

JERICHO UNDERHILL PARK DISTRICT
MINUTES
2/18/2021

Board Members Present: Tom Cota, Dan Lerner, Donna Pratt, Livy Strong, Dave Williamson
Board Members Absent: Bruce Blokland, Jim Massingham,
Guests:

In the spirit of precautions recently announced by the federal and state government in regard to the Corona virus, this meeting was conducted by Zoom. JUPD social media outlined the ways in which interested public could hear and participate in the meeting by on-line connection.

1. Livy called the meeting to order via Zoom at 7:00.
2. Public comment: No public comment.
3. Review of minutes: Donna moved to approve the minutes from February 4 , 2021. Dan seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
4. Review mowing bids
 - a. Bids were received from Schill Landscape Group, LLC and S&D Landscapes, LLC. Schill bid \$70 per mowing for the front lawn. S&D bid \$218.94 for the same space. Schill bid \$175 per mowing for the athletic fields. S&D bid \$369.81 for the athletic fields. Additional prices were provided for brush hogging etc.
 - b. Livy moved to approve the use of Schill Landscape Group, LLC for mowing services for 2021.. Donna seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
5. Bridge sub-committee update. The subcommittee met with representatives of Engineering Ventures (EV) on 2/17/21. Donna reviewed progress:
 - a. Deck,
 - (1) EV feels the deck is safe at the 10,000 lb. load limit even though the actual deck reconstruction by Blow and Cote is somewhat different from the drawing supplied by T.R. Fellows Engineering.
 - b. Abutments,
 - (1) Both abutments are deteriorating and in need of repair or replacement.
 - (2) EV recommends replacement. Replacement will cost about the same as repair but has a significantly longer projected lifetime.
 - (3) There is a question regarding location of replacement abutments. By moving the location, the replacement abutments could be sited as to widen the bridge span allowing better water flow and reducing water damage, over time to the abutments. The existing deck could be used as part of the extended decking. EV is investigating costs.
 - c. Super structure (timber frame, roof and walls)
 - (1) The listing of the walls continues to get worse. EV does not feel it will be safe until 2024 as we had hoped. For safety reasons, they recommend doing something with the superstructure this year. Removal is likely the best option.
 - (2) The sub-committee will meet with EV again next week.
6. Livy analyzed the dog waste container situation and recommends nothing be done right now. We need the current capacity.
7. Candy Padula, MMU Drama Department, requested pavilion use for a week at the end of the school year, for a senior theater performance for invited audience. Audience would bring chairs or blankets for their seating and socially distance. Performances will be June 4 (12:00 p.m. - 9 p.m.), June 5 (10 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.) and June 6 (9-8). Practice sessions would be 5/31 (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.), 6/1 (2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.), 6/2 (2:00 p.m. -6:00 p.m.), and 6/3 (2:00 -6 p.m.) COVID restrictions in place at the time of use would apply.
 - a. There was some concern that this event might conflict with athletic field use already planned. Livy will communicate this concern to MMU.
 - b. There was also some concern that our website does not display current COVID restriction. Dan will work with Livy to update.

c. The informal board feedback to Livy was to allow the request as long as it does not conflict with the governors guidelines in place at the time.

8. Park Management

a. Livy reported on the summer concert series. Summer concert bands are tentatively scheduled as follows:

- (1) 7/7 - Eric Bush and the Stragglers
- (2) 7/14 - Phil Henry
- (3) 7/27 - Shell House
- (4) 7/28 - Jericho Vox
- (5) 8/4 - Buck Haulers

b. Donna suggested that there may be grant money available to help pay for the covered bridge repair and other park needs. She suggested appointing a board member to look for grant money or ask a board member to look for grant money for large items on the job list. Tom suggested using the services of a professional grant writer. As a result of this discussion board members volunteered for the following tasks:

- (1) Donna will investigate grant opportunities to rebuild the bridge.
- (2) Livy will investigate grant opportunities to rebuild the Riparian Buffer.
- (3) Tom will investigate grant opportunities to rebuild trails.
- (4) Donna will contact several local people who are known to write grants to see if we can get help finding further grant opportunities.

c. Dan brought up the issue of off-leash dogs. On a recent visit to the park he encountered many off-leash dogs.

8. Events

a. No update on spring sports.

9. Tom moved to adjourn. Donna seconded. Motion approved by all. Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Massingham, Sec.