

MINUTES OF GREENWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 19, 2017

Attended by: Ronny Hardaway, Chair
Deborah Dawson, Secretary
Phil Dankert, Member
Lynn Leopold, Member
Larry Bieri, Member
John Courtney, DPW Representative
Donald (Dondi) Harner, T.G. Miller Engineer

Hardaway called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

New Park Status

The Committee rearranged their proposed schedule to first discuss the topic of the new Park on Northwood Drive in consideration of Courtney and Harner attending. Committee members discussed with Courtney and Harner about the progress and plans for the new park while referring to an updated engineering drawing from Harner. Courtney asked that the Committee provide information to he and Harner to help with the design and implementation of the park. Details of the discussion and decisions are:

- The sports field will be angled slightly to help with topography and stormwater-mitigation concerns. The new alignment could be true North to true South.
- The sports field has been reduced to a practice-field size to accommodate the park layout.
- The sports field will have a softball backstop in the northeast corner.
- The eastern leg of the park's "Y" trail will be extended more to the east beyond the playground equipment.
- The park's trails should have quarter- or tenth-of-a-mile markers to help walkers and runners judge their distance.
- The location of future restroom facilities (if ever needed) will be moved to the west of the pavilion to be located near the parking area and between the sports field and the pavilion. This change would require that the currently planned bio-retention basin be moved or incorporated into a larger basin west of the sports field.
- The park's pavilion will be approximately the same size as the Dankert Park pavilion.
- Courtney reported that over-sized culverts will be used in the park. The culverts will be sized for a 100-year flood capacity.
- Head-in, street parking will be used. Approximately 40 parking spaces will be divided into two smaller lots each having ADA parking availability.
- The DPW crew will install 10-foot "headers" between the parking spaces and Northwoods Road. Two-feet of these headers will be cut off so that each parking space will be about 20' long plus 8' behind comprising the headers. These headers help control water runoff from Northwood Road into the stormwater system.

- Footpaths between park fields, facilities and equipment will be postponed until visitors' natural foot paths are apparent. Then, paved paths will be created following those worn paths where people actually walk.
- The two age-appropriate playgrounds will have a little more separation. Courtney indicated that a single border of boulders surrounding both playground areas would require less maintenance (no narrow, intervening strip of grass). To preserve the age-group separation, landscaping boulders will be set between the two parks to be used as seating areas for parents or guardians watching their children.
- Landscaping boulders will also be used to delineate the parking areas from the park, and will encircle the two playground equipment areas.
- The playground equipment installations must consider the fall zones around the landscaping boulders.
- After the park has settled and become more established, the Village will plant appropriate shade trees within the park area.
- According to Harner, a survey will be done by T.G. Miller in the next 5 to 10 business days, which will help finalize the engineering plans – especially with respect to the trees that were not cleared from the park.

Village Park Replacement Equipment

Courtney provided an update on replacing the Village Park playground equipment. DPW crew plans to start work on the grounds and tree removal next week (April 24-28.) Trees marked by Leopold earlier in the process are all still marked. There will be several large stumps left in the park, and the Committee asked if they could be made into seating areas. Courtney will let us know. Courtney is considering changing the placement of the new playground equipment so save the multi-trunk oak tree. The Committee stated that it was important to save as much of the shading trees as possible because they are a major draw for park visitors. Courtney will contact R.E. Woodson to discuss what site preparations the DPW crew must complete before the Woodson people install the new equipment. If he has questions or concerns, the Committee agreed that he could work with Hardaway and Dawson to get the issues resolved.

Village Path Lighting

Courtney also shared information with the Committee on new pathway lighting between the mall and Shannon Park. He found inexpensive (approx. \$1K each) 16-foot, solar-powered lights for the path.

Hardaway mentioned that residents at Northwoods Apartments asked if the Wakefield Trail pathway could have lights. Hardaway asked if maybe these same lights could be installed there? Courtney will research to see if we can get a price break by ordering a higher number of lights.

Hardaway mentioned that Northwoods Apartment residents also had concerns about the Northwood Road street lights being rusted at their base and looked dangerous. Courtney indicated that those lights were coming down.

Courtney and Harner left the meeting at this point having provided their input and received feedback from the Committee.

Action-Items Status

The Committee returned to its original agenda items, and discussed the status of outstanding action items:

- Hardaway to continue work on Greenway Plan updates. (see below)
- Leopold to confirm Village Park trees are still marked for site preparation work to be started by the DPW department in the next 2-3 weeks. (No longer required.)
- Moll and Hardaway to work on RFQ for new park playground equipment, installation, delivery, and wood carpet. (TBD)
- Harner to create a first pass at T.G. Miller's site plan for the new park's soccer field, half-court basketball court, pavilion, and playground equipment locations. (Completed)
- Moll and Hardaway to work on Google Maps overlay of Village trails, walkways and parks. (TBD)

Greenway Plan Status

Hardaway presented an update on the Greenway Plan status. The plan is “complete” except for long-range goals, a summary, and the trails’ maps and descriptions. Committee members need to begin reviewing the online document for missing information, mistakes, etc. Hardaway hopes to have the document finished by the next meeting, but there is no hard deadline set.

Dawson asked if the updated plan discusses a standing Greenway Committee. Hardaway explained that the short-range plans (1-5 years) set goals for the current committee to continue and to establish contacts with parks and trails “friends” groups. Committee will meet less frequently and present status updates to the Board of Trustees on a recurring basis. Long-range plans include a request for on-going support from the Trustees to sustain the Greenway Committee and maintain the Village’s greenways, parks and trails through annual budgets.

Village Trails Inclusion in Cornell Maps Database

Hardaway discussed including the Village’s trails in the Cornell Maps Database that identifies all trails within Tompkins County. The Committee will continue to gather trails information and will provide to the Cornell database for later inclusion. We are waiting for actual trail names – including the trail names to be provided by the Lansing Trails residents.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 pm.

Next meeting: 3:00 pm, Wednesday, May 17, 2017
Village Hall

Action items:

- T.G. Miller to perform a survey of the new park.
- Harner to update engineering drawing based on feedback from Committee and Courtney.
- Courtney to contact Committee if Village Park about any changes required for replacement playground equipment's placement and/or tree removals.
- Courtney to contact R.E. Woodson for instructions/guidance on preparing the Village Park grounds for equipment installation, and to arrange a schedule for their installers to begin installation.
- Courtney to provide information on pathway lighting to Committee.
- Hardaway to continue Greenway Plan updates.
- Committee members to review the online document for accuracy and suggested changes.
- Hardaway and Moll to begin RFP/RFQ process for new park equipment.
- Hardaway and Moll to capture Village trails maps from Google Maps.
- Committee to seek Village trails information for inclusion in Cornell Maps database.