

SOUTH RUSSELL VILLAGE PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES APRIL 24, 2018 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Martha Bistriz, Jerry Canton, Bill Howell, Ted Kruse

ABSENT: Greg Pike

GUESTS: Craig Cawrse, Kristen Hebebrand from CRWC, Anne and Ike Tripp

PLAYGROUND PROPOSAL: Jerry introduced Kristen Hebebrand from the Chagrin River Watershed Partners. She will be writing our ODNR Nature Works application.

Kristen explained that at the May 14 council meeting, a resolution --which basically states publicly that South Russell Village is applying for a grant to be used to install a playground at the South Russell Village Park--must be read. The grant application is due on June 1. We would find out if we received grant money in October. Actual construction of the park would probably not begin before Spring 2019, when all of the funding is in place.

The ODNR grant is for \$47,000. Kristen said that there are two or three other Geauga county entities applying for the grant as well.

Ike Tripp shared his research on playground equipment vendors for the 80x85 foot area where a playground is proposed, located behind and to the east of the pavilion on the Bell Street side of the park. He has consulted with Kevin Hines of Play and Park Structures in Pittsburgh. Hines submitted three options ranging in price from \$44k-72k. Ike also met with Eric Jones of Kompan Playground Solutions. He is based in Columbus. Ike distributed a packet of information from Kompan Playground Solutions. Ike recommended and the committee agreed that Kompan is the better company to use. Ike added that the even though the Kompan proposal was somewhat more expensive, the equipment appeared to be very good quality, had better colors and had a more natural look to it.

In addition, we may apply for a \$50k grant through AmericanAthletix. Just applying for the grant would provide us with a 5% discount on the equipment. The total cost of the proposal from Kompan is \$102,288. This includes equipment, freight, installation, border, ramp, mats for under the swings. It does not include drainage which Craig estimated to be about \$5k for site work, subdrainage and grading.

With the project estimated to be about \$120k, we would need to gather "in kind" contributions from the community to help defray the costs. Interested community members could donate trash cans, trees, benches, a pathway and signage. An example of a similar playground has been installed at Auburn Park on Munn Road.

Moving forward, Ike will get links to videos from Kompan which show the playground equipment in action which could be posted on the South Russell Village website. He will contact people in the community about donating to this project. Craig will check with the mayor to see if the

village road crew would be able to do the site work. Ted will look into donating some trees for shade.

Kristen emphasized that with the grant application, letters of support from the community are necessary. She has a template for this.

On Monday, May 14 at 6:00 p.m., there will be an open forum for the public to ask questions and discuss the playground proposal. Eric Jones of Kompan will be there.

OTHER SRVP BUSINESS: Jerry reported that there will be three concerts in the park this summer. He also read a draft of a contract that a council member submitted for review. The author's intent was to have in writing a document that would be signed by persons wanting to reserve the pavilion for a specific event. The "contract" attempts to consider any eventuality in which council could be liable. It was the resounding consensus of the parks committee that the pavilion rental/reservation contract draft was completely unnecessary and overly verbose.

The next parks meeting will be May 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Bistriz