

Howey-in-the-Hills
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Town Hall, Thursday, June 8, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order: 6:03 p.m.

Attendance: Josh Huseman, Morgan Cates, Jim Steele, Vicki Steele

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The May minutes were not available and will be reviewed at the July meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

2. Discussion : Parks Assessment

- Josh shared the following updates/concerns regarding Central Park: Power has been installed in the covered area, the basketball court remains the same. Some spikes are sticking up on the swing set border. An oak tree is touching the canopy and should be cut back before the canopy is damaged. A bubbler head is missing from the far oak tree. There are weeds in the swing area.
- Vicki provided Morgan with a report on Griffin Park: All along Lakeshore Blvd was freshly mowed/edged. Looked nice. The grill tray was replaced!! No new concerns but some ongoing repairs that need to be addressed.
- Jim gave Morgan a report on Blevins Park which stated: Blevins Park looks the same. The perimeter areas looked quite overgrown and needed clearing out, and lower tree limbs removed. A question was brought up about the need to have the fence replaced along the property line. Morgan will ask Code Enforcement to look into the fence

3. Discussion: Staff Parks Update

Morgan shared the many projects that had been completed/addressed since our last meeting.

- Cemetery – Landscaping rocks and mulch were added near the flagpole for the Memorial Day cemetery which was held on Monday, May 29th. The sign has been repaired, repainted, and is ready to be reinstalled.
- Lakefront – Getting a contractor to mow the vegetation along the shoreline as allowed by permit. Investigating options/permit needed to remove invasive weeds.
- Central Park – Power installed. Two fans should be up by July meeting. Added junction in the center to allow for addition of light if wanted in the future. Fountain to be installed behind the library.

NEW BUSINESS:

4. Discussion: FY2024 Budget Discussion

- Morgan shared two quotes for shade systems and one quote for a new swing set with a shade system for Central Park. The new swing set with shade system is less expensive. It was

suggested that the current swing set could be moved to the back of Sara Maude Mason Park and have the new swing set installed in Central Park. Discussion followed. Jim made a motion to move forward with the new swing set and relocate the current swing set to Sara Maude. Josh seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- Continued discussion on how to repair or replace the basketball court, including concrete vs. asphalt, enlarging the court, multi-use options (basketball and pickleball), and the need for a fence.
- Pine Park is still being considered as a possible pickleball/bike station area. We discussed the need for a parking lot and entrance off of SR19.

Board Comments: None

Public Comments: None

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded and passed.

The meeting ended at 6:53 p.m.