

South Russell Village Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2016

Members Present: Martha Bistriz, John Dishong, Ted Kruse, Greg Pike. Absent: Gary Brockett

The meeting opened with John asking for feedback regarding the Fall Festival. Everyone agreed it was all very positive. This year there was one of the highest turnouts ever. There were plenty of activities and importantly plenty of volunteers. The cider presses were a huge hit. A lot of cider was made and given away. Lolly the Trolley, hayrides, Mr. Awesome Bubble, the helicopter, face painting, pony rides were popular. All food purchased for the event was used.

What could be improved: It was suggested to re-think how many bounce houses next year. Possibly keep the same number or eliminate one. Ask the CV Times to do some follow up on the event. To our knowledge there were no pictures or write up of the Fall Festival the week after the event.

NEXT YEAR: The idea of a straw maze is almost too difficult to do unless we ask the Jaycees if they might want to sponsor it and help build it (with other volunteers as well). The idea would be to have the maze open on the day of the Fall Festival. Then the Jaycees would take it over and charge admission for the maze in the following weeks.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS: The idea of installing wind screens on the pavilion to make it more useable more months of the year was revisited. Ted will get some cost estimates for this. John will check on what limestone may be left to install on the path that connects the two sides of the park. It was suggested that a Boy Scout project could be one where some sort of a privacy fence/screen be built to minimize the visual impact of the port-a-potty. The Inter-urban trail should have a sign including a map of the trail.

FUTURE EVENTS IN THE PARK: Bird watching, stargazing and more concerts in the park would be events we would like to see more of next year.

BUDGET: Screening for the pavilion and limestone are two budget items we want to include in next year's budget. The Fall Festival ran just over budget this year.

The next parks meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha B. Bistriz