

JERICHO UNDERHILL PARK DISTRICT  
**MINUTES**  
**5/20/2021**

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

Board Members Absent:

Guests: Carolyn Gould

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. Dave called the meeting to order via Zoom at 7:00.
2. Public comment:
  - a. Donna introduced Carolyn Gould, who may be interested in helping us communicate the bridge story with the public. She recommends that communication begins before the RFP is published. She would hope to reassure the public that the inconvenience and changes in appearance are for safety reasons and will be a temporary inconvenience.
3. Review of minutes: Donna moved to approve the minutes from May 6, 2021. Dan seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
4. Park Management
  - a. Bridge sub-committee update:
    - (1) Bruce reviewed the committee's progress. He showed the board the RFP, cover letter and Power Point slides that Donna prepared;
    - (2) Design documents are ready and have the updated railing that we previously discussed. They now have the EV stamp;
    - (3) Donna presented her slides. We discussed the projected dates as well as other details;
    - (4) Donna proposed the following motions:
      - (a) Donna moved to authorize payment to Engineering Ventures, PC. – Phase 0: Additional \$275 for engineering concept design work. Phase 0 total: \$2805. (\$2530 approved 4/15). Jim seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
      - (b) Bruce moved to move forward with the Invitation to Bid process. Dave seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
      - (c) Jim moved to authorize spending up to \$1,500 for phase 2 temporary bridge installation site survey - technical measurements and river sites. Dave seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
      - (d) Donna moved to proceed with Phase 2 pedestrian bridge pending availability of "Old Mill Bridge" from town of Jericho. Livy seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
      - (e) Donna move to authorize contacting Ecopixel to enhance website to support bridge work via another page off the main park page. Jim seconded. Motion approved unanimously;
      - (f) Donna moved to authorize spending \$750 for phase 1 Communication plan for Public Outreach. Jim seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
    - (5) Livy reported that Jericho has agreed to loan JUPD the "Old Mill Bridge" on a temporary basis.

- b. The question was raised "Is it time to remove our large Covid signs?" Jim moved to remove the COVID signs and the website information regarding COVID restrictions as soon as possible. Tom seconded. Motion approved unanimously
  - c. Suzanne Fretias walked the park with Donna. She is a master gardener. She volunteered to help maintain the butterfly garden and other flower gardens. Donna moved to spend up to \$300 on landscaping updates. Bruce seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
  - d. Tom reported on his plans to rebuild water bars on the trails. He would like to consult with Timber and Stone for detailed directions to refurbish another trail. Jim moved to allow Tom to consult with Timber & Stone on finishing the Field Stone West project. Donna. Motion approved unanimously.
  - e. Dave suggests waiting until the river freezes to cut damaged trees near the river. He would like to contact some tree removal companies. Moved to reach out to professional tree services for estimates to deal with beaver damaged trees. Donna seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
  - f. We have been asked to find a task for the middle school students. Donna suggested they survey the park and produce a written list of areas that need attention and produce a written summary of their work.
  - g. The pavilion is starting to be quite busy with school groups, graduation parties, rehearsal dinners, etc. Please walk the park and keep an eye on things.
5. Events:
- a. Farmers' Market starts next Thursday, May 27;
  - b. Summer Concert series is still looking for a band for July 28th following a band cancellation.
6. Publicity
- a. Dan has informed Paul of the improvements that we want done to the website. He will get us a proposal soon.
7. Other business
- a. The Jericho Underhill Land Trust is working with the Charrons to create a final purchase and sale agreement. They suggest a \$2,000 earnest money payment and three months to raise \$200,000 following town approval of subdivision plan. How long that will take is a good question.
  - b. The elm trees have been pruned and it was advised to put mulch around their trunks to keep the mowers from getting too close. The tall grass around these elms indicates that mowing is not happening near the trees but mulch is still a good idea.
  - c. MMU Drama will be rehearsing at the pavilion all next week with a play on June 5 and
7. Other business
- a. Jim moved to schedule future meeting at the pavilion as of June 3. Dan seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
8. Jim moved to adjourn. Tom seconded. Motion approved by all. Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Massingham, Sec.