



Parks Commission
Minutes
September 10, 2019 5:30 P.M.

Triangle Park
3930 N. Murray Avenue, Shorewood, WI 53211

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Kathy Yanoff, Lybra Loest, Jenny Vulpas, Bonnie Pedraza, Enrique Figueroa, and Julie Bradisse

Others Present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart, Trustee Michael Maher

Not Present: Mark Schill

2. Consider Minutes from Meeting on August 13, 2019

Mr. Figueroa moved to approve the August 13, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pedraza. Motion approved by 6-0 vote.

3. Discuss Logistics of Community Meeting Presentation

The Commission discussed the process to carry out the community meeting for Triangle Park. It was determined for Ms. Vulpas as the chair to give an introduction with some help from Mr. Burkart. Pending the size of participants, the Commission would then ask members to break into small groups to go through the response forms. If the size is small enough, one large group discussion could be conducted. The Commission asked Mr. Burkart to include an article in the manager's memo and social media to encourage people to still provide feedback if they are unable to attend the meeting. It was mentioned the best way to give feedback is through the response form. The Commission discussed next steps after the end of the community meeting.

4. Discuss Hosting Booth at Barktoberfest and the Fish and Feather Festival for the Shorewood Loves Dogs Campaign

Ms. Pedraza will be at the community booth for Barktoberfest. Fish and Feather Festival will be on October 5 and is looking for the Parks Commission to have a booth with Mika. Mr. Burkart will coordinate a time with Ms. Pedraza to pick up flyers. Mr. Burkart will also send an email out to members about specific times to be present at the festival.

5. Perform Community Meeting for Triangle Park

Just over 50 people were in attendance for the community meeting. After an introduction, the community members had some questions related to potential budget, timing, and any current plans committed to the park. Mr. Burkart relayed that there is no budget allocated to the park and that there are no plans for the park at this time. There was a large concern about the invasive plants that were unmaintained in the back of the park for a good portion of the summer. Several employees would like the park to be maintained more frequently. After breaking into small groups for about 15 minutes, the Commission asked for community members to share their thoughts with the large group.

Here is a general summary of the comments made:

What are some of the things you like about Triangle Park?

- Green open space for play
- Unstructured
- Shared usage
- Unusual shape that gives the park an unique charm to it
- Trees – kids and adults use trees for hammocks

If you could improve the park in any way, what 1-3 things would you do?

- Lower plantings around flagpole
- Cleaner border in the back of the park (i.e. fence)
- Move flagpole to the side or remove entirely (note: there were several dissenting views to this suggestion)
- More benches and picnic tables – keep along the edge of the park
- Address drainage issue along the southern part of the park near the sidewalk
- Remove burdock and other invasive plantings
- Natural play to allow kids to climb

Would you be content if the park was left alone with no improvements?

- Over 80% of attendees supported this statement if weeding and lawn maintenance was improved.
- Almost all participants want no or minor changes to the park.

What are some ways neighbors can help with the maintenance or beautification of the park?

- Some residents already pull buckthorn and garlic mustard annually to prevent it from spreading into their yards.
- Some residents expressed interest in helping but unsure with what tasks they'd be able to assist.

Anything else you would like to say about Triangle Park?

- There was a comment about initiating fundraising efforts to finance more benches or picnic tables. There was some general agreement as long as there was a specific plan put in place first.

6. Adjournment.

Mr. Figueroa moved, seconded by Ms. Pedraza to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved by 6-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart
Assistant Village Manager