected cost exceeded the budget (at ≈ \$55,000), and the phase had to be scaled back.
  - More safety-related projects (like replacing cracked concrete pads in the pavilions) will be furthered in Phase 5.
  - Phil warned that the Village may not be awarded the ODNR grant for Phase 4. The mayor said the Village has been very lucky to receive these in the past.

- Phil is confident, though, and said (based on his discussions with CT Consultants, Inc.) that the likelihood of receiving the grant is greater because (1) the DMRC has the funds available/ready to be spent, and (2) the Village and DMRC have a good track record with ODNR by always following through on projects supported by its grant monies.
- Phil asked if everyone has seen the improvement/concept plan for Buchert Park (created by CT Consultants in 2016).
  - Nina had not; the rest of the board had.
    - Mayor Clark will lend a copy for review.
  - Marty was the board's representative at the time the plans were drawn up.
  - The mayor said the cost of the projects was an estimated 3 million dollars.
  - Per Mayor Clark, proposed improvements included replacing the pavilions, installing an indoor/outdoor venue connecting the Spud building and Lodge overhead, building bathrooms, relocating a baseball field, taking the fence along the river down, fencing in the playground, and building a splash pad (costing ≈ \$50,000-75,000/month from June to August to operate, according to the mayor's recollection of cost estimates in 2016).
    - Mayor Clark suggested Parks Board and DMRC meet to review the plan/compare it with improvements made at the park since 2016.
- Nina asked if the Village Solicitor could produce a generic memorandum of understanding (MOU) template, and Mayor Clark suggested the board and Phil work together to establish some criteria for when an MOU should be used.
  - The mayor said MOUs are especially important for continuity; as committee, DMRC, council, and mayoral seats change, and as the Village continually improves, new members will have access to the background information on projects/plans as well as the documentation to explain who is responsible for what.
  - Per Phil, the DMRC thinks MOUs are a good communication tool.
  - All agreed on the following criteria:
    - An MOU should be implemented
      - when a grant is sought to fund a project;
      - for special projects;
      - when an interagency agreement is used;
      - when a project requires ongoing maintenance/costs;
      - when the Village deems one is needed.
  - Nina asked Phil if the DMRC is amenable to having their liaisons meet with other Village representatives on an MOU subcommittee. Phil said they are.

- Phil asked if the mayor checked with Kimble about rates/the costs of adding donated receptacles to their Village route. She hadn't yet.
  - Phil said he believes the DMRC program for bench/receptacle donations is on hold, but he suspects that Edison-style streetlamps/light installations will be an upcoming discussion.

**New Business:**

- The mayor and Phil discussed putting something in place so that Village newcomers know the basics/have easy access to contact information for Village authorities that can offer need-to-know rules and guidelines.
- Nina asked for an update about the portion of the river bank that is eroding (and guardrail that is falling down as a result) near the High St. bridge.
  - The mayor responded that the Village will get a permit for the floodplain to allow Service to place some concrete there to stabilize the bank.
- The mayor received an email from a citizen wondering if a pickleball court could be installed at the park. The mayor said we don't currently have the funds to complete such a project, but perhaps it could be added to a future grant.
  - The mayor said a pickleball court is 44' long x 20' wide, plus the footage of a perimeter, and the court would probably need a fence around it.
  - She said one possible location (safe from flooding/able to accommodate a concrete court) is by the west drive near Pavilion #1, near to where the old restrooms were.
  - Everyone agreed that pickleball is hugely popular.
- Dean Olson of the Rotary Club talked to the mayor about increasing the size of the volleyball court because they would like to see a league formed.
  - Scott suggested the league be formed prior to any Village expense; the cost of new drainage, for example, won't be cheap.
  - Cookie wondered if current leagues pay money to the Village. The mayor responded that they do not, but the leagues maintain the fields, bringing in soil for /raking the infields, repairing benches, donating two sets of stainless steel bleachers, etc.
  - Cookie said future volleyball/pickleball leagues should generate money for the Village. Scott agreed and said starting leagues could bring other business (like food trucks) into the Village and will increase foot traffic at Village businesses.

❖ Motion to adjourn made by Nina at 7:31 p.m., seconded by Scott; all "ayes."