**Park Committee Minutes - Complete Version**

6 pm May 5, 2022

Campground’s Pavilion

Attended by: Jesse Cisneros, Connie Campagna, Mark Kutches, Pete Shlagor

**Picnic Table Cleaning and rebuilding**

1. The rest of the new wood will be used to repair/replace bad wood on the existing tables. We have enough to complete another 37 tables in addition to the 11 already finished.

A. We’ve found a sealer for these boards. For use only on old wood that has been washed and prepared for coating. The new boards being installed will not be needing cleaning or sealed until next year. Those tables being completed this way will be immediately placed back in service following reassembly.

B. On site at the campground on Tuesday, May 10, disassembly begins the process.

1. Bad wood is set aside to be burned or sent for recycling. Recycling needs a dumpster.

2. Old metal hardware will be collected in a sturdy bucket and sent to be recycled.

3. Frames inspected, cleaned and sprayed with primer if needed. Those will be top coated subsequently. Frames ready for new wood will then receive it. Once assembled, these boards will need their edges routed with a ¼” roundover bit, followed by sanding to even their edges and remove splinters (top and bottom). The 34 others will be reassembled after the following procedure.

2. 2 power washers on site will clean reusable boards (and frames) which will then be left to dry for several days.

3 After drying (2-3 days), these boards will be sealed with the above wood preservative.

4. Following cure, the tables are reassembled with new galvanized hardware with the restored frames. We’re targeting Friday’s group for this. We have 1100 sets of galvanized carriage bolts, nuts, and washers for the job.

5. Tools needed are: Drill, drivers & bits, sanding tools, router with bit, power washer, long high-pressure hoses. Residents and committee members supplying.

**High School labor**

1. Who’s going to help us?

A. Montague High School will be sending a number of kids (no actual number available yet) that can work at their own schedule, starting early next week.

B. Shelby High School will be sending 30 kids on a bus for a day (9am to 2 pm) on Friday, May 13th.

C. We’ve also reached out to the Boy Scouts to gauge interest in the Water Safety station construction.

2. What will they do?

A. Montague discussions have focused upon:

1. Picnic table assembly/disassembly.

2. Beach and woods cleanup. Recycling as much as possible. There’s old tires and barrels in the big gully. Long ropes would be helpful to pull some of that up. Save these for Tire Collection Day.

3. Construction of two Water Safety stations for the beach.

4. One particular student has a strong interest in trees. He and perhaps an assistant or two, could map out our tree inventory and begin a health record.

B. Shelby discussions have focused on picnic table reconstruction and beach & woods cleanup.

**Tree Work**

1. Connie has marked the trees in question. Removal bids are pending approval by the board.

2. Some trimming has been done to the fat spruces, pulling the crown up and allowing space underneath.

A. That is expected to continue on all of them, the cutting being done by Park labor or competent workers. Students can drag the branches to a collection point.

B. Past practice has been to push such branches over the bluff of the big gully to rot.

There’s evidence that this could be a good source for trail mulch. **IF** the above selected provider could/will/is provide a chipper, truck to catch the chips and operators, the resultant material can be dumped in the recently logged woods for future use when laying out trails. Spruce/pine mulch is not advisable for routine gardening due to its acidic decomposition but is very good for trails.

C. **Please note** that several of these spruces are showing some advanced signs of “Spruce Decline” and have **not** been included in the removal RFP.

**Updated Signs**

1. The Front entrance, side of the storage building, and dump station signs show severe fading. Connie is looking into potential repainting artists.

2. Main entrance sign needs a larger monument and updated emblem.

3. Request the county road commission to position notice signs of the campground.

**Brochure**

A number of edits are needed. A new park diagram has been created. We expect to have a final proof for the board to approve Monday.

**Beach access stairway and fence needs.**

1. Ernie Larson is putting together a proposal for raising the lower walkway and repairing bad wood.

2. The fence along the northern lot line and southeast corner need repair as the electrical work has torn them down.

**Other Grants**

1. County ARPA Grant targets

A. The Wi-Fi suggestion has an earlier proposal that will be reviewed via a Zoom type meeting on the May 13th. If interested in listening in and/or making suggestions, let Pete know in order to get you on the list. Pete and Mark will be involved.

B. The storage garage suggestion is also being pursued by Connie.

C. Ernie’s reconstruction Work.

D. A new entrance monument.

E. Our Pavilion supports – they are severely rotted at their ground insertion. This needs to be seen for appreciation. An engineer’s opinion may be necessary if this is to stay accessible.

2. We’re waiting for a response to the grant applications that have been submitted. One by Connie for new picnic table frames, the other by Mark Kutches for playground equipment.

3. DNR Grants should target

A. The new toilet facility,

B. Updating of the dump station.

C. Expansion and increased support structure of the observation deck.

D. Improved beach access from the north route, including switchbacks for handicapped access.

E. Addressing tree and vegetation remodeling for view improvement from the observation deck.

4. Our 5 year Recreation Plan

A. Needs to begin following this current burst of activity, building upon Connie and Mark’s start with above grants and what Joel has provided us.

B. A resident survey will be the guiding path for us. We should focus upon getting that started, targeting an inclusion with the Summer tax bills.

**We have the new Campground permit.**

1. They suggest water safety preparations. The board has budgeted $300 towards this project. Two rings, hangers, rope, and signs are in or on order.

2. The wells have been opened, sanitized, tested satisfactorily and are available now for use.

**Other?**

1. PortaJohn’s

Confirmation of the service is necessary.

Submitted by Pete Shlagor, May 6, 2022