

## **Minutes of the Port Byron Green Committee**

### **May 17th, 2017 Meeting**

1. The Port Byron Green Committee met on Wednesday, May 17th, 2017 at the Port Byron Village Hall, 120 S. Main Street Port Byron. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. Members present were Sarah Ford, Emily Skelton, Kari Rozeboom, Wes Wells, and Jill Schutts.
3. A motion was made by Jill, and seconded by Kari, that the Green Committee approve the minutes from the 4/19/17 meeting; all approved and motion carried.
4. Old Business:
  - a. Freenotes Harmony Park Update- Sarah said she brought the proposal before the new board, and there appears to be general support for the purchase. The only issue that remains before a solid vote is a location, which is still getting looked in to, since the preferred site is on railroad property. Wes directed Sarah to local Canadian Pacific Railroad personnel to see about getting an easement in perpetuity. Continued discussions will be needed at the next meeting.
  - b. Recycling- Kari had no updates, other than wondering whether to get a business survey out to business owners. The general consensus is that it may be difficult to get businesses on board, due to limited options for a bin, costs, and amount of recyclables produced by businesses (such as the bars). The committee will continue to discuss.
  - c. Farmers' Market- The committee discussed launching in the market in June or July. Jill said she talked to Barb at the office about permitting, and she is working on the growers' agreement, preferring that vendors have grown their own produce. The committee agreed to offer free vending spaces this year, since there is no guarantee on high traffic or sales. A survey will be handed out at the end of the season to assess the market. Also discussed was the need to find out about sales tax, signage, marketing, and potential locations besides the parking lot. More discussion and info will be presented at the next meeting.
  - d. Community Garden plot- Sarah said the Committee should have one or two plots available, and will have the info at the next meeting.
5. New Business:
  - a. Thanks to a donation by Chris Rice of the Quad City Food Forest, Sarah and Emily were able to plant pawpaw, persimmon, gooseberry, hickory, and elderberry saplings at Dorrance Park, with the ranger's permission and guidance to best sites. Ongoing watering will help the plants thrive, which Sarah and Emily offered to do.
  - b. New member suggestions were discussed, but so far no commitments from anyone.
  - c. Flower Donations- Sarah said Friends of the Library had made contact to donate some perennials to be planted in Port Byron, though they were still selling plants outside the library. Sarah said Mayor Peterson is also hiring a landscaper for the village.

- d. Gazebo Fest Participation- Wes is coordinating music in the gazebo for bike riders through Illinois on June 13<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30-2:00. Other than coming to enjoy the music and scene, there was little the Green Committee could do to be part of the event at this time. Baby Blues is scheduled for July 1<sup>st</sup>, and it could be possible to set up a small booth at that time. More discussion would be necessary at the next meeting.
6. Gallery Comments: None
  7. With no further business to attend to, a motion was made by Wes, and seconded by Sarah, that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Ford