

**AGENDA**  
**VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK PARK WORKSHOP**  
**ASSEMBLY ROOM – VIA ZOOM**  
**OCTOBER 8, 2020**  
**11:00 AM**

**Call to Order**

Council Member Carpenter presided over the October 8, 2020, Park Workshop meeting at 11:00 a.m. Those present were Mayor Weedman, Vice Mayor Jamerson, Council Members Coletta, Dethero, Gooch, Posey, Village Clerk Parker, Village Administrator Christie, Park Ranger John Wilkerson, Duncan Fraser, Dennis Flanagan, Tracey Daniels and Park Commission Members Georgia Bonesteel, Sally Boyd, Pam Tiles, and Chairman Matt Toner.

**Public Comments** - None

**Agenda Approval/Changes** – Albert Gooch made a motion to accept the agenda as written, seconded by Sally Boyd. The vote carried by unanimous vote.

**Discussion Topics:**

- Streams Assessment report and recommendations

Council Member Carpenter reported the proposal is to start work the second half of FY 2021/2022. Some upfront work needs to be done that will require funding this fiscal year. The Council discussed permitting and whether or not to have Myra Grant begin researching available grants for funding. The Council would not want to use the Army Corps of Engineers for funding due to restrictions that would go with any funding received. Council Member Carpenter turned the meeting over to Matt Toner, Park Commission chair, who reviewed the Stream Revitalization Plan prepared by Betsy Gerwig of the Henderson County Soil & Water Conservation District (see attached).

There were discussions of the estimated cost of \$10,000.00 for Myra Grant to research available grants, and the writing and closing of those grants. Dennis Flanagan stated the Park & Recreation Foundation does not have the funds available, and the Village Council would need to find additional funding if they wanted to proceed. Mr. Flanagan stated there is an opportunity for the Foundation to hold a capital campaign of restricted donations for funding this project.

After discussions, the topic will be discussed at the November agenda and council meetings.

- Should we investigate park expansion to the west?

The 13.21-acre tract has an assessed value of \$132,100 and is owned by Mickey Lively. It is currently not on the market for sale. The entire tract is on the west side of King Creek. After discussions, Council Members agreed to not pursue purchasing the 13.21-acre tract at this time.

- Study to evaluate self-maintenance of the Park
  1. Should the Village own the equipment?
  2. Should the Village have a maintenance employee?

John Wilkerson commented everything is currently working well, and to own equipment and hire an additional employee would be very expensive. The only advantage of hiring a maintenance employee would be having a faster response time. Will Garvey, who could not attend the meeting, sent comments suggesting possibly rebidding the contract with FitzSimons and exploring hiring a part-time maintenance employee to assist John.

After discussions, the topic was deferred until spring as the more appropriate time to explore outside bids for comparison to FitzSimons's maintenance charges.

- Discussion of proposal to apply for the Tree City USA certification

Council Member Carpenter explained the certification would give Flat Rock credit in the environmental community. The Village would be able to fly the Tree City USA flag and erect signs saying, "Tree City USA." Certification requirements include filling out an application (no cost) to the National Arbor Day Foundation, forming a tree committee to oversee the program, having a budget of approximately \$6,400 (\$2/per capita of population—possibly already covered by park expenses), and enacting a tree ordinance, which the Village already has in place. Council Members agreed to apply for the certification.

- If the N. Highland Lake Road project occurs

Should additional parking be added and, if so, how to accomplish? There is a proposal of \$130,000.00 to add 25-30 additional parking spaces to the existing lot. The issue will be discussed at a later date as there is no funding for this in the 2020/2021 budget.

- The master plan calls for a courtyard at the Welcome Center. Should work begin to have this designed? Can this be a memorial area?

Dennis Flanagan stated the Foundation already has potential donors for the courtyard, with naming capabilities as well as a section for a memorial area. The Foundation has the potential to provide funding to the Village for all aspects of the courtyard. John Wilkerson mentioned that Hunter Marks stated he would prepare an artist conception for a cost of \$1,600.00, which the Foundation would fund. After discussions, Mayor Weedman stated Village Council needs to address the whole concept and whether to proceed. The subject will be discussed in November.

Park Commission will discuss at the November Park Commission meeting a priority list of projects in the Park.

- The annual target amount for funds raised by the Park Foundation in support of sustaining the park in 2021/2022 will be equal to the amount of funding the Village provides to the Foundation. No discussion.
- Discussion of upcoming Park projects in 2020/2021. There are no projects for FY 2020/2021.

Vice Mayor Jamerson brought up that when John Wilkerson goes on vacations, the park workload falls on Village Administrator Christie. She is asking for help in responsibilities from the Park Commission or from Council Members.

**Public Comments - None**

### **Adjournment**

With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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Michelle Parker  
Village Clerk

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Nick Weedman  
Mayor