

Perry Village Parks Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Sunday, March 14

Time: 9:30 AM

Location: Perry Village

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Perry Village Parks Committee was called to order on Sunday, March 14 at 9:30 AM.

2. Election of Secretary

A motion was made to elect Vanessa Rockwell as Secretary so that meeting minutes can be recorded.

- First Motion: Barb Howley
- Second Motion: Tara Chabot

The motion was approved by all members present.

Old Business

Lee Lydic Park – Five-Year Plan

The committee discussed developing a five-year plan for improvements at Lee Lydic Park. This will be discussed in greater detail at a future meeting.

Committee members are encouraged to submit ideas for improvements, including potential running and walking paths.

Meadow Project

- Two benches will be built for the meadow area and referred to as “Aldo Leopold Benches.”
- The committee would also like to install an informational post/sign in the meadow area with educational information about the flowers and plants in the meadow.

New Business

Community Garden

- The garden currently has 2–4 empty plots available.
- There was discussion of what to do with neglected plots.
- The Village road crew completed digging work for planting and we will continue using their help
- The committee discussed planting zinnias and marigolds around the garden to help deter animals.
- A discussion took place regarding whether the garden should be relocated in the future, though no decision was made.
- The goal is for the garden to be ready for planting by mid-April.
- Luke Percival, who sells aged manure, may be contacted as a potential resource for garden soil.

Budget

The Parks Committee currently has a budget of approximately \$1,000–\$2,000.

Potential expenditures include:

- Wood for the Aldo Leopold benches
- Wood for park signage
- Other improvement materials

Pickleball Courts

- Plans include the installation of two pickleball courts.
- The committee has not yet seen the final plans.
- Courts are expected to be completed by summer, with a grand opening event planned.

The committee would like to consider using part of the budget for:

- Motion sensor lighting
- A gate to prevent vehicles from entering the park after hours

This concern was raised due to reports of vehicles entering Lee Lydic Park after dark, which raises safety concerns for nearby residents.

Events

Earth Day Celebration

- Date: April 26
- Location: Lee Lydic Park
- Time: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Planned activities include:

- Pond dipping
- Tree planting
- A scavenger hunt with puzzles and decoding activities
- Craft station
- Snacks
- Campfire with s'mores and juice

Additional ideas discussed:

- Incorporating the student who will make a bee house and help teach children how to make their own
- Recruiting high school volunteers
- Purchasing items such as glitter tattoos, stickers, fun photo booth masks
- Setting up a photo booth
- Creating activity stations for children to rotate through

Battery Recycling

The committee discussed relocating the community battery collection tube due to its usefulness and community participation.

School Partnerships

The committee would like to contact local elementary and middle school teachers to explore opportunities for students to participate in planting marigolds or other projects that connect students with the park. This provides a sense of ownership back to the community and our youth.

Earth Day Materials

- Pam Jenkins will provide handouts for the Earth Day event.

Meadow Seed Donations

The committee will explore potential sources for donated native plant seeds for the meadow area.

Grants and Future Improvements

Pam Jenkins and Barb Howley are pursuing a NatureWorks Grant to obtain additional funding for park improvements.

Potential future projects include:

- A new park sign with an address
- A security gate
- Bike racks
- Working security cameras
- Additional benches around the pond
- A fishing platform at the pond

Communications

Pam Jenkins will prepare information about Parks Committee updates for the Perry Township newsletter and distribute it to the appropriate communications contacts.

Next Meeting

The next Parks Committee meeting is scheduled for:

Sunday, April 12

9:30 AM