

MINUTES OF THE PORT BYRON GREEN COMMITTEE
March 28th, 2018 – Port Byron Village Hall
7:00 p.m.

The Port Byron Green Committee met on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

1. Call to Order: The Green Committee meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chair Sarah Ford.

2. Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum:

Roll Call: Present: Sarah Ford, Kari Rozeboom, Emily Skelton, Jill Schutts, and Wes Wells.

3. Approve Minutes: Wes made a motion, seconded by Emily, to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2017 meeting. All in favor and motion passed.

4. Old Business:

a. Freenotes Music Park – Sarah presented info on new musical instruments- four flowers grouped together, which each produce a different tone. The Committee was in support of pursuing their purchase, with suggestions of placing them at the playground, the prairie plant park, or along the bike path. Sarah said she would bring to the board to see if they'd be willing to support the project.

5. New Business

a. Updating prairie garden kiosks – Village Clerk Barb Cray asked if the GC would be interested in updating the kiosks along the river. The info in there is outdated, ruined by dampness, and new information and a cleaning is needed. There are 5 kiosks at the park, plus one by the boat ramp. Committee members each agreed to gather information for a kiosk, such as history bits, local species, legends of Tug Fest, and other interesting facts or photos. Also, would it be possible to move the kiosks to other parts of town where they could get more use or visibility? Updates will be provided at the next meeting.

b. Farmers' Market – The Committee is open to hosting a market again, but time and location need to be worked out. Changing the time to Sunday afternoon was first discussed, as Saturday morning limits the vendors due to other large markets in the area. The location was also discussed, as visibility and traffic at the parking lot location was fairly poor. The downtown gazebo and parking lot at Black Hawk Bank were discussed, with committee members generally in favor of the gazebo as it offers shade, it's got a river view, and it's in the heart of the downtown. Suggested times were 1-4, 2-5, or 1:30 – 4:30. Sarah said she would bring the info to the board to see what option they'd want to support.

c. Community Garden – Sarah said she needs to check with Sandstrom on whether they were going to be expanding, or could the garden space be used again this year? The GC could have a plot or two, though it'd be easier to maintain with regular volunteers. Jill noted that students at Riverdale in the Interact Club or NHS are often looking for service hour projects, so they could be offered the opportunity. The Committee agreed to discuss plans at the next meeting.

d. Spring Cleanup – The last river cleanup occurred on October 16, 2016, so a cleanup for two river miles, through the Living Lands and Waters Adopt-a-River-Mile program, was scheduled for Earth Day on Sunday, April 22. Sarah said she would get the supplies before the event. Jill said she would inform service clubs at Riverdale about the volunteer opportunity.

e. Earth Day events – Other than a cleanup, the Committee agreed it was too late to plan any activities or events for Earth Day this year.

f. Other business – Kari asked whether there could be a compost pile in town? Sarah said there has been one at the maintenance shed for leaves once, but not sure if they'd be open to that now. The Committee agreed to revisit at a future meeting. The committee was also made aware of village wide garage sales in May, Third Thursday events downtown, and Baby Blues Fest. If there was any interest in participating, the Committee could discuss at the next meeting.

6. Gallery Comments: None.

7. Adjournment: With no further business to come before the Committee, Sarah made a motion, seconded by Jill, that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Ford