



Parks Department Council Report

Parks Department Updates

- Community events
 - National Parks and Recreation Month
 - Licking County Soil and Water education activities planned
 - **July 12th Rain Barrel Workshop (Sold out) will help with MS4 (EPA)**
 - July 18th Community Gardener Forum for residents and businesses (Pataskala UMC @ 6:30pm)
 - July 23rd (Stream Team Workshop Municipal Park)
 - July 27th Movie Night Freedom Park
 - July 28th (Water model education Liberty Park)
- CS electric: Freedom Park electrical work: Pending work
- Project Updates
 - Karr Park (Rented more than most would like to add updates)
 - Purchasing new bathroom fixtures to install
 - Possibly painting the wall
 - Removing outside walls (Demo TBA)
 - Removal of tree and volleyball system and install new one in a new location. Poor drainage in the current spot
 - Trees need pruned (Will begin working on that)
 - Removal of raised bed that are in bad shape and revitalize those that are good shape.
 - Freedom Park
 - Sign was hit. Will be replacing ASAP
 - Drainage is an issue at this location 2019 project discussions
 - Foundation Park
 - Holding tank: \$3000
 - Working on a quote to have basketball surface refinished/painted: 2019
 - Softball Diamond fencing need repaired
 - Rotary Benches are in the safe zone will be moved and relocated near their existing locations
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 - Municipal Park
 - The bank seems to be holding up but there is more erosion on both sides of where we have added stone. Will need to relocate trail
 - The log jam under the bridge is not affecting the flow of water now as it is suspended in the air wedged into the bridge
 - Considering Clean Ohio/Recreational Trails Grant Due February 1, 2019. Will be working with Licking Park District and engineering to discuss Phase 2 of a trail system to connect LPD property and Pataskala property from Mill Street. There is property currently on Mill st for sale by sheriff's department that would be a great annex for trail development. (Next Scout Lodge 21 property on Mill.)

- Liberty Park Sign
 - Signarama quote for sign replacement: \$259.24
 - Grills need reset as previous installation has failed.
- Leads Park
 - Received update from PRA regarding park. Will work with Jason F to get the grass mowed (Bush hogged)
 - Planning to purchase new basketball courts for this location as there is a lot of exposed concrete and the poles are outdated and bent out of shape.
 - Working on a quote to have basketball surface refinished/painted 2019

Future planning and thoughts for the Parks and Recreation Dept.:

1. Considering ODNR (Outdoor education) classes to offer to the city. Working to develop a subgroup within the parks and recreation department. Possibility to apply for several grants to stocks our ponds for fishing programs and other programs.
2. Parks and recreation department is more than sports it would be nice to consider developing/renovating a building on city property to offer classes that can be offered for our residents. The community needs a place to gather and socialize. Can we begin discussion for future planning of a city community center which could benefit both school districts in the area and all parks and recreation programming? Just a thought for future levy
 - Offer more than sports in our recreation department
 - i. Creative Art classes/camps
 - ii. ODNR education classes indoor/outdoors
 1. Fishing events: Liberty Park and Citizens Park
 2. Archery courses
 3. **Now a certified Project Wild Instructor**
 4. Grants opportunities
3. Licking Park District:
 - Reached out LPD Rich Campitelli to begin discussion regarding property in Pataskala (Tyler Powell Preserve) and trail development in the area.
4. Community Gardens Parks and Rec department 2019
 - Work with Licking County Extension (Master Gardener Phil Metzler)
 - More information to come 2nd council meeting in July
5. Health and Fitness Parks and Rec Department
 - Contract with Exercise Professionals to run fitness classes in our parks and help with the development of a city-wide healthy and fitness initiative to help foster a healthy a community.
 - Online Application and community wide fitness challenge
 - Insurance incentives for employees
 - Health and Fitness Fair (Expo)
6. Parks and Recreation Interns/developing new job titles
 - The city could benefit from interns that are in there final two years of college to help run some of our programs as we grow. Having hands on experience is key for professional development AND CHEAP
 - Creating contracted Activities Coordinators x 1
 - Creating a full-time position for Parks Maintenance

