

Approved

*TOWN OF SHELBY*

*Parks and Vacant Land Committee Minutes*

DATE & TIME: March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, 6:11 pm

LOCATION: Shelby Town Hall Meeting Room

PRESENT: Tim Ehler, Terri Schlichenmeyer, Jean Wiggert, Gene Roberts, Diana Birnbaum, Josh Blum

1.) Meeting called to order at 6:11pm by Tim Ehler

2.) Motion by Birnbaum, second by Blum to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2016 meeting  
Motion passed.

3.) Update on Mormon Coulee Park. UWL Recreation has been called but has not yet replied; we will wait for them to return the call before proceeding. Further update on trees in MCP; the park is “ugly” because so many of the trees (cottonwoods, etc) were cut due to their poor condition. Replacement trees are on order; Roberts says he’s encouraged residents with concerns to call the Town Administrator. More trees may need to come down and the situation will continue to be monitored. The old trees were a liability.

There was further discussion on the land in MCP with a concern about mosquitoes and the need to flatten out some areas to avoid standing water. This may compromise the tennis courts.

There is also a continuing problem with alcohol and profanity in MCP on the Frisbee Golf areas. Discussion was to look into Town Ordinances. Roberts again reiterated that he’s told nearby residents to report problems to Town Administrator and the Town Board.

The Parks Board is still waiting on designs for MCP Shelter; there are already many reservations for the old shelter for 2016. The Lions auction is April 24.

There was some discussion at this time on Pheasant Park and Monarch Park within Pheasant Park. Subject was tabled for discussion at another time.

4.) Discussion of a letter from David Johnson, in re: fires on the trails on Hedgehog Bluff near Old Vineyard Road. It has been determined that the owners of the property need to file a complaint of trespassing. Fire pits also need a permit, and the landowner can be cited and / or billed the cost of removal – although it’s acknowledged that people have been having fire pits on that property for years.

Wiggert asked if there were still plans on signage for the trails. The board has approved them; Blum and Roberts agreed to help with placement. Birnbaum asked for a “no parking” or “no public access” sign near Old Vineyard. It was decided to encourage hikers to park elsewhere and walk to the trailhead.

Discussion was also on garbage receptacles on the trailhead facility, and for the Town to empty them. There also needs to be signage reminding hikers to leash all dogs. Blum offered to see who the city used to make their signs; he also says that there's a need for parameter signs around, and signs to notify hikers that they're entering private property. Blum volunteered to get verbiage for this; he believes there needs to be at least a dozen signs and will look into signs for the Dobson tract near Alpine.

General consensus was that the Parks Board and Town Board need to act upon signage as soon as possible. Also, there is a map of the trails available; posting it somewhere at the beginning of the trail was recommended and agreed that it could be done after the trails were fully developed.

5.) The deadline for the Parks Questionnaire is after the election. Schlichenmeyer had looked them over cursorily and noted that most respondents asked that hiking and biking trails be a priority. There were one or two mentions of a dog park, a small handful of mentions on bathrooms and shelters, and a very large number of respondents who urged the Parks Board and Town Board to talk / consult with residents before moving forward on any projects. Full results will be collated by the Town Staff at a later date.

6.) Discussion on a solar park as an opportunity for further consideration. The Town Board has been looking into the possibility, and this may eventually be an agenda item, possibly for vacant land.

7.) Willow Heights project / trails are in "full play." Ehler will ask for a land survey; there may be parking up there, eventually. The same is possible for Quarry land as well.

8.) Discussion of ORA (Outdoor Recreational Alliance) summit the afternoon of April 7 at Stoney Creek in Onalaska. Blum recommended that someone represent the Town.

9.) Next meeting is May 4, 2016 at 6:00 pm

10.) Meeting adjourned shortly after 8 pm.

Minutes by Terri Schlichenmeyer 3/23/16