

MINUTES

Shepherdstown Parks & Recreation - March 28, 2023

Attendance: Chair, Cheryl Roberts, Lori Robertson, Marty Amerikaner, Jenny Haynes
Staff: Frank Welch (Zoom)

Absent: Nick Tully and Effie Kallas

1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda – Motion to move item 6b closer to the top of the agenda by M. Amerikaner; seconded by J. Haynes. Motion passed unopposed.
3. Approval of Minutes -- Motion to approve the minutes of November 29, 2022, by J. Haynes ; seconded by M. Amerikaner. Motion passed unopposed.
4. Welcome Visitors:
3 members of Age Friendly Shepherdstown – Linda Spatig, Steve Ayraud, and Marcy Bartlett.
5. Unfinished Business:
 - a. Bane-Harris Park – C. Roberts
 - i. Mulch in Playground Area – F. Welch that his staff will place more mulch in April.
 - ii. Pickle Ball Space – Sub-Committee Appointed; research in Progress – Cheryl will invite Bruce Young to come to a meeting at Bane-Harris in April and bring portable equipment.
 - b. Cullison Park – M. Amerikaner
 - i. Walking Path Update -M. Amerikaner/F. Welch
 1. Phase 1 is complete. Marty felt that Capitol Flexipave did a nice job and there was a strong case to extend to the stairs. M. Amerikaner suggested a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for our 2023 Bookmark the Park kick-off. Also suggested a fun “walkathon” to be planned this summer. The area is approximately 7 laps for a mile, and we can place markers for milage increments ¼ mile, ½ mile, 1 mile, etc.
 2. Suggested to place shavings from the tree companies as a surface for the trail connecting Cullison and Rumsey Parks. F. Welch announced that his staff can use the Bobcat to spread.
 - c. Riverfront Park – J. Haynes – Reported that the parks look good and there have not been any reported or noticeable issues.
 - d. Rumsey Park
 - i. Placement of Commemorative Bench (Ethan Fisher) -F. Welch
 1. Frank would like for the wife to select the spot. Cheryl will communicate with the family. The bench is to be placed within a week of confirmation.
 - e. Viola Devonshire Park – L. Robertson

- i. Pickle Ball Proposal – See Bane-Harris reference above.

6. New Business:

a. Bookmark the Park – 2023 Season

- i. Cheryl highlighted the report from our last meeting. J. Haynes moved to obligate up to \$200 to purchase banners to promote Bookmark the Park; M. Amerikaner seconded. Effie will be brought into the loop and the idea is to have one banner specific to each park. J. Haynes offered to perform market research on the banners.

b. Bike Path -Request of Age Friendly Shepherdstown – Virtual Guest (Zoom), Steve Ayraud.

- i. Working together for a bike route which will bring visitors to town from the C&O canal. The Age Friendly Committee is seeking approval from P&R and Town Council to move forward with the plan. Steve displayed a google map displaying connections outside of the parks to C&O canal to the existing bike route on Rt. 45 West and a connection to Morgan’s Grove Park and to the new Shepherdstown Library. The Google Map is interactive:
https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1N2ubGCGYQY-7U9KTRMKU7OF_glb0ONI&ll=39.44138360309908%2C-77.79359733265417&z=15
- ii. Shepherdstown has various widths of streets. High (E/W is one of the widest but not wide enough for a designated Bike Lane. King Street (N/S flows through campus to connect to the Potomac River bridge and these routes connect with the parks. South on King Street and wind throughout the south end of town connecting with Morgan’s Grove Park. The route is consistent with the county’s bike route. “Sharrows” –Share the Road graphic/signs will be posted. There is no intention for signs or the route to travel along German or Duke Streets. On the map, the blue area is the proposed route, and the purple area is an existing and has been approved. route. The original plan closes the gap between alternate 45 and Rt. 480 with a crosswalk and a push button electronic pedestrian sign. Age-Friendly group also suggested that we considered bike racks at each of the parks. L. Robertson mentioned the slope grade of the unpaved area at the end of High Street; F. Welch replied that the area is town property and will be explored. It was noted that Stacy Kendig is Shepherd University’s representative and is aware of the plan.
- iii. M. Amerikaner moved that the Parks and Recreation Committee endorse Age Friendly Shepherdstown’s proposal to move forward with the bike path. J. Haynes seconded. Motion passed unopposed.

An announcement was made that Andy Williamson – visiting Riverfront Park on Thursday, April 20 to investigate the possibility of introducing outdoor activities. All are welcome to gather at MJs for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and to walk to Riverfront Park.

Comprehensive Plan -we need to form a sub-committee to work with Jonathan Moss and his team to incorporate the Bike Path and other ideas for outdoor activities.

7. Next Meeting - April 25, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. - Bane-Harris Park
8. Adjournment - Motion by M. Amerikaner to adjourn; seconded by J. Haynes. Motion passed, no objection. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Chairperson, C. Roberts in the absence of Secretary, E. Kallas.