

Minutes of the Port Byron Green Committee
April 25th, 2018 – Port Byron Village Hall
7:00 p.m.

The Port Byron Green Committee met on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

1. Call to Order: The Green Committee meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chair Sarah Ford.

2. Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum:

Roll Call: Present: Sarah Ford, Emily Skelton, and Wes Wells. Mayor Bruce Peterson was also in attendance.

3. Approve Minutes: Wes made a motion, seconded by Emily, to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2018 meeting. All in favor and motion passed.

4. Old Business:

a. Freenotes Music Park – Sarah said the four flower musical instruments need about 22 square feet of space per each instrument. Mayor Peterson said he would like them close to the playground and business district, as a “shop and play” theme. Another possible spot is just south of the gazebo. He would like to get them ordered soon so they can be installed this summer. Sarah said she would attend the next board meeting to make the request.

b. Farmers’ Market: Mayor Peterson said he talked to Black Hawk Bank reps, who offered the upper lot of the bank for a market spot. They were also checking for a tent to use, though the village could also purchase one. The village could support marketing, both on the electronic sign and a more permanent sign. A GC member could work with BHB staff and Village Clerk Barb Cray to help coordinate. Time for market is still unclear, though Sunday afternoon was preferred in order to get more vendors, and hopefully, shoppers.

c. Earth Day Clean-up: Sarah reported that 26 volunteers helped clean up about 100 pounds of litter along the river and around town on Earth Day. Bruce said he would like to recognize the volunteers at the next Board meeting. Sarah said she had extra gloves and bags for the next clean-up, possibly in the fall. Mayor Peterson mentioned the need for a clean-up between Port Byron and Cordova, along the bike path. The committee discussed coordinating a general clean-up, or sign up the spot for an X-stream Clean-up, which is held in August. The committee could also do a monthly clean-up at pre-designated spots.

d. Community Garden: To date, the garden has not been tilled, though it should be soon. Sarah said she couldn’t be as involved with Green Committee plot this year, but we could get one if others want to help manage it. We could also get youth volunteers to help out. Produce could be donated to food pantry or sold at market to support GC projects. Wes suggested planting white beets. Sarah would ask Jill if she wanted to be more involved this year.

e. Kiosks: Sarah said inspection of prairie garden kiosks revealed lots of dirt, mold, and ruined information sheets. The committee can work on gathering new display items. Wes and Emily discussed a backstory “myth” for Will B. Rolling and Shirley B. Strolling. Mayor Peterson said he would try to locate the kiosk keys.

5. New Business:

a. Compost pile: Sarah said there used to be a compost leaf pile in the fall, but would the village want that this year? Due to Kari’s absence, the discussion was put on hold for another time.

b. Third Thursday: The first Third Thursday is set for May 17, complete with dinner and drink specials in downtown restaurant, and live music at the gazebo. The GC could set up a booth at the event, and hand out seeds, tree saplings, a giveaway, or other information. It could be too late this month, but possibly by June’s event, the GC could prepare something.

c. Baby Blues Fest: The committee could also arrange for a table at the event on June 30th. Sarah suggested an activity for the kids, such as making little terrariums or coloring on a large roll of paper. More discussion will be had at the next meeting.

6. Gallery Comments: None.

7. Adjournment: With no further business to come before the Committee, Wes made a motion, seconded by Sarah, that the meeting be adjourned.

All in favor. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Ford