

Minutes of the Port Byron Green Committee

December 21st, 2016

The Port Byron Green Committee met on December 21st, 2016 at the Port Byron Village Hall, 120 S. Main Street, Port Byron. The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm.

Members present were Sarah Ford, Emily Skelton, Kari Rozeboom, and Jill Schutts.

The Committee discussed the Vision and Goals statements provided by Sarah, and discussed possible green projects for Port Byron. Jill said she was interested in the Farmers' Market and increasing recycling opportunities; Emily is interested in exploring alternative and local currencies; Kari is interested in the Farmers' Market, the community garden, more recycling for businesses, and a canning kitchen. Sarah is interested in a backyard chicken ordinance, limiting use of pesticides in public parks, and planting more edible trees and landscaping in Port Byron or Dorrance Forest Preserve. Members were encouraged to follow through on research and ideas to bring to future committee meetings.

Sarah relayed possible assignments by the Village Board, including a Farmers' Market and enhancing the community garden, coming up with a Beautiful Yard award program (Emily also suggested an Edible Yard award), helping to maintain public gardens, and addressing beautification efforts along the Route 84 corridor, in conjunction with the 1.4 million dollar ITEP grant.

Sarah presented information on FreeNotes Harmony Park, which are musical instruments designed for public spaces and public play. An ideal place for such a park could be the prairie park on Main Street (across from Sandstrom's), which has lost most of the plants, so a new design and use for the park is needed. Since board members encouraged the Green Committee to help manage this space, Green Committee members agreed a Music Park would bring more visitors and provide benefit to the community. The Premier Ensemble package, with 5 instruments, costs around \$18,000; the park is in the TIF district and could be eligible for funding.

A motion was made by Sarah, and seconded by Kari, that the Green Committee proposes a Music Park for Port Byron at the prairie garden park. All in favor, and motion carried. Sarah said she would present to the next board meeting in January 2017.

Sarah presented the Green Committee Charter that was presented to and approved by the Village Board, in order for the Green Committee to form. A motion was made by Kari, and seconded by Emily, that the Green Committee approves the Green Committee Charter as presented. All in favor and motion carried.

With no further business to attend to, a motion was made by Sarah, and seconded by Kari, that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Ford