

## **SOUTH RUSSELL VILLAGE PARK MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2022**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jerry Canton, Martha Bistriz, Ted Kruse, Libby Sharkey, Greg Studen  
**GUESTS:** Janet Coriell, Pat Holtz, Kayley, Kruse Bill Koons, Cindy Nairn, Matt Valencic  
The meeting was called to order at 6:49 p.m.

**FALL FESTIVAL:** Jerry reviewed with the committee that all Sundays in September as well as the first two Sundays in October have been reserved at the pavilion for the Fall Festival. Once the Cleveland Browns schedule is available, a date and rain date will be secured on the pavilion calendar. Regarding vendors, Libby Sharkey will contact the face painters, pony ride people and Bubble Wanda/ Mr. Awesome, Martha Bistriz will secure CFHS students volunteers, bounce houses and a climbing wall. Jerry asked that when vendors are contacted, a provision be included for the village to recoup deposits if the festival has to be canceled due to weather. Jerry will check with Lolly the Trolley and the Life Flight helicopter to ask for their participation once we have a date.

**PARK NEEDS PRIORITY LIST:** CT Consultants will be participating in the council meeting immediately following this park committee meeting. The following ideas were suggested to pursue best uses of the park: a controlled burn which would rotate being done on different sections of the fields. Matt Valencic said that the Geauga Park District which does an annual controlled burn in some of their parks would be available to help. Pat Holtz, who works for NOACA ( Northeast Ohio Area Wide Coordinating Agency) let the committee know of a study called, "Vibrant2040" which *"is a resource for Northeast Ohio communities to explore the region's long-term development patterns and for Northeast Ohioans to think together about what we want for the future of our region. The goal of Vibrant NEO 2040 is to create a shared Framework for Our Future that reflects the values, voices and vision of Northeast Ohioans."* He advised the committee that in applying for grant money to make park improvements/maintenance, citing this study would be very beneficial. Apparently, Geauga county has not sought funds citing this study and so it may be in South Russell's best interest to include this in grant applications.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT:** Kayley Kruse and her advisor, Janet Coriell asked that the committee consider a community service project where she would reforest the area between the two parks with oak and buckeye trees. She would like to start this in early April.. Her father and grandfather would be advising her. The plan includes an overlay of what species to plant, the process of planting, and how to protect the plantings. In the discussion it was noted that Kayley has a younger sister who would be able to provide additional years of maintenance of this project. The committee was unanimously in favor of this project. Kayley will put together a summary of this for the council to review at its next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Bistriz