

**City of Fort Calhoun
Parks Board
April 5, 2018 7:00 P.M.
Agenda**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Parks Board President Kris Richardson.

Kris referenced the Open Meetings Law Compliance.

Roll Call:

1. Kris Richardson brought the meeting to order.
2. Kris Richardson announce the Open Meetings Act
3. Roll Call:

Board Members: Jerry Barabas, Bob Lammers, Kris Richardson, Rachel Butterbaugh, Brook Bench all in attendance.

Park Commissioner Nick Schuler in attendance.

Public: Lucas Billesbach, JEO Engineering; Julie Ogden, JEO Engineering in attendance.

4. Approval of March Minutes was motioned by Jerry and seconded by Bob. All members voted Aye.

Unfinished Business:

1. Discuss location and display options for the mill stones in West Market Square Park.
 - a. Judy Boyd from the Fort Calhoun Enhancement Committee would like to discuss the mill stones that are located at the West Market Square Park, and possible display options at the May meeting. The mill stones are not related to the park in any way, but are historical to Washington County and Fort Calhoun. The park board suggested that these could be donated and relocated to the Washington County Historical Society/Museum for display.
2. Discuss our recommendation for a new park on city property which currently serves as maintenance buildings. Discuss our ideas for amenities and explore options for gathering public interest.
 - a. Lucas Billesbach presented some renderings of ideas for a new park on the city property currently used for the maintenance building. The property would provide an “L” shape land area, and could be used for a splash pad, community gathering area, farmers market area, and parking. The community gathering area could have a stage and be utilized for outdoor concerts, wine events, and the area could tie into the new future trail system. The additional parking could be utilized for church and school events.
 - b. There was also discussion about talking with the Catholic and Presbyterian churches about interest in partnering on some multi use amenities on the edge of their parking lots such as basketball courts.
 - c. The Mayor will be establishing a committee to discuss further plans for this area, and the Park Board wishes to be represented on the committee.
 - d. The Park Board would recommend hope to participate in gaining community feedback.

New Business:

3. Decide locations for the new trees in West Market Square Park that will be provided by the NRD grant funding. Choose a design and supplier for the trees and their installation.
 - a. Tree proposals were submitted by board members Bob Lammers and Rachel Butterbaugh from Kinghorn Gardens and Trees, Shrubs, and More. The trees need to be planted by June 1st, for the Park Board to send in receipts to receive the reimbursement from the grant.
 - b. Jerry Barabas made a motion to move forward approving the Kinghorn Gardens bid, and Bob Lammers seconded. All members were in favor. Bob Lammers will discuss with Kinghorn Gardens to find out if they use growbag trees, or pots, and if they'll provide a 2-year warranty.
 - c. Brook Bench will also bring back more tree grant ideas so that we can keep adding in younger trees to the various parks, as our trees are mature and starting to show some distress.
4. Annual park walk thru scheduled for 6:00pm prior to the meeting. Discuss any concerns observed during the walk thru.
 - a. Due to weather, the annual park walk through will be held at 6:00pm prior to May's meeting, starting at West Market Square Park.

Public Comments:

- a. Lucas Billesbach from JEO Engineering, Fort Calhoun City Engineer was present, and attending with him was Julie Ogden also from JEO Engineering. They discussed a trail study they are working on. They are looking at ways to connect a city trail system with Fort Atkinson State Park with West Market Square Park, and would tie in Pioneer Park, downtown businesses, the elementary school, and existing trails. They are studying how to minimize disturbances and minimize street crossings. They would like to submit the final study to the City Council in June, as the application would have to be at the Recreational Trails program by the first Friday in September. The program is a Federal aid program with an 80/20 funding. Funding would be a combination of Federal funding, NE Game and Parks Commission funding, Papio NRD funding, as well as City and private funding. This trail system would provide safe ways for residents of all ages to travel around town and tie into the crossing light on the highway.

Meeting Adjourned:

At 8:35 pm meeting adjournment was motioned by Jerry and seconded by Bob. All in favor.