

SOUTH RUSSELL VILLAGE PARK COMMITTEE MINUTES MAY 26, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Martha Bistriz, Ruth Cavanagh, Greg Gamm, Libby Sharkey.

GUESTS: Jerry Canton, Bill Koons. **ABSENT:** Ted Kruse, Greg Studen.

Ruth called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. She moved that the minutes from the June meeting be approved. Greg Gamm seconded. The minutes were approved.

FALL FESTIVAL 2026: It was decided that the Fall Festival will take place on Sunday, September 20 from 1:00-5:00 pm. No rain date will be set.

- Bill Koons will contact food trucks including Augie's Pizza, Hawaiian Guy Barbeque, a coffee vendor, kettle popcorn vendor and an ice cream truck vendor to attend the festival. In addition, he will contact and confirm the Life Flight helicopter and the Chagrin Valley Fife and Drum corps. Bill suggested everyone working at the festival have matching T-shirts provided by the village.

- Libby will contact the entertainment firm we had at last year's festival who provided face painters, bubbles, and bounce houses. In addition she will contact the pony rides and a petting zoo company. Libby will also contact an entertainer/DJ she has seen at children's birthday parties. The Chagrin Valley Fife and Drum corps would play from 1:00-2:00 p.m. and the entertainer whom Libby knows could be scheduled to play from 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- Gregg Gamm will contact A1, the trolley company.
- Ted will be asked to bring his apple cider press.
- Martha will check with Gurney to get permission to use their parking lot for festival patrons to park and will check with CFHS students to volunteer that day.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS: Ruth shared that council person Chris Berger made the village aware that a private donor would donate 25k to modify the current playground to add a section for small children and toddlers.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT: Patrick Gibney (sp?) was given the go ahead to improve the area around the flag installation at the south park entrance. He has not started yet due to weather.

MISC.: The parks committee has a 16k overage from last year. It was suggested that because the committee is in favor of installing a bocce ball court near the pavilion that those funds be used for that. Bill brought pictures of plaques that are installed at the new courthouse in Chardon. The plaque lists the names of veterans who died in service. He would like to do something similar at village hall. The committee was in favor. The committee walked to the playground to consider where the addition of an area for small children and toddlers might be added. The signs installed on the east side of the playground were viewed and weather damage noted. The area for the bocce court was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Bistriz